

Orinda Community Church
Order of Worship
Sunday, September 24, 2023, 10:00 a.m.



Illustration from the Nuremberg Bible, 15th C.

Reflection:

The manna served as a great lesson in faith. Every day, enough manna would fall for each person to have an *omer* (approximately 43 oz.), which was enough to feel satiated for one day. One was not allowed to save the manna from one day to the next—leftovers had to be discarded outside the tent, otherwise they would become wormy and inedible. This taught a great lesson in faith. Not having any reserves, the Israelites had to have full faith in G-d that He would provide their needs each day. —Yehuda Sherpin

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Robin Holmes

One: God of might and tender care, we recognize you in the gift of life.

All: We recognize you in our daily food on the table, in the fragile freedom we enjoy.

One: We recognize your generous hand.

All: Give us the wisdom and strength not to seek a hollow security of things that are only provisional.

One: Teach us to move forward in search of lasting values.

All: We seek the freedom of the justice and love of your Son, Jesus. Amen.

**Stand as you are able*



COVID Advisory Group: Update

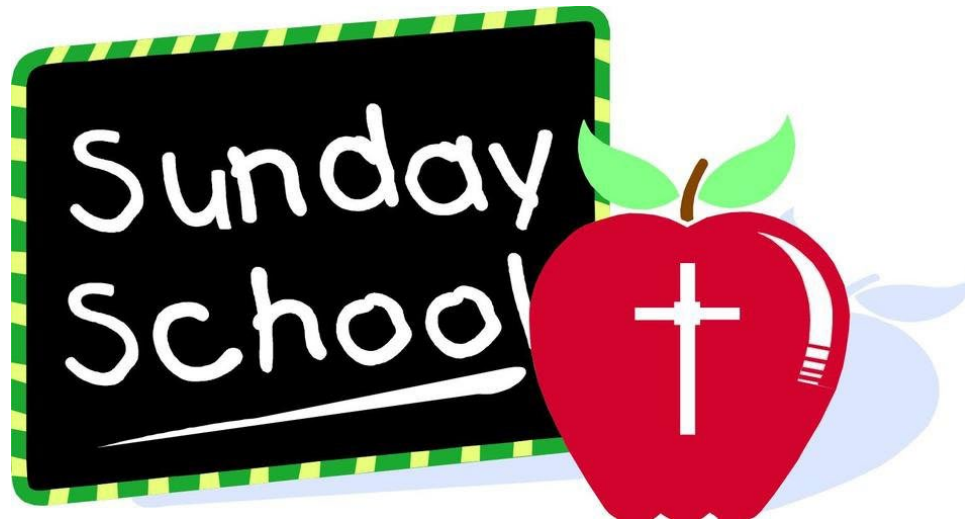
As an acknowledgement in the uptick in regional COVID cases, the COVID Advisory Group met this week. After some reflection and conversation, we decided that we simply want to reaffirm the health and safety suggestions we had previously adopted:

1. We believe that masks are a good way to protect wearers and help stop the spread of the disease. You are welcome to wear a mask to church, and we will make sure that masks and hand sanitizer are available in the narthex.
2. Our sanctuary is spacious! Feel free to spread out and practice social distancing.
3. New COVID boosters will soon be available, and we feel that boosters for COVID and other diseases like RSV, flu, and pneumonia offer good protection.

In addition, we use a fan each Sunday that filters the air in the sanctuary every twenty minutes. We will be purchasing air purifiers for the narthex and keeping the narthex doors open as long as the weather permits.

We thank you for the collaborative spirit of O.C.C. as we walk through a period of many unknowns. Thanks to your care for yourselves and each other, COVID has had a limited impact on our church population.

We hope to stay healthy and happy together!



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

HYMN* RH 148

Many and Great, O God

Joseph R. Renville

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Robin Holmes

Loving Creator, we bring before you the bread that you give us to eat every day. Guide us as we seek the bread of your Son that makes us neither rich nor poor but that unites us as brothers and sisters. This is our journey: we travel under the guidance of your spirit on the way of true life. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

WE LISTEN

ANTHEM

**Stand as you are able*

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger."

Then the LORD said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days."

So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him--what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD."

Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the LORD, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the LORD appeared in the cloud. The LORD spoke to Moses and said,



Thank you to this week's ushers:
Phil Bernard, Leslie Dickson, & John Skidgel



Online Auction beginning Tuesday, October 31, 2023

Pick-up and In-Person Auction Sunday, November 5, 2023

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

QUILTS ON VIEW at church on OCTOBER 8TH



The Sewing Circle will offer sponsorships and sales of quilts and other Artisan pieces.



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

(SCRIPTURE READING continued)

"I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the LORD your God.'"

In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

SERMON

Manna

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

WE RESPOND

HYMN* **RH** 102

Now Thank We All Our God

Martin Rinkart

A TIME OF PRAYER

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

STEWARDSHIP

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!**

**Stand as you are able*

Upcoming Events!

Please join us for these upcoming activities at the church:

- ❖ **TODAY, September 24**, after services at 11:30 a.m., **Second Hour**: We are honored to have **Bill Abriel** share his **Spiritual Journey**.
- ❖ **October 8**, at services, the **Sewing Circle** will be displaying quilts and other artisan pieces for sponsorship and sales.
- ❖ **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
- ❖ **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.
- ❖ **October 31 – November 5** - Our online auction will kick off on Tuesday, October 31st, culminating in our in person auction, Sunday, November 5.

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!**

HYMN* BH 458

I've Got a Feeling African American Traditional

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

POSTLUDE

David Milnes



**The next Church Council Meeting is
Wednesday, September 27th at 7:00 p.m.**

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

**Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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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 28.

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, October 3rd.
- ✚ 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, October 5.

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, orindachurch.org, then go to “ARTS” and then choose “Alta Mesa Center for the Arts” which will take you to a page with a link to register.