

Orinda Community Church

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

ORDER OF WORSHIP Sunday, October 30, 2022, 10 am All Souls Sunday



Reflection:

History flows neither from the past nor to the future alone: it reverses its course and, when you get right down to it, flows from all the presents. —*Maurice Merleau Ponty*

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT AND RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Gail Mead

One: We believe that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers can separate us from your love, God.

All: **We live through our joys and our losses in hope that neither things present nor things to come, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from your love, God.**

One: For now, we see in a mirror, dimly, but then we will see face to face. Now we know only in part; then we will know fully, even as we have been fully known.

All: **We do not always understand you, Great Mystery. And yet we walk on. We walk by faith, not by sight.**

HYMN* RH 145

Morning Has Broken

BUNESSAN

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Gail Mead

Oh, Holy Guide, this world startles us with its limits—with illness, with corruption, and with death itself. We are in danger of becoming passive in the face of this. Bring us your loving energy, surround us with the company of your saints. We feel the numbness lift as our hope comes to life. We shall not be separated: from ourselves, from our beloved people, from you. In your love, we are one. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**Stand as you are able*

WE LISTEN

SCRIPTURE READING

Ruth 1:1-18

Gail Mead

In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.

Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that God had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May God deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The LORD grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. ¹They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters. Why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the LORD has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

So she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." ¹⁶ But Ruth said,

Do not press me to leave you,
to turn back from following you!
Where you go, I will go;
where you lodge, I will lodge;
your people shall be my people
and your God my God.
Where you die, I will die,
and there will I be buried.
May the LORD do thus to me,
and more as well,
if even death parts me from you!"

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

SERMON

Wherever You Go, I Will Go

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

WE RESPOND

TIME OF REFLECTION AND INVITATION TO THE MEMORIAL TABLE

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

OFFERTORY

Joyful Praise

by Susan E. Geschke

The Chancel Ringers

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!**

**Stand as you are able*

HYMN* BH 383

Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls

William Tarrant

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

**Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior 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.

The Alta Mesa Center for the Arts presents:

A reading and discussion featuring

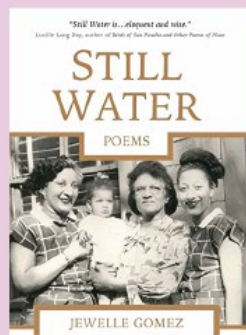
**poet, novelist, playwright
and cultural worker**

Jewelle Gomez

with Joan Steinau Lester

November 13, 2022 at 4:00pm (pacific)

Register for this free, online event here: <https://forms.gle/dtjDTbevg1BAZucx6>



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 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. Our next meeting is Thursday, November 3, 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 and Fellowship Hall; take a look!) Next meeting is Tuesday, November 1, 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, November 3, at 4 pm. The room will open at 3:45 pm for welcome and chatting.



Ushers

THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS THIS WEEK:

Tré Frane, In Suk Kim-Andersen, Karen Sanford,
Karl Schonborn & John Thursby

**Time to clean out your kitchen cabinets?
With rising costs everywhere, Food Banks are finding a greater need.
Please consider dropping off your donations in the Narthex barrel.**



Online Auction beginning Monday, October 31, 2022

Pick-up and In-Person Auction Sunday, November 6, 2022

**Want more information?
Contact the Gail Mead
Mobile (510) 414-6222
grmead@comcast.net**

Karen Sanford has 2 new ceramic shows coming:

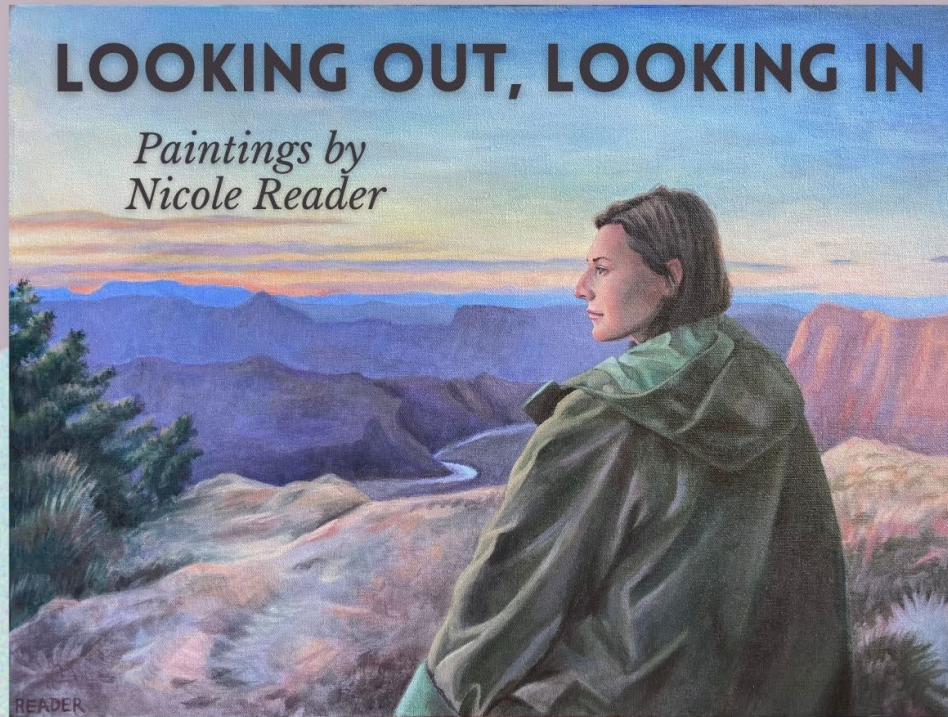


Making Stuff Ceramics - Karen Sanford
Open Studio through East Bay Open Studios
227 La Espiral, Orinda, Calif. November 5/6, 2022 10am-5pm



Making Stuff Ceramics - Karen Sanford
at The Bedford Gallery - Graft Fest
1601 Civic Dr. Walnut Creek November 12, 2022
10am-5pm

You are invited to the
ARTIST'S RECEPTION
for the opening of



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 5, 2022
3:00-5:00 p.m.

ORINDA LIBRARY ART GALLERY
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

Drinks and light refreshments will be served

The show will be on exhibit throughout November 2022
nicolereader.com | lamorindaarts.org/current-exhibits