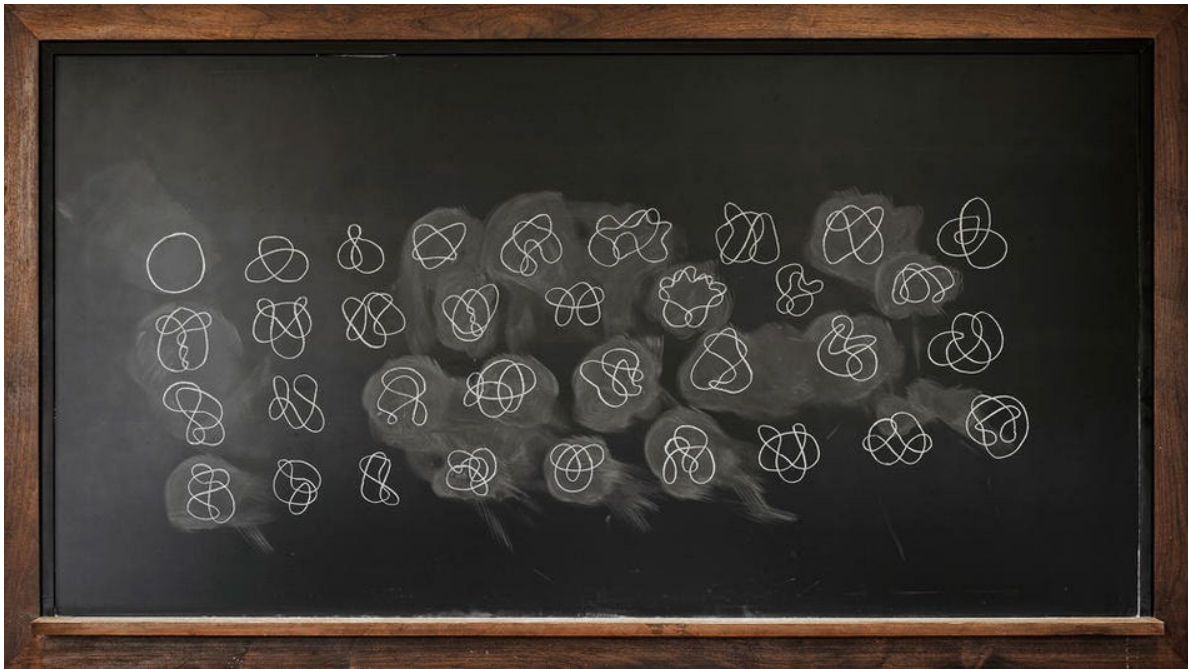


Orinda Community Church

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

Order of Worship
Sunday, February 5, 2023, 10 am
Holden Sunday



photograph by Jessica Wynne

Reflection: Education is an act of love,
and thus an act of courage.
—Paulo Freire

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT AND RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

INTROIT SOLO

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from quotes by Audre Lorde

Reverend Leonore Cruise

One: We have been taught to either ignore our differences or view them as causes for separation and suspicion.

All: **But without community, there is no liberation.**

One: Survival is learning to take our differences and make them strengths.

All: **But community must not mean shedding our differences or pretending they do not exist.**

One: We are making the future as well as bonding to survive the enormous pressures of the present.

All: **We are still learning how to use all of ourselves in the service of what we believe, how to accept when we fail and how to rejoice when we succeed.**

HYMN* RH 525

We'll Understand It Better By and By

Charles Albert Tindley

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Reverend Leonore Cruise

O Educator, be gracious to thy children, O Educator, Mother, Guide, Child and Father, all one. Give to us, who follow your intentions, to fulfill the likeness of your image, and to see, according to our strength, the God who is both a good God, and a Mentor who is not harsh. Do bestow all things on us who dwell in your peace, who have been placed in your city, who sail the sea of human error unruffled, that we may be made tranquil and supported by the Holy Spirit, your unutterable Wisdom, by night and day, into the perfect day, to sing eternal thanksgiving to you, Educator and Teacher with the Holy Spirit. Amen.

**Stand as you are able*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE LISTEN

SOLO

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ephesians 4:12-16

Reverend Leonore Cruise

So Jesus gave of himself to equip people for works of service, so that the faithful may be built up until we all reach unity in the faith and in the knowledge of God and become mature, attaining to the whole measure of fullness. Then we will no longer be infants, tossed back and forth by the waves, and blown here and there by every wind of teaching and by misleading advice and error. Instead, speaking the truth in love, we will grow to become in every respect the mature body of faith. From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

SPEAKERS FROM HOLDEN HIGH SCHOOL

Abby Tuttle (co-director)

Henry Eckert (student)

Rachel Shaw (parent)

Gina Gold (parent)

SERMON

Learning is Community

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

WE RESPOND

HYMN* RH 521

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

**Stand as you are able*

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. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And 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

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Reverend Leonore Cruise

PRAYERFUL REFLECTION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION SOLO

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN* **RH** 722

I Want to Be Ready

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

BENEDICTION

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

**Stand as you are able*



Orinda Community Church

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office@orindachurch.org

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

David Milnes, Director of Music

Anna Gregory, Office Administrator



Alta Mesa Center for the Arts, under the leadership of Mary Volmer, is an interfaith arts and spirituality hub, housed within and sponsored by Orinda Community Church.

Second Sunday Reading Series

Featuring:

a reading and discussion with

Palestinian American poets

Issam Zineh and Carolina Ebeid



February 12, 2023 at 4:00pm (Pacific)

To Register for this free online event, check your eblast **or** go to our website [orindachurch.org](https://www.orindachurch.org) and look under “Arts” and “Alta Mesa Center for the Arts” **or** go directly to <https://www.maryvolmer.com/alta-mesa-center-for-the-arts.html>

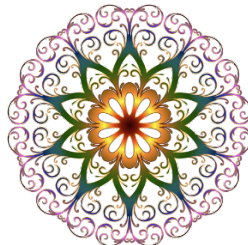
Weekly Events

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**.
- ✚ Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., we hold a brief **Contemplative Service** in the chapel, which includes readings, music, prayer time, and silence. This service also goes out electronically.
- ✚ **Life and Loss Group** meets every Thursday in the Fireside Room from 12:15 pm to 1:45 pm. You are welcome to simply attend, or if you have questions, please call or email the office.
- ✚ Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m., our **Theology and Scripture** group meets via Zoom to discuss theology and the bible, and other topics. The next meeting is Thursday, February 9, 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 and Fellowship Hall; take a look!) Next meeting is Tuesday, February 7, 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. We meet via Zoom. Next meeting is Thursday, February 9, at 4 pm. The room will open at 3:45 pm for welcome and chatting.





Thank you to our Ushers this week!

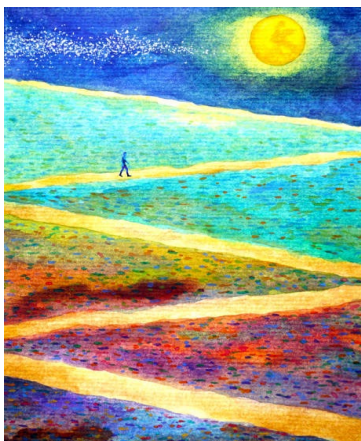
Carey Carpenter, Anna MacLean, Karl Schonborn and Kathleen Wiegand

LIFE LONG LEARNING & SPIRITUAL FORMATION

SECOND HOUR SERIES (after the Worship Service)

Sunday February 12:

Kurt Sunderbruch
Spiritual Journeys



Sunday February 26:

"Christian Nationalism"
discussion





We will again be hosting the Winter Nights Family Shelter in Fellowship Hall from **February 20 thru March 6**, and again from **May 1 thru May 15**.

Winter Nights creates a warm, dry, healthy place to stay — with hot, nutritious food and friendly helpers! This project requires volunteers and financial support from OCC members to make it all work. Will you help?

We are still accepting donations for this worthy program!

Questions or want to get involved?
Contact Lani Shepp at lshepp@icloud.com