

Orinda Community Church
Order of Worship
Sunday, September 10, 2023, 10:00 a.m.



Reflection:

There the Angel of the Lord appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush: he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. -- *Exodus 3:2*

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Roger Samuelsen

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Mike Kersten

One: We come here today to hear your word, Lord, and to listen for your voice in our lives.

All: **And yet we let the noise of the world – clanging with distractions, clamoring with lies – drown you out.**

One: Still us Lord, to hear your quiet voice.

All: **Too often we are misled by our preconceived ideas of how you work and what you have to say.**

One: Awaken us Lord, to hear your surprising voice.

All: **Stubbornly, we impose our views and plans on you, praying only with our demands and expectations.**

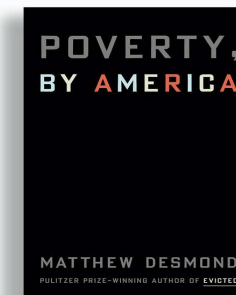
One: Humble us Lord, to recognize your challenging voice.

All: **Give us today the courage to affirm the words of the prophets.**

One: Speak, O Lord, for your servant is listening.

2nd Hour TODAY

After services today, Life Long Learning is holding a **2nd Hour Presentation** about the book *Poverty, by America* by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Matthew Desmond. You don't have to have read the book to be part of the discussion! We hope you will stay!

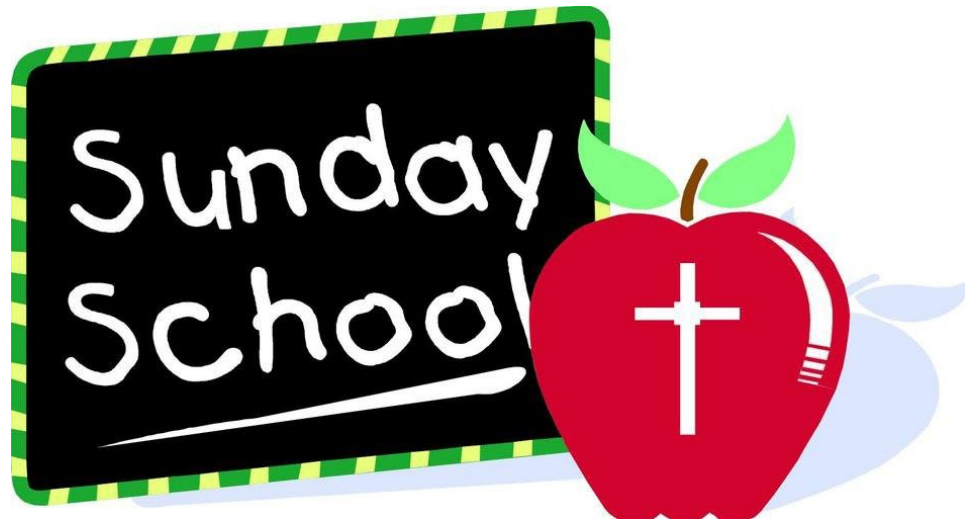


HOME COMING

GOOD FRIENDS, GOOD FOOD & LOTS OF FUN!

NEXT SUNDAY,

SEPTEMBER 17, AFTER CHURCH!



Sunday School returns 9/17!

Elementary aged kids are welcome to join us in the Agape Center each week for some learning and fun. Kids will start in the Sanctuary for Sunday service and then be excused part way through to go to Sunday School.

Thank you to the many people who have already signed up to teach! We are also looking for additional volunteers to help with the kids (one main teacher and one helper adult each week). Simple online training and live scan fingerprinting are required.

If you would like to help at Sunday School, please contact Anna in the office who can help you take the 2 easy steps to get cleared to volunteer.

For any questions about Sunday School itself, please contact Amy Parlett at saparlett@comcast.net.

HYMN* RH 581 *Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service* Albert F. Bayly

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Mike Kersten

Heavenly Father, open my eyes to the burning bush in my life. May I, like Moses, have reverence in the presence of Your majesty. Please help me to hear You, and give me the courage to share Your message. You have made me and have a plan for my life; a plan to show Your glory. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Roger Samuelson

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

ANTHEM

**Stand as you are able*

WE LISTEN

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 3:1-15

Mike Kersten

Now Moses was tending the flock of Jethro his father-in-law, the priest of Midian, and he led the flock to the far side of the wilderness and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. There the angel of the Lord appeared to him in flames of fire from within a bush. Moses saw that though the bush was on fire it did not burn up. So Moses thought, “I will go over and see this strange sight—why the bush does not burn up.” When the Lord saw that he had gone over to look, God called to him from within the bush, “Moses! Moses!” And Moses said, “Here I am.” “Do not come any closer,” God said. “Take off your sandals, for the place where you are standing is holy ground.” Then he said, “I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob.” At this, Moses hid his face, because he was afraid to look at God.

The Lord said, “I have indeed seen the misery of my people in Egypt. I have heard them crying out because of their slave drivers, and I am concerned about their suffering. So I have come down to rescue them from the hand of the Egyptians and to bring them up out of that land into a good and spacious land, a land flowing with milk and honey—the home of the Canaanites, Hittites, Amorites, Perizzites, Hivites and Jebusites. And now the cry of the Israelites has reached me, and I have seen the way the Egyptians are oppressing them. So now, go. I am sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people the Israelites out of Egypt.” But Moses said to God, “Who am I that I should go to Pharaoh and bring the Israelites out of Egypt?”



Thank you to this week's ushers:

Jill Oberheim
Lani Shepp
Marilyn Welland
Betty Wu



Electric Vehicle Celebration Show October 15

The Orinda Community Church first ever **Electric Vehicle Show!** This will be a fun activity to celebrate how church folks are going electric!

Do you own an electric vehicle - A car? A bike? A golf cart?

Contact Nancy Thursby to have your vehicle in the show:
nlthursby@comcast.net



Our hearts are with our sisters and brothers in Maui.

If you would like to make a donation to support those who were impacted by the devastating fires in Hawaii, you can give through the United Church of Christ by going to:

<https://support.ucc.org/hawaii-wildfires>



**We are seeing new scam contact attempts. DO NOT reply to emails that seem to be from Elizabeth asking you for money or gift cards. Elizabeth is NOT asking anyone for any kind of help with gift cards or money. Elizabeth's true email is elizabeth.orindachurch@gmail.com
PLEASE DON'T GET SCAMMED!**

SCRIPTURE READING (continued)

And God said, “I will be with you. And this will be the sign to you that it is I who have sent you: When you have brought the people out of Egypt, you will worship God on this mountain.”

Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your fathers has sent me to you,’ and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ Then what shall I tell them?” God said to Moses, “I am who I am. This is what you are to say to the Israelites: ‘I am has sent me to you.’” God also said to Moses, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The Lord, the God of your fathers—the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac and the God of Jacob—has sent me to you.’”

“This is my name forever,
the name you shall call me
from generation to generation.”

SERMON

In God's Time

Guest Preacher, Bob Winbigler

WE RESPOND

HYMN* RH 528

Nearer, My God, to Thee

Sarah F. Adams

**Stand as you are able*

A TIME OF PRAYER

Roger Samuelsen

Upcoming Events!

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

Roger Samuelsen

OFFERTORY SOLO

Please join us for these upcoming activities at the church:

- ❖ **September 10**, today after services at 11:30 a.m., **Second Hour:**
A **discussion of *Poverty, by America*** by Matthew Desmond. We hope this conversation will initiate an ongoing examination of poverty and how we can become, as Desmond says, “poverty abolitionists.” You don’t need to have read the book to join us.
- ❖ **September 10**, today, at 4:00 p.m. via Zoom: **Karen Llagas and Leticia del Toro will be our next Alta Mesa Center for the Arts readers**, sharing from their creative work.
- ❖ **September 17, HOMECOMING Friends, Food, & Fun!**
- ❖ **September 24**, after services at 11:30 a.m., **Second Hour:**
We are honored to have **Bill Abriel** share his **spiritual journey**.
- ❖ **October 15**, after church: **Electric Vehicle Show**. We will have a casual walkaround so that those who have electric cars and bikes can share them and talk about the benefits of non-polluting transport. If you have any kind of electric vehicle you would like to show off during this event please sign up with Nancy Thursby: nlthursby@comcast.net
- ❖ **October 22**, after services at 11:30 a.m., **Second Hour: Roger Samuelsen will lead a conversation about Common Hope**, an organization with which we have a long-time partnership. Each year, we bring together the funds to build a house, yes, a whole house! This Sunday will kick off our fundraising for this year’s house.

COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UPS

The ushers have the Coffee Hour sign-up sheet.
We are looking for October volunteers.



If you're able to take on this greatly appreciated service for one Sunday, please sign up today!



The next Church Council Meeting is
Wednesday, September 27th at 7:00 p.m.

Keep an eye out for the Zoom link in your e-blasts if you would like to attend virtually.

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* RH 534

Be Still, My Soul

Jean Sibelius

BENEDICTION*

Roger Samuelson

POSTLUDE

David Milnes

**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

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, September 14, at 2:00 pm.

And these, every other week:

- ✚ 2 Tuesdays a month, the Writers Group shares and discusses their writings via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, September 19.
- ✚ Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45 p.m., the Reading Group meets via Zoom. The room opens 15 minutes early for welcome and chatting. Please note a time/day change for our next meeting: Tuesday, September 12, at 10:00 a.m.

TODAY!

Alta Mesa Center for the Arts



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.

AMCA presents a reading featuring poets Karen Llagas & Leticia Del Toro, Sept 10, 2023 at 4:00 pm on ZOOM



Check your eblasts to REGISTER FOR THIS FREE, ONLINE EVENT, or go to: <https://forms.gle/Ake74AnQhq5aCjYp>