

The Sixteenth Sunday after
Pentecost

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church of Orinda, CA
September 12, 2021

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church. Amid these days of COVID-19, we welcome some of you in-person and others online (via Facebook @HSLCORinda and our webpage www.holyshepherd.org.) In whatever way you join us, may you know God's grace as we worship.

Please Note that indoor masking requirements have been reinstated in Contra Costa County and thus all in-person worshipers are required to wear face coverings while in our Sanctuary. More importantly, wearing face coverings is one way we can actively love our neighbors as ourselves!

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

GATHERING MUSIC

Julie Hamre

▲ **OUR GATHERING SONG**

"ALL CREATURES OF OUR GOD AND KING" (LBW #527)
Lyrics by Francis of Assisi / Music arr. By Ralph V. Williams

**All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**O burning sun with golden beam
And silver moon with softer gleam:
Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**O rushing wind and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft:
Oh, praise Him! Alleluia!**

**O rising morn, in praise rejoice,
O lights of evening, find a voice.
Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Dear mother earth, who day by day
Unfolds rich blessings on our way,
Oh, praise Him! Alleluia!
The fruits and flow'rs that verdant grow,
Let them his praise abundant show.
Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Let all things their Creator bless
And worship God in humbleness.
Oh, praise Him! Alleluia!
Oh, praise the Father,
Praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One,
Oh, praise Him! Oh, praise Him!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

▲ **OUR OPENING SENTENCES**

L: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of creation.

P: Amen.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Faithful God, have mercy on us. We confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We turn from your loving embrace and go our own ways. We pass judgment on one another before examining ourselves. We place our own needs before those of our neighbors. We keep your gift of salvation to ourselves. Make us humble, cast away our transgressions, and turn us again to life in you through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

L: God hears the cries of all who call out in need, and through his death and resurrection, Christ has made us his own. Hear the truth that God proclaims: Your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

P: Amen.

L: So let us pray: Grand designer of all things, the light and darkness, the dome in the midst of waters, the sky and dry land, the vegetation, the seasons, the swarms of living creatures, birds and great sea monsters, creeping things and wild animals, and us; all these were brought into being with a word on your lips. And it was good. And may it still be good.

P: Amen.

THE LESSON

Genesis 1:1 – 2:3

OUR SONG OF PRAISE

"THIS IS MY FATHER'S WORLD" (ELW #824)
Lyrics by Maltbie Babcock / Music by F.L. Sheppard

This is my Father's world,

*and to my list'ning ears
all nature sings, and round me rings
the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world;
I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas;
his hand the wonders wrought.*

*This is my Father's world;
the birds their carols raise;
the morning light, the lily white,
declare their maker's praise.
This is my Father's world;
he shines in all that's fair.
In the rustling grass I hear him pass;
he speaks to me ev'rywhere.*

*This is my Father's world;
oh, let me not forget
that, though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the ruler yet.
This is my Father's world;
why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is king, let the heaven ring;
God reigns, let the earth be glad!*

KIDTALK Pastor John Valentine

THE SERMON Pastor John Valentine

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE OFFERTORY "GOD OF THE SPARROW"
Lyrics by Jaroslav Vajda / Music by Carl Schalk

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*(Utilizing the prayer refrain "God, in your mercy **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 HYMN

"LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING" (ELW #881)
Lyrics: Katherine Davis / Music: Traditional Welsh

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us,
God's light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.*

*God rules all the forces; the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing
our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
"To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!"*

▲ THE CHARGE

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

SENDING MUSIC Julie Hamre

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

Gretchen Koellermeier Stenson – Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Joe Zingale – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – vocalist
Julie Hamre – Pianist and Organist

Next Sunday (September 19), we will be offering socially-distanced Holy Communion in our Sanctuary from 10:30a to 11:15a (following worship), in a manner in keeping with the best guidance of our County Health Department. Please plan to join us as you are able.