



Orinda Community Church

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, January 9, 2022

Epiphany Sunday

Reflection: *Vital lives are about action. You can't feel warmth unless you create it, can't feel delight until you play, can't know serendipity unless you risk.*

— Joan Erickson

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP*

from Isaiah 60

Ann Sherpick

One: Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of God as risen upon you.

All: **For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but God will arise upon you, and glory will appear over you.**

One: Creation shall come to your light, and awakening to the brightness of your dawn.

All: **Lift up your eyes and look around!**

One: Your beloved will come to you. They all gather together.

All: **Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the life shall be brought to you, the fulfillment of your heart shall come to you.**

* *Stand as you are able*

HYMN* BH 112

Keep Awake

Bach

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Ann Sherpick

God of change and of steadfastness, today we embrace our limitations with gratitude. We pray that we, in our smallness, are weightless enough to be swept up on your breath. We pray that we, in our simplicity, make ample room for your vast energy and compassion. We pray to be so transparent that you light can shine through us and light the world in new and heart-opening ways. Thank you for your blessing. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

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

WE LISTEN

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Ann Sherpick

Ephesians 3:1-6
Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON

The Swerve

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

* *Stand as you are able*

WE RESPOND

HYMN* BH 161

Amen, Amen

Spiritual

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

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

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.**

* *Stand as you are able*

HYMN* BH 158

O Morning Star, How Clear and Bright

Bach

BENEDICTION*

POSTLUDE

* *Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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



Through our exciting new endeavor, Alta Mesa Center for the Arts,
we have a number of literary readings and a lecture this Spring!

Alta Mesa Center for the Arts Reading Series Second Sunday of each Month

Next up:

AMCA presents an Asian American Pacific Islander Writer Showcase
with Lillian Howan, Maw Shein Win, and Dawn Angelicca Barcelona.
January 9th at 4:00pm

*For the link, please check your e-blasts or go to our website
www.orindacommunitychurch.org and look under "Arts" and "Alta Mesa"*

Alta Mesa Center for the Arts Generative Workshop

January 22, 2022

1:00-3:00 pm (Pacific)

Inviting the Muses: A Writing Workshop

with Dawn Angelicca Barcelona, Lillian Howan, and Maw Shein Win

Muses come in many forms. In this two hour workshop we will identify, honor and engage with our muses. Join Dawn Angelicca Barcelona, Maw Shein Win, and Lillian Howan as they share the ways that muses can inspire, energize, and deepen your writing practice.

(THE PERFECT HOLIDAY GIFT FOR THE WRITER IN YOUR LIFE)

Price: \$40.00

Scholarships and sliding scale available: To inquire, write altamesacenter@gmail.com

*To register, please check your e-blasts or go to our website
www.orindacommunitychurch.org
and look under “Arts” and “Alta Mesa”*

Orinda Community Church Annual Lecture

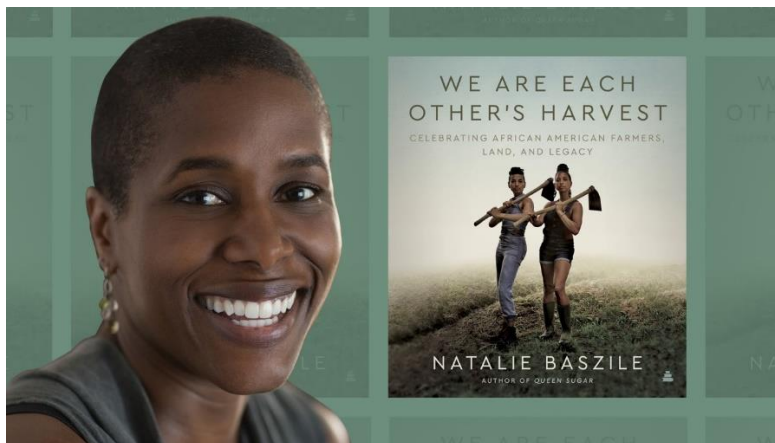
Featuring

Natalie Baszile, author of

***WE ARE EACH OTHER'S HARVESTS: Celebrating African American Farmers,
Land, and Legacy***

Sunday, March 20, 2022 at 4:00 pm (pacific)

Details soon to follow.



Upcoming Events

Each week, in addition to our 10 a.m. Sunday worship, the church offers regular programming. For the next few weeks, we will not be meeting in person, but will meet by Zoom and will resume the in-person events in a few weeks after we re-evaluate what is safest for all.

- **Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m.** in the Chapel, we host Centering Prayer. Don't know what that is? We'd be glad to tell you more about it!
- **Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m.**, we hold a brief Contemplative Service in the chapel. It includes readings, music, prayer time, and silence. This service also goes out electronically.
- Please join us for a Ladies Luncheon every **Thursday at 11:30 a.m.** at Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, 433 Moraga Road. **If you need a ride, please call Leslie O'Brien at 925-285-0996.**
- **Thursdays at 1:00 p.m.**, via Zoom, lovers of music are invited to sing along with Leslie Darwin O'Brien. Check your eblast for the link! We'll meet again on 1-6-22.
- **Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m.**, our Theology and Scripture group meets via Zoom to discuss theology and the bible, and other topics.
- We also have a choir and a bell ensemble to which you are warmly invited!

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; take a look!)
- Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45, the Reading Group is doing a close study of the novels of Marilynne Robinson, starting with *Gilead*. We meet via Zoom.

Women of Spirit is a monthly gathering of inclusive, curious women seeking connection, shared learning and growth with other women of diverse faith traditions. We are not affiliated with any religious institution, and are open to all. For more info, visit: <https://www.womenofspiritlamorinda.org> - or - <https://www.facebook.com/womenofspiritlamorinda>.

Please join us on Tuesday, January 25 from 7:30-8:45pm to kick off the new year. Katherine Figuracion will share some words of inspiration with us. We will have plenty of time for connection in our breakout rooms.

Please check your eblast for the link. All are welcome!

Zoom links are posted weekly in our eblasts, and we always welcome new attendees!

**For links to events, dates, and more information, please go to our website:
www.orindacommunitychurch.org**

Ushers and Greeters Needed: About four friendly volunteers are needed to join our usher teams for the 2022 calendar year. Youth are especially encouraged to volunteer. Two additional greeters are also needed to focus on welcoming first-time visitors to our worship services. The commitment for both ushers and greeters is for just one Sunday a month. These service opportunities are a great way to meet and serve all who attend our worship services and to provide an extravagant welcome to people in the greater community. **If you would like to volunteer or for more information, contact Mike Kersten, the usher coordinator, at mikejkersten@aol.com**



We will again be hosting the Winter Nights family shelter from January 31 to February 14, 2022. Our days for providing volunteers and all food are February 10-13. We will be preparing home cooked meals again this year and providing the usual volunteer help with the children.

Please think about what you can do to help with hosting this year!

Donations being accepted now to support this important work.

Questions? Contact Lani Shepp at lshepp@icloud.com