

**Orinda Community Church**  
**Order of Worship**  
**Sunday, September 17, 2023, 10:00 a.m.**



*Art by Carol Cole*

**Reflections:**

The union of those who are destined to help each other on the way to God is deep and mysterious like nothing else on earth. — Gertrud von le Fort

We must embrace interdependence. Interceding for one another will never be vanity. — Douglas Kiogora

## WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Judy McCall

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP\* *from Basil of Caesarea, 4<sup>th</sup> Century* Nancy Peterson

**One:** Our God, teach us to ask for the right blessings.

**All:** Steer the vessel of our life toward you, for you are the true home and tranquil Haven of all storm-tossed souls.

**One:** Show us the course wherein we should go. Renew a willing spirit within us.

**All:** Let your Spirit curb our wayward senses, and guide and enable us to that which is our true good.

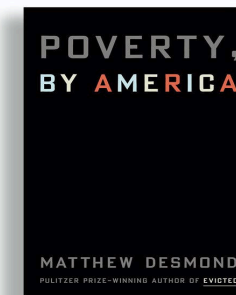
**One:** We will work to follow you truly, and in all our works evermore to rejoice in your bright and gladdening Presence.

**All:** For yours is the glory and praise from all your saints forever and ever. Amen.

*\*Stand as you are able*

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Hour TBD

The **2<sup>nd</sup> Hour Presentation** about the book *Poverty, by America* by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Matthew Desmond, has been postponed. You don't have to have read the book to be part of the discussion, but now you have time to read it, if you like!



New date to be announced later.

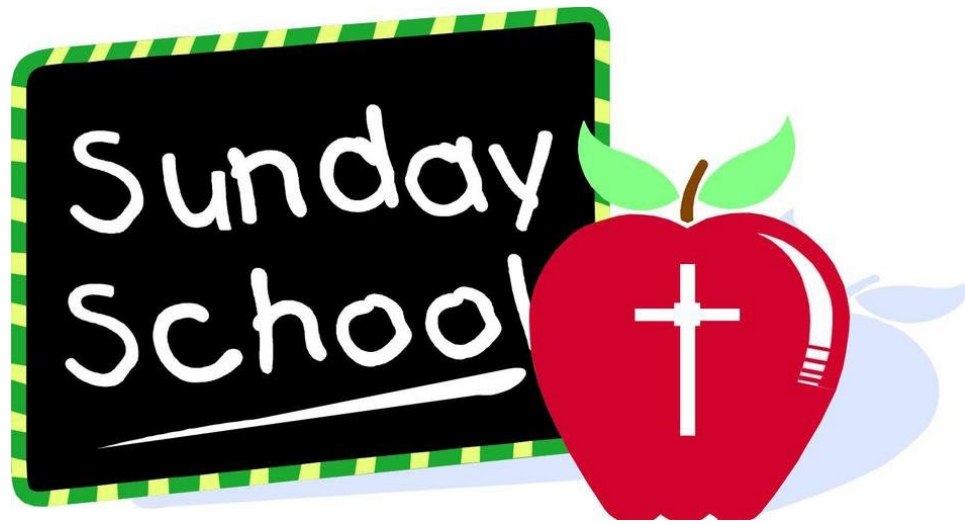
---

HOME COMING

GOOD FRIENDS, GOOD FOOD & LOTS OF FUN!

TODAY AFTER CHURCH!

WE HOPE YOU CAN STAY!



## Sunday School Starts Today!

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](mailto:saparlett@comcast.net)

HYMN\* RH 420 *Breathe On Me, Breath of God*

William H. Doane

COMMUNITY PRAYER *3<sup>rd</sup> Century Gallican Sacramentary* Nancy Peterson

Grant your servants, O God, to be set on fire with your Spirit, strengthened by your power, illuminated by your splendor, filled with your grace, and to go forward with your aid. Give us, O Holy One, a right faith, perfect love, true humility. Grant that there may be in us simple affection, brave patience, persevering obedience, perpetual peace, a pure mind, a right and honest heart, a good will, a holy conscience, spiritual strength, a life unspotted and unblamable; and in our faith and works, may we be enabled happily to enter into your Beloved Community. Amen.

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

### ANTHEM

*\*Stand as you are able*

## WE LISTEN

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

Nancy Peterson

*Romans 8:26-28*

Likewise the Spirit helps us in our weakness. For we do not know what to pray for as we ought, but the Spirit himself intercedes for us with groanings too deep for words. And the one who searches hearts knows what is the mind of the Spirit, because the Spirit intercedes for the saints according to the will of God. And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to holy purpose.

*Hebrews 7:25*

Consequently, Jesus is able to recover and revive to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them.

### SERMON

*The Go-Between*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson



Thank you to this week's ushers:

Joyce Crawford

Karl Schonborn

Joan Upshaw



### 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](mailto: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](mailto:elizabeth.orindachurch@gmail.com)  
**PLEASE DON'T GET SCAMMED!****

## **WE RESPOND**

HYMN\* **RH** 593

*Here I Am, Lord*

Dan Schutte

A TIME OF PRAYER

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

STEWARDSHIP

*\*Stand as you are able*

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\* RH 122     *God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale*     Jean Sibelius

BENEDICTION\*     Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

POSTLUDE     David Milnes

## Upcoming Events!

Please join us for these upcoming activities at the church:

- ❖ **September 17, HOMECOMING TODAY 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](mailto: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.

*\*Stand as you are able*

## 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 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

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

## Orinda Community Church

10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA 94563  
(925) 254-4906  
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, the bible, and other topics. The next meeting is Thursday, September 21.

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 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. Our next meeting is Thursday, September 21.

## 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.

Next at AMCA

October 8th at 4:00pm

### A Dialogue Between the Visual and the Poetic

with

Heidi Van Horn, Jennifer S Cheng, Maud Tanswai, and Sarah Rosenthal

To sign up for this event, please check your eblasts, or go to our website, [orindacommunitychurch.org](http://orindacommunitychurch.org), go to “ARTS” and then choose “Alta Mesa Center for the Arts” which will take you to a page with a link to register.

