

**Orinda Community Church
Order of Worship
Sunday, July 02, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**



Reflection:

*Thou hast made us for thyself, O Lord,
and our heart is restless until it finds its rest in thee.*

— Augustine of Hippo

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Bev Blaisdell

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Sacredise

Kathi Kling

One: Jesus said, “Come to me, all of you who are weary and carry heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you. Let me teach you, because I am humble and gentle, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke fits perfectly, and the burden I give you is light.” (*Matthew 11:28-30*)

All: In response to your invitation, Word of Life, we come;
With our burdens and our treasures, we come;
With our anxieties and aspirations, we come;
Longing to live a life of value and meaning,
But with nothing but ourselves to give,
We come and seek to take up your yoke.
Amen.

**Stand as you are able*

SCHEDULING NOTES & 2nd HOURS

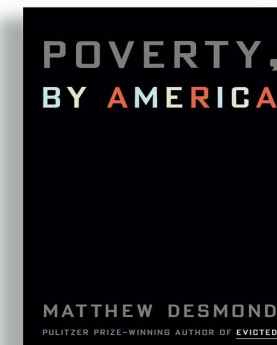
As we send prayers with Elizabeth while she flies to Sweden to preside over her sister’s memorial, we are grateful to Reverends Lee Cruise, Birte Beuck, and Bev Blaisdell for helping out during this time.

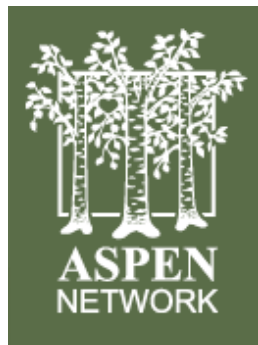
We are pleased to announce that Reverend Barry Cammer will be preaching on July 9.

After Barry preaches on July 9, please plan on staying for the **2nd Hour** where we will have an opportunity to discuss our Open & Affirming Statement and see if it could use an update.

Please join us after services July 9 for this special 2nd Hour!

The Reading Group is holding a 2nd Hour Presentation (date to be announced) about the book *Poverty, by America* by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Matthew Desmond. We encourage you to begin reading now so that you can be part of the discussion when we meet.





ASPEN NETWORK, LLC HELP WANTED

Do you know someone looking for a rewarding, part-time job? Aspen Network seeks a Residential Aide for about 4 hours a day, to assist a group of young adults with who live in a home geared toward helping them launch their lives.

This group of young adults, mostly college students, cohabitate in a home right here in Orinda. Residents need help with everyday organizing and planning. Responsibilities would include, reminding residents of appointments, help with organization, food prep, cleaning reminders and overall guidance, as needed. Some driving might be asked of you, but it is not a requirement.

Hours are 9 am - 1 pm-ish - but that can be flexible. Competitive hourly pay.

Interest or experience in counseling and/or psychology preferred, but not required.

If you are interested or know someone who is, please send your resume and/or inquiries to Meg Fields at megfields.aspen@gmail.com

*****update: Meg has found a person but is looking for one more!
Please help her get the word out.**

HYMN* BH 25

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Thom Schulman

Kathi Kling

We offer a harvest of praise to you, spirit of joy and wonder. You pour out your gentleness upon us, so we might have courage to do what is right. You patiently sit down to teach us, using bold print so we might learn lives of service, gratitude and humility, if we but trust enough to listen to you. God in Community, Holy in One, may we trust always in you. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Reverend Bev Blaisdell

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

WE LISTEN

SOLO

**Stand as you are able*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Kathi Kling

Isaiah 43:1-4

Fear not, I have redeemed you; I have given you your name and you are mine. When you pass through deep waters I will be with you. They shall not overwhelm you. When you are passing through fire the flames will not consume you; neither shall you burn. For I, the Lord, I am your God; you are precious in my sight, you are worthy of life, and I love you.

Matthew 11:28-30

“Come unto me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light.”

I Worried by Mary Oliver

I worried a lot. Will the garden grow, will the rivers
flow in the right direction, will the earth turn
as it was taught, and if not how shall
I correct it?

Was I right, was I wrong, will I be forgiven,
can I do better?

Will I ever be able to sing, even the sparrows
can do it and I am, well,
hopeless.



Thank you to this week's ushers:

**Carey Carpenter
Mike Kersten
Anna MacLean
Kathleen Wiegand**



A Message from Joy Elkington Walker, OCC Historian:

When the report was made last week at services about the meeting of the Northern California Conference of the UCC, it reminded me how large the meeting used to be! There used to be hundreds of participants meeting at Asilomar for the weekend with outstanding speakers and wonderful music of combined choir members. Those days were inspiring but our church is carrying forth the spirit and dedication with smaller numbers!

The Alta Mesa Center for the Arts presents:

A reading and discussion with

NINA SCHUYLER

Author of

AFTERWORD

with Toni Mirosevich

July 9th at 4:00pm (pacific)



Alta Mesa Center for the Arts, an interfaith arts hub, is housed and sponsored by Orinda Community Church.

Questions? Contact Mary Volmer: altamesacenter@gmail.com

Is my eyesight fading or am I just imagining it,
am I going to get rheumatism,
lockjaw, dementia?

Finally, I saw that worrying had come to nothing.
And gave it up. And took my old body
and went out into the morning,
and sang.

SERMON *Rest for the Weary and Worried* Reverend Bev Blaisdell

WE RESPOND

HYMN* **RH** 454 *Open My Eyes, That I May See* Clara H. Scott

A TIME OF PRAYER Reverend Leonore Cruise

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.
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 Reverend Leonore Cruise

OFFERTORY SOLO

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

PRAYERFUL REFLECTION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION PRAYER

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

COMMUNION SOLO

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Orinda Community Church

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office@orindachurch.org

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

WEEKLY EVENTS

In addition to 10 am Sunday worship, we offer these weekly:

- ✚ 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, July 6, at 2:00 pm.
- And these, every other week:**
- ✚ Two Tuesdays a month, the **Writers Group** shares and discusses their writings via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is July 11.
 - ✚ Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45 p.m., the Reading Group meets via Zoom. Our next meeting is Thursday, July 13, at 4:00 p.m. The room opens at 3:45 p.m. for welcome and chatting.

**Stand as you are able*

HOPE SOLUTIONS BACKPACK DRIVE



OCC has a long tradition of helping to supply backpacks and school supplies for children by working with Hope Solutions.

Hope Solutions is now running the backpack drive online, with 2 options. You can sign up for a specific age and purchase the backpack and supplies yourself and drop off at Hope Solutions (or ask Karen Sanford to drop it off if you cannot make the drive), or send a donation online. Please check your eblasts for the link to sign up and/or give.

Alternatively, you can always donate by sending a check to
Hope Solutions, 399 Taylor Boulevard, Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523
hopesolutions.org

HYMN* BH 531 *God, Speak to Me, That I May Speak* Frances Ridley Havergal

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Bev Blaisdell

POSTLUDE

David Milnes

**Stand as you are able*

CREATION JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENT



JULY IS PLASTIC-FREE MONTH!

We all try to recycle, but sadly much of the plastic produced, especially numbers 2-7 plastics, end up in the landfill anyway.

Read this quote from Repurpose:

“Many of us consider plastic recycling a great step toward lowering our ecological footprint and protecting the environment. However, **less than 10% of plastic waste generated globally has been recycled so far.** A somewhat larger portion (**12%**) has been incinerated and the rest has simply ended up in landfills and our oceans.”

Our best option is to reuse, but how? Below are some suggestions from the Zero Waste Store. Check out their website <http://zerowastestore.com> and the other sites below.

1. Reduce your plastic usage & replace it with reusables or refillables.
2. Avoid single-use plastic.
3. Avoid small plastics that are unlikely to be recycled, (usually numbers 2 through 7).
4. If you see plastic pollution, pick it up.
5. Know where plastic is in your products. Replace it or avoid it altogether.
6. Recycle better. Know what your municipality can recycle and only send those items to the facility.
7. Vote & fight for legislation such as bag bans.
8. Pressure local government to enforce plastic bans and create better waste management rules.
9. Ask & call out companies to do better. From local restaurants to major corporations.
10. Rethink your wardrobe — or at least your next purchase. Try to avoid “fast fashion” and plastic materials.

Other sites to check out:

www.rePurpose.Global

<http://ecologycenter.org/plastic-free-july/>

<http://grove.co>

<http://netzero.com>

<http://Dropps.com>