



Orinda Community Church

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

Order of Worship Sunday, August 22, 2021, 10 am

Reflection: We have the eucharist, we're made one with Christ...But it's a little bit scarier to say, "He's made one with *us*, so that what is hidden may become manifest." And what is hidden? ...if you look at it collectively and cosmically...each one of us, in coming alive and emerging and manifesting, can show forth yet more of what God is like.—Cynthia Bourgeault

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from 1 Kings 8

Kathleen Wiegand

- One:** But will God indeed dwell on the earth? Even heaven and the highest heaven cannot contain you, much less frail body or this house that I have built!
- Many:** **Regard your peoples' words, God, responding to the prayer that we bring before you today:**
- One:** That your eyes may be open night and day toward this community, the place of which you said, "My name shall be there." That you may heed the prayers rising from this place.
- Many:** **Let us express for the whole cosmos your great devotion and your outstretched arm—**
- One:** Make us recipients and translators of your love.
- Many:** **So that all the peoples of the earth may know your name and be drawn into your grace. So that each receives your divine gifts and, in turn, bestows them to the rest of creation.**

* *Stand as you are able*

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Kathleen Wiegand

Loving God, we study you and pray to you—and it is a lifetime endeavor. How can something as small as a human ever begin to learn as big a thing as your Being, God? Coax us now and each day a little further into the mystery. Implant your clarity in our souls. And when we cannot quite get your clarity, help us to welcome you anyway. We are yours, God. Transform us one second, one sip, one crumb at a time. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

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

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Leslie O'Brien

WE LISTEN

SOLO

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Kathleen Wiegand

John 6:56-69
 Gospel of Thomas, Logion 108

SERMON

This Teaching is Difficult

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

HYMN BH 346*

Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken

J.S.B. Hodges 1868

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

* *Stand as you are able*

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

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY SOLO

DOXOLOGY*

OLD HUNDREDTH, 1551

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

HYMN BH 538*

Standing at the Future's Threshold

Arthur S. Sullivan 1874

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

POSTLUDE

* *Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA

925 254 4906

office@orindachurch.org

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor
Leslie Darwin O'Brien, Pastoral Outreach & Family Ministry
David Milnes, Director of Music
Anna Gregory, Office Administrator



Orinda Community Church is participating in a new endeavor! 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.

Upcoming Event:

Alta Mesa Center for the Arts presents:

A reading and discussion about trauma, listening, and reconciliation with Elizabeth Rosner, author of [SURVIVOR CAFE: The Legacy of Trauma and the Labyrinth of Memory](#), moderated by Ani Tascian.

September 12th at 4:00pm (pacific)

Register here for this free, online, event: <https://forms.gle/BoYpmtmBeev4tF3u9>

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REGULAR WEEKLY OFFERINGS AT THE CHURCH

Announcements for Sunday, August 22, 2021

Many thanks to Lee Cruise for preaching for us last week!

Dion, our caretaker of twelve years, has now moved on from his position at Orinda Community Church. **If you would like to contribute to a going-away gift for him**, please send checks to Orinda Community Church with "Dion" written in the memo line. Many thanks!

Mondays at 9:30 am we have centering prayer in the chapel. This is a time of silent, contemplative prayer. We will begin with a reading, spend 15 minutes in silent prayer, and then offer a time for processing.

The Writers' Group meets every other week **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m** via Zoom. All are welcome. The next meeting date is **August 24**. The writing prompt (if you need one) is to reflect on how your life has changed during/as a result of the pandemic. The link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82760698393?pwd=a0VQRFNcd090V05ydmhEdlNlaUs5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 827 6069 8393

Passcode: 031161

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,82760698393#,,,,*031161# US (San Jose)

We are continuing **in-person contemplative services in the chapel on Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.** This is a short service that includes readings, music, and time for prayer. The church will continue to send out an electronic version of the contemplative service each Wednesday as well.

Singing with Leslie: join Leslie for a half hour refreshment, uplift, and song at 1:00 on Thursdays. The link is below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84151074448?pwd=bHZaM3pueDdGS0drT2JuM21vT3NhZz09>

Meeting ID: 841 5107 4448

Passcode: 735051

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,84151074448#,,,,*735051# US (San Jose)

The Bible study has rebranded itself as the **Theology and Scripture Group**. It continues **at 2:00 on Thursdays via Zoom**. We are now reading the second chapter in a study of Elaine Pagels' book *Beyond Belief, the secret gospel of Thomas*. Please join us for lively and meaningful conversation. The link is:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85183959948?pwd=RE1BaDJ5Tm9ScUdhY29OWVJ2VFB5UT09>

Meeting ID: 851 8395 9948

Passcode: 664537

One tap mobile: +16699006833,,85183959948#,,,,*664537# US (San Jose)

HELP WANTED! Babysitter/Nursery Nanny

Do you know someone who might be interested in being our Baby Sitter/Nursery Nanny? We are looking for someone who is responsible, warm, loving, and fun and available to work from 9:45 am to 11:45 am on Sundays (with possible additional hours later). The job includes watching infants and toddlers. SAFE Church fingerprinting procedures will be required.

If interested, please email us: office@orindachurch.org



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