



Orinda Community Church

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP Sunday, May 22, 2022, 10 am

Reflection: *The past is a stepping stone, not a milestone.* —Robert Plant

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT AND RINGING OF THE HOUR The Acolytes

WELCOME Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP* Robin Holmes

One: Holy One, we rely on your steadfastness as the world changes. When we are confused and we are living through loss, you make a way.

All: **You are the north star we follow.**

One: Living God, we look to the future—seeking signs of new vitality, hope, and engagement.

All: **You are the spring rains that quench our thirst. You are the new seed from which we grow.**

One: Loving God, when it seems that all has fallen apart, that we cannot fix the problems, that we are falling through the gaps, you arrive in the most unexpected of ways.

All: **You are our ripening. You supply our needs. The world is richer than we know. Teach us to trust in your care.**

* *Stand as you are able*

TIME OF SILENCE AND CENTERING

HYMN* BH 490

I Want Jesus to Walk With Me

SPIRITUAL

COMMUNITY PRAYER *adapted from Psalm 1*

Robin Holmes

Living God, we are blessed to live in the focus and grace that you offer us. Today, we release all distractions. Today, we shrug off the skepticism of people who find faith ridiculous. God, we delight in you.

We are like trees planted by streams of water. We ripen and yield our fruit in season. We are green and supple: our leaves and branches do not wither. God our beings stretch toward your sunlight. We delight in you. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

Many: **And also with you.**

MOMENT WITH CHILDREN

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

WE LISTEN

SOLO

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 1: 4-17, 21-26

Robin Holmes

And while staying with them Jesus ordered them ...to wait on God's promise, which, he said, "you heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

So when they had come together, they asked him, "Teacher, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that God has fixed by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses [...] to the end of the earth."

* *Stand as you are able*

And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, Jesus was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, and said, “Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.”

Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day’s journey away. And when they had entered, they went up to the upper room, where they were staying, Peter and John and James and Andrew, Philip and Thomas, Bartholomew and Matthew, James the son of Alphaeus and Simon the Zealot and Judas the son of James. All these with one accord were devoting themselves to prayer, together with the women and Mary the mother of Jesus, and his brothers.

Then Peter stood up among the followers (the company of persons was in all about 120) and said, “Friends, the Scripture had to be fulfilled, which the Holy Spirit spoke beforehand by the mouth of David concerning Judas, who became a guide to those who arrested Jesus. For Judas was numbered among us and was allotted his share in this ministry. Let another take his office.”

So one of the men who have accompanied us during all the time that Jesus went in and out among us, beginning from the baptism of John until the day when he was taken up from us—one of these must become with us a witness to his resurrection.” And they put forward two, Joseph called Barsabbas, who was also called Justus, and Matthias. And they prayed and said, “You, God, who know the hearts of all, show which one of these two you have chosen to take the place in this ministry and apostleship from which Judas turned aside to go to his own place.” And they cast lots for them, and the lot fell on Matthias, and he was numbered with the eleven apostles.

SERMON

The Replacement Disciple

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

WE RESPOND

HYMN* BH 83

I Sing as I Arise Today

SEED OF LIFE 1986

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Barry Cammer

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 Barry Cammer

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* BH 503

O Savior, Let Me Walk with You

MARYTON 1874

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

* *Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

Reverend Barry Cammer, Adjunct Pastor

David Milnes, Director of Music

Anna Gregory, Office Administrator



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.

June 12th, at 4:00pm (pacific)

An afternoon with poets
Tiff Dressen and Rachel Moritz
in celebration of Pride Month

Register for this free online event www.orindacommunitychurch.org

(Flyer on next page)

The Alta Mesa Center for the Arts presents:

An afternoon with **Tiff Dressen** and **Rachel Mortiz**
and **celebration of Pride Month**

Join us on Zoom, June 12th at 4:00pm (pacific).

Register for this free, online event here: <https://forms.gle/KvJ2TcX-Tn4wW3Y57A>



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

Weekly Events

Each week, in addition to our 10 a.m. Sunday worship, the church offers regular programming.

- 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 at 12 noon. You are welcome to simply attend, or if you have questions, please call the office or email Reverend Barry Cammer at: barry@healthypathcounseling.org
- Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m., our **Theology and Scripture** group meets via Zoom to discuss theology and the bible, and other topics. Our next meeting is Thursday, May 26, at 2:00 pm.

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!) Next meeting is Tuesday, May 31, at 10 am.
- 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. Next meeting is Thursday, June 2, at 4 pm. The room will open at 3:45 pm for welcome and chatting.

**Zoom links are posted in our eblasts and on our website:
www.orindacommunitychurch.org**



DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE GRADUATING SOON?

Please send Elizabeth your news about new graduates in your family
(at any level from elementary school through college).
We want to celebrate with you!

Send to elizabeth.orindachurch@gmail.com
Last day to submit your graduate's name: 5-25-22



Dinners For 8

As was announced last Sunday, we are bringing back "**Dinners for 8.**" You can sign up yourself or with one or two other adults. We will create groups of 8 (or 6, if helpful) to meet for a meal twice in 2022. We traditionally meet at someone's home, though some meet at church. The host provides a main dish and beverages and the others bring salad, desserts, appetizer or side dishes. **Please contact Karen Norris by May 22 at kjnorris777@yahoo.com or text or call 925 360-4704 to sign up.**

We are suggesting one dinner before July 4 and the second after, to take advantage of good weather, if we feel safer outside. A leader will be appointed for each group, to then contact you. Visitors to church are welcome, too! This is a way to become better acquainted with other church folk through fellowship.

Please mention if you need to meet close to home, during daylight hours or have any food restrictions. We are not accommodating children at this point, though would try if enough interest.

CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE 5-25-22 IN SANCTUARY

Due to TOPS having an end of year celebratory event on our lawn, the **Contemplative Service** on Wednesday, May 25th, 2022, at 10:00 am will be in the Sanctuary, instead of the Chapel.



Those wishing to support Ukrainians may want to donate through the United Church of Christ. We have confidence that funds directed this way will reach people in need:

<https://support.ucc.org/global-h-o-p-e/ukraine-emergency-appeal>



Thank you to this week's ushers:

**John Skidgel
Leslie Dickson
Gail Mead**