

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church of Orinda, CA
September 19, 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 worshippers 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

"IN CHRIST ALONE"
by Stuart Townend

▲ OUR GATHERING SONG

"ARISE"
by Don Moen and Paul Baloche

**One thing we ask of You, One thing that we desire
That as we worship You, Lord come and change our lives**

**Arise, arise, arise, arise
Arise, take Your place
Be enthroned on our praise,
Arise, King of kings, Holy God, as we sing**

Arise, arise, arise, arise (Repeat from the beginning)

**We lift You up, we lift You up
We lift You up on our praises** (Repeat 4X)

**Arise, take Your place
Be enthroned on our praise, arise
King of kings, Holy God, as we sing arise
Arise, arise, arise, arise** (Repeat)

▲ 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.

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: You are loved and your sins are forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

P: Amen.

L: So let us pray:

P: God of promise, You stayed the hand of Abraham and fulfilled the promise you made to him, that he would become father to a great nation. Stir up in us the gift of faith that we too might be your people, and keep your promises to us, that we become inheritors of eternal life. Amen.

THE LESSON

Genesis 21:1-3; 22:1-14

The Lord dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the Lord did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him.

After these things God tested Abraham. He said to him, "Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Take your son, your only son Isaac, whom you love, and go to the land of Moriah, and offer him there as a burnt offering on one of the mountains that I shall show you." So Abraham rose early in the morning, saddled his donkey, and took two of his young men with him, and his son Isaac; he cut the wood for the burnt offering, and set out and went to the place in the distance that God had shown him. On the third day Abraham looked up and saw the place far away. Then Abraham said to his young men, "Stay here with the donkey; the boy and I will go over there; we will worship, and then we will come back to you." Abraham took the wood of the burnt offering and laid it on his son Isaac, and he himself carried the fire and the knife. So the two of them walked on together. Isaac said to his father Abraham, "Father!" And he said, "Here I am, my son." He said, "The fire and the wood are here, but where is the lamb for a burnt offering?" Abraham said, "God himself will provide the lamb for a burnt offering, my son." So the two of them walked on together.

When they came to the place that God had shown him, Abraham built an altar there and laid the wood in order. He bound his son Isaac, and laid him on the altar, on top of the wood. Then Abraham reached out his hand and took the knife to kill his son. But the angel of the Lord called to him from heaven, and said, "Abraham, Abraham!" And he said, "Here I am." He said, "Do not lay your hand on the boy or do anything to him; for now I know that you fear God, since you have not withheld your son, your only son, from me." And Abraham looked up and saw a ram, caught in a thicket by its horns. Abraham went and took the ram and offered it up as a burnt offering instead of his son. So Abraham called that place "The Lord will provide"; as it is said to this day, "On the mount of the Lord it shall be provided."

OUR SONG OF PRAISE

"GOD OF WONDERS"

by Steve J. Hindalong and Carey Marcus Byrd

1. *Lord of all creation,
of water earth and sky,
the heavens are Your tabernacle.
Glory to the Lord on high.*

Chorus

*God of wonders beyond our galaxy,
You are holy, holy.
The universe declares Your majesty,
You are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth. Lord of heaven and earth.*

2. *Early in the morning,
I will celebrate the light.
And when I stumble in the darkness,
I will call Your name by night.* (Chorus)

*Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.*

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

"HOPE OF THE BROKEN WORLD"

by Carl Cartee and Jennie Lee Riddle

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

▲ THE BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

▲ OUR SENDING HYMN

"TAKE TO THE WORLD"

by Derek Webb

*Go in peace to love and to serve,
And let your ears ring long with what you've heard
And may the bread on your tongue, Leave a trail of crumbs,
To lead the hungry back to the place that you are from*

*And take to the world this love, this hope and faith
And take to the world this rare, relentless grace
And like the Three in One,
Know you must become what you want to save
'Cause that's still the way, He takes to the world.*

*So go and go far, take light deep in the dark
Believe what's true, He uses all, even you
And may the bread on your tongue leave a trail of crumbs,
To lead the hungry back to the place that you are from*

*And take to the world this love, this hope and faith
And take to the world this rare, relentless grace
And like the Three in One,
Know you must become what you want to save
'Cause that's still the way, He takes to the world.*

▲ THE CHARGE

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

SENDING MUSIC

"TAKE TO THE WORLD" (reprise)

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

Tom Henry – Guitarist, Vocalist and Creative Director
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Diana Riveness Young – Vocalist
Bethany Valentine – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist

Following worship this Sunday morning, 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.