



The Ninth Sunday of

Pentecost

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church of Orinda, CA

Sunday, July 25, 2021

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church. As we navigate these days of COVID-19, we welcome both you who join us in person and you who join us via live-streaming on Facebook @HSLCORinda and our church's webpage www.holyshepherd.org. However you are joining with us, we pray that you will know the grace and goodness of God as we worship together.

▲ indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able

GATHERING MUSIC

"COME, JUST AS YOU ARE"
Lyrics and Music by Joseph Sabolick

▲ **OUR GATHERING SONG** "SING TO THE MOUNTAINS"
Lyrics and Music by Robert J. Dufford

Chorus: **Sing to the mountains, sing to the sea.
Raise your voices, lift your hearts.
This is the day the Lord has made.
Let all the earth rejoice.**

**I will give thanks to you, my Lord.
You have answered my plea.
You have saved my soul from death.
You are my strength and my song.** (Chorus)

**This is the day that the Lord has made.
Let us be glad and rejoice.
He has turned all death to life.
Sing of the glory of God.** (Chorus)

▲ OUR OPENING LITURGY

L: Let us confess our sin and our sinfulness to God, who is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love Creator God, from the beginnings of time, You have given good gifts to your people,
C: **But we have taken Your gifts and Your blessings**

**for granted, and misused them for our selfish gain.
Forgive us.**

L: In the person of your Son Jesus, You gave us life in abundance,

C: **But we have become enamored of definitions of abundance and life which declare You to be false.
Forgive us.**

L: By the power of Your Spirit, you have made us recipients of Your amazing grace,

C: **But we have refused to share that grace with others, as if more for others would somehow mean less for us. Forgive us.**

L: People of God, hear an amazing promise. Your sin and your sinfulness are forgiven. For freedom, Christ has set you free. Free to love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul and strength and mind. Free to love your neighbor as yourself. For we pray:

C: **Holy One, You call us to be your light in the darkness, your voice in the wilderness, your hope for the hopeless. Give us strength in our weakness, gentleness in our witness, and humility in our service, that we might embody your love for a broken world. For we ask this in the name of the One who has been with you from the Beginning, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE LESSON

1 John 5:1-12

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth. There are three that testify: the Spirit and the water and the blood, and these three agree. If we receive human testimony, the testimony of God is greater; for this is the testimony of God that he has testified to his Son. Those who believe in the Son of God have the testimony in their hearts. Those who do not believe in God have made him a liar by not believing in the testimony that God has given concerning his Son. And this is the testimony: God gave us eternal life, and this life is in his Son. Whoever has the Son has life; whoever does not have the Son of God does not have life.

A SONG OF CELEBRATION

"ANCIENT WORDS"

Lyrics and Music by Lynn DeShazo

*Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart
Oh, let the Ancient words impart.*

Refrain: *Ancient words ever true
Changing me, and changing you.
We have come with open hearts
Oh let the ancient words impart.*

*Words of Life, words of Hope
Give us strength, help us cope
In this world, where e'er we roam
Ancient words will guide us Home.* (Refrain)

*Holy words of our Faith
Handed down to this age.
Came to us through sacrifice
Oh heed the faithful words of Christ.* (Refrain)

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY

from 1 John 4

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent God's only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that God loved us and sent God's Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and God's love is perfected in us.

THE OFFERTORY

"HALLELUJAH"

Bethany Valentine – Soloist

Marc Levine – Accompanist

Lyrics and Music by Leonard Cohen

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*(Utilizing the prayer refrain: "Holy God **Hear our prayer**" and concluding with the Lord's Prayer)*

Our Father, 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; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation,

but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

▲ THE BENEDICTION

▲ OUR SENDING SONG

"THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE"

Lyrics and Music of unknown African-American origin

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!*

*Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine.
Don't let Satan blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine!*

*Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine!*

*Shine it all around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine it all around the world, I'm gonna let it shine.
Shine it all around the world, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, Let it shine, Let it shine!*

▲ THE CHARGE

Go, in peace, to love God by serving your neighbor!
Thanks be to God!

SENDING MUSIC

Thank you to this week's Worship Team, including:

Bethany Valentine – Vocalist and Creative Director
Diana Riveness Young – Vocalist
Elizabeth Humphrey – Vocalist
Ed Szaky – Vocalist and Lector
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist

The flowers gracing our worship space this day honor the memory of Victor Gess — who passed away this past Sunday night following an extended struggle with cancer. They are a gift from Victor's daughter Cynthia Jorgensen and Victor's extended family. Victor was preceded in death by wife Hollie, son Jim and daughter Cathy, and with whom he now shares in the blessed rest of everlasting peace.