

Reformation Sunday

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church of Orinda, CA
October 31, 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. 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 "HOLY GOD, WE PRAISE THY NAME"
Lyrics by Ignace France and C.A. Walworth

▲ **OUR GATHERING SONG** "A MIGHTY FORTRESS IS OUR GOD"
Lyrics by Martin Luther

**A mighty fortress is our God,
a sword and shield victorious;
he breaks the cruel oppressor's rod
and wins salvation glorious.**

**The old satanic foe has sworn to work us woe!
With craft and dreadful might he arms himself to fight.
On earth he has no equal.**

**No strength of ours can match his might!
We would be lost, rejected.**

**But now a champion comes to fight,
whom God himself elected.**

**You ask who this may be? The Lord of hosts is he!
Christ Jesus, mighty Lord, God's only Son, adored.
He holds the field victorious.**

**God's Word forever shall abide,
no thanks to foes, who fear it;
for God himself fights by our side
with weapons of the Spirit.**

**Were they to take our house, goods, honor, child, or spouse,
though life be wrenched away, they cannot win the day.
The kingdom's ours forever!**

▲ OUR OPENING SENTENCES

L: Autumn – for the community in which we live – is a season of thankfulness. It is a time to remember the abundance with which we have been blessed. It is a time to remember those with whom we are called to share. So let us begin our time of worship by recalling words first penned by our nation's sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln: "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God."

P: **Forgive us our forgetfulness, Lord God.**

L: "We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own."

P: **Forgive us our arrogance, Lord God.**

L: "Intoxicated with unbroken success we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us."

P: **Forgive us our blindness to our own failings and to the needs of our neighbors.**

L: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. To all who believe in Jesus Christ God grants freedom from the power of sin, and through the Holy Spirit gives life, forgiveness, and resurrection from the dead.

P: **Amen!**

L: So let us pray:

P: **Mighty Lord, the splendor of Solomon's temple cannot compare to the majesty of your heart. Show your heart in this place, that we might worship you with joy and gratitude. Amen.**

THE LESSON

1 Kings 5:1-5; 8:1-13

Now King Hiram of Tyre sent his servants to Solomon, when he heard that they had anointed him king in place of his father; for Hiram had always been a friend to David. Solomon sent word to Hiram, saying, 'You know that my father David could not build a house for the name of the Lord his God because of the warfare with which his enemies surrounded him, until the Lord put them under the soles of his feet. But now the Lord my God has given me rest on every side; there is neither adversary nor misfortune. So I intend to build a house for the name of the Lord my God, as the Lord said to my father David, "Your son, whom I will set on your throne in your place, shall build the house for my name."

Then Solomon assembled the elders of Israel and all the heads of the tribes, the leaders of the ancestral houses of the Israelites, before King Solomon in Jerusalem, to bring up the ark of the covenant of the Lord out of the city of David, which is Zion. All the people of Israel assembled to King Solomon at the festival in the month Ethanim, which is the seventh

month. And all the elders of Israel came, and the priests carried the ark. So they brought up the ark of the Lord, the tent of meeting, and all the holy vessels that were in the tent; the priests and the Levites brought them up. King Solomon and all the congregation of Israel, who had assembled before him, were with him before the ark, sacrificing so many sheep and oxen that they could not be counted or numbered. Then the priests brought the ark of the covenant of the Lord to its place, in the inner sanctuary of the house, in the most holy place, underneath the wings of the cherubim. For the cherubim spread out their wings over the place of the ark, so that the cherubim made a covering above the ark and its poles. The poles were so long that the ends of the poles were seen from the holy place in front of the inner sanctuary; but they could not be seen from outside; they are there to this day. There was nothing in the ark except the two tablets of stone that Moses had placed there at Horeb, where the Lord made a covenant with the Israelites, when they came out of the land of Egypt. And when the priests came out of the holy place, a cloud filled the house of the Lord, so that the priests could not stand to minister because of the cloud; for the glory of the Lord filled the house of the Lord. Then Solomon said, 'The Lord has said that he would dwell in thick darkness. I have built you an exalted house, a place for you to dwell in for ever.'

OUR SONG OF PRAISE "ANCIENT WORDS"
Lyrics and Music by Michael W. Smith

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

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

*Holy words of our Faith
Handed down to this age.
Came to us through sacrifice
Oh heed the faithful words of Christ.* (Chorus 2X)

KIDTALK Pastor John Valentine

THE SERMON Pastor John Valentine

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY Psalm 100

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with singing. Know that the Lord is God, our Maker to whom we belong; God is the Shepherd and we are God's flock.

Enter the temples gates with thanksgiving, the courtyard with thanks and praise. Give thanks and bless God's name. For the Lord is good indeed! God's steadfast love endures forever, faithful to all generations.

THE OFFERTORY "BY GRACE ALONE"
Lyrics and Music by Tom Henry

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 AND THE BENEDICTION

▲ OUR SENDING SONG "GRACE THAT IS GREATER"
Lyrics and Music by Bart Millard

*Marvelous grace of our loving Lord
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled*

Chorus: *Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within
Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that is greater than all our sin*

*Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace
Freely bestowed on all who believe
You who are longing to see His face
Will you this moment His grace receive?* (Chorus 2X)

▲ THE CHARGE

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

SENDING MUSIC "GRACE THAT IS GREATER" (Reprise)

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

Tom Henry – Guitarist, Vocalist and Creative Director
Diana Riveness Young – Vocalist
Elizabeth Humphrey – Vocalist
Bethany Valentine – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist
