



Orinda Community Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ
Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, May 15, 2022, 10 am
Fifth Sunday of Easter

Reflection: *We have to nourish our insight into impermanence every day. If we do, we will live more deeply, suffer less, and enjoy life much more. — Thích Nhất Hạnh*

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT AND RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Barry Cammer

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Roger Samuelson

One: Come, worship, you who are grieving.

Many: In the midst of our lives, we have suffered loss, again and again.

One: Those we cherish have suffered; are suffering.

Many: It is sometimes difficult to acknowledge that death is a part of life.

One: Let those of us around you hold your grief with you.

Many: May God also hold our grief, hold our suffering and loss,

All: May God hold us. All of us. At all our crossroads and for all our days.

**Stand as you are able*

TIME OF SILENCE AND CENTERING

HYMN* BH 101

Comfort, Comfort O My People

Geneva 1551

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Roger Samuelson

O You who bring our lives into being, who guides this grand, enormous ship of creation, who gives us breath, and mind, and heart, and plants in us the capacity to love, and love deeply, be with us now as we return the gifts of our partners, our parents, our children, our friends, and countless others to you. Remind us of the miracle that nothing is ever fully lost, but merely transformed. Hold us in our grief, and when it is time, transform our grief into memories, and when it is time, transform our memories into rejoicing, and when it is time -- and when it is time -- receive us into the great sea of your abundant love.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
Many: **And also with you.**

MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

Mary Volmer

WE LISTEN

SOLO

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Roger Samuelson

Rumi on Grief

“Don’t grieve. Anything you lose comes round in another form.”

“The wound is the place where the light enters you.”

“Whoever finds love beneath hurt and grief
disappears into emptiness with a thousand new disguises.”

“What goes comes back. Come back.

We never left each other.”

**Stand as you are able*

“Dance, when you’re broken open.
Dance, if you’ve torn the bandage off.
Dance in the middle of the fighting.
Dance in your blood.
Dance, when you’re perfectly free.”

“Your body is away from me,
but there is a window open
from my heart to yours.”

“But listen to me:
for one moment, quit being sad.
Hear blessings dropping their blossoms around you.”

“What hurts you, blesses you.
Darkness is your candle.”

“Goodbyes are only for those who love with their eyes.
Because for those who love with heart and soul
there is no such thing as separation.”

“Grief can be the garden of compassion.
If you keep your heart open through everything,
your pain can become your greatest ally in your life’s search for love and wisdom.”

Psalm 23

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures.
He leads me beside still waters.
He restores my soul.
He leads me in paths of righteousness
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD
forever.

SERMON

For the Love of God, Let Me Grieve!

Reverend Barry Cammer

**Stand as you are able*

WE RESPOND

HYMN* BH 488

Be Still My Soul

Finlandia 1899

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

MOMENT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY SOLO

DOXOLOGY* RH 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

HYMN* BH 497

Guide My Feet

African American Trad.

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Barry Cammer

**Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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(925) 254-4906
office@orindachurch.org

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor
Reverend Barry Cammer, Adjunct Pastor
David Milnes, Director of Music
Anna Gregory, Office Administrator

Weekly Events

Each week, in addition to our 10 a.m. Sunday worship, the church offers regular programming.

- Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel, we host **Centering Prayer**. Don't know what that is? We'd be glad to tell you more about it!
- Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., we hold a brief **Contemplative Service** in the chapel. It includes readings, music, prayer time, and silence. This service also goes out electronically.
- **Life and Loss Group** meets every Thursday in the Fireside Room at 12 noon. You are welcome to simply attend, or if you have questions, please call the office or email Reverend Barry Cammer at: barry@healthypathcounseling.org
- Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m., our **Theology and Scripture** group meets via Zoom to discuss theology and the bible, and other topics. Our next meeting is Thursday, May 19, at 2:00 pm.

Every other week:

- Two Tuesdays a month, the **Writers' Group** shares and discusses their writings via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. (Their work is featured in the narthex; take a look!) Next meeting is Tuesday, May 17, at 10 am.
- Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45, the **Reading Group** is doing a close study of the novels of Marilynne Robinson, starting with Gilead. We meet via Zoom. Next meeting is Thursday, May 19, at 4 pm. The room will open at 3:45 pm for welcome and chatting.

**Zoom links are posted in our eblasts and on our website:
www.orindacommunitychurch.org**



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE GRADUATING SOON?

Please send Elizabeth your news about new graduates in your family
(at any level from elementary school through college).
We want to celebrate with you!

Send to elizabeth.orindachurch@gmail.com



Dinners For Eight

As was announced last Sunday, we are bringing back "**Dinners for 8.**" You can sign up yourself or with one or two other adults. We will create groups of 8 (or 6, if helpful) to meet for a meal twice in 2022. We traditionally meet at someone's home, though some meet at church. The host provides a main dish and beverages and the others bring salad, desserts, appetizer or side dishes. **Please contact Karen Norris by May 22 at kjnorris777@yahoo.com or text or call 925 360-4704 to sign up.**

We are suggesting one dinner before July 4 and the second after, to take advantage of good weather, if we feel safer outside. A leader will be appointed for each group, to then contact you. Visitors to church are welcome, too! This is a way to become better acquainted with other church folk through fellowship.

Please mention if you need to meet close to home, during daylight hours or have any food restrictions. We are not accommodating children at this point, though would try if enough interest.

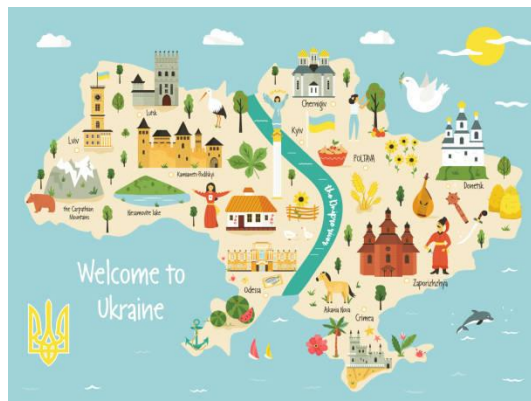


Acolytes

Our wonderful acolytes for the last few months have been Nicole Parlett, Mimi McCall, Prudence Hurley, Ava Skidgel, Beatrice Nackley, Josephine Nackley, Elvyre Kersten, Amarise Gonzalez, and guests Georgia Carpenter and Kathleen Wiegand. Thank you!

Those wishing to support Ukrainians may want to donate through the United Church of Christ. We have confidence that funds directed this way will reach people in need:

<https://support.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal>





Thank you to this week's ushers:

Jan Rosefield

Jeane Samuelson

Roger Samuelson

John Thursby



Grief Support Group Continues to Welcome New Members

Every Thursday from Noon-1:30 pm in the Fireside room

This group is open to anyone who has experienced significant loss of any kind. Moving and living through loss is challenging. The Grief Support Group gives us a chance to share our journeys with others who understand what's going on. It gives us an opportunity to support one another and to let the group support us, as well. If you're interested in participating in this group, you can just show up, or call Rev. Barry Cammer at 925-254-1348, or email him at barry@healthypathcounseling.org.

Check out our own Leslie Darwin O'Brien at:

Ristorante Amoroma Presents
Leslie Darwin O'Brien on vocals with Karen Weichert on piano
Every Tuesday from 6:00 – 7:30 pm
360 Park Street, Moraga, CA
925-377-ROMA



And on Friday, May 20th, 6 – 8 pm
you will find Leslie with Terry Miller & Mike Williams performing at the
Canyon Club Brewery
1558 Canyon Road, Moraga

