

epiphany 1

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
January 9, 2022

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

WORDS OF WELCOME

▲ **GATHERING SONG** "BRIGHT AND GLORIOUS IS THE SKY"
Lyrics and Music by Nikolai F.S. Gruntvig / ELW #301

**Bright and glorious is the sky,
Radiant are the heavens high
Where the golden stars were shining
And their rays to earth inclining,
Beckoning us to Heaven above,
Beckoning us to Heaven above.**

**Sages from the East afar,
When they saw this wondrous star,
Went to the find the King of nations,
And to offer their oblations
Unto Him as Lord and King,
Unto Him as Lord and King.**

**Guided by the star they found
Him Whose praise the ages sound,
We too have a star to guide us
Which forever will provide us
With the light to find our Lord,
With the light to find our Lord.**

**As a star God's holy Word
Leads us to our King and Lord;
Brightly from its sacred pages
Shall this light throughout the ages
Shine upon our path of life,
Shine upon our path of life.**

▲ OUR OPENING SENTENCES

L: On the first day of creation, God said, "Let there be light." In the person of Jesus Christ, God said, "I am the Light of the world." By the power of the Spirit, God has ignited the light of life in us.

P: But we have focused on the darkness that surrounds and overwhelms us, that frightens and numbs us.

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: But we have used artificial lights to try and eliminate the darkness in our lives.

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: But we have tried to deny the power of the darkness by pretending that it isn't there.

L: Forgive us, O God, for these our actions of failure and our failures to act.

P: Forgive us, Lord God, for putting our trust in ourselves rather than You.

L: Hear the good news! God has come as a light in the darkness. In the light of Christ we find forgiveness for our past, strength for our present and hope for our future. In Him we are enabled to begin life anew. So let us pray ...

P: God of abundance, Jesus revealed the riches of your unexpected grace by turning water to wine. Open our hearts to the richness of your love and make us better witnesses to the truth and hope we find in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

THE LESSON

John 2:1-12

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."

Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine, and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him. After this he went down to Capernaum with his mother, his brothers, and his disciples; and they remained there a few days.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

A SONG FOR THE SEASON

"CHRIST, BE OUR LIGHT"

Lyrics and Music by Bernadette Farrell / ELW #715

*Longing for light, we wait in darkness
Longing for truth, we turn to You.
Make us Your own, Your holy people
Light for the world to see.*

[Please join in singing the refrain]

Christ, be our light!

Shine in our hearts. Shine through the darkness.

Christ, be our light!

Shine in Your church gathered today.

*Longing for peace, our world is troubled
Longing for hope, many despair.
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.
Make us your living voice. [Refrain]*

*Longing for food, many are hungry
Longing for water, many still thirst.
Make us Your bread, broken for others
Shared until all are fed. [Refrain]*

*Many the gifts, many the people
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.
Let us be servants to one another
Making Your kingdom come. [Refrain]*

SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY

based on John 1 and John 8

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him is life, and that life is the light of all people. And that light shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

But that godly Word is not just a word of history from our distant past. Rather, in the person of Jesus Christ, that Word became flesh and lived among us — and lived, and died, and rose again. And it is that same Jesus Christ who speaks to us the promise: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'

THE OFFERTORY

"COME, FOLLOW THAT STAR"

Lyrics by Nancy Price and Don Besig / Music by Don Besig

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

L: May the humility of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the joy of the angels, and the peace of the Christ-child be God's gift to you this Epiphany time and always.

P: Amen!

▲ OUR SENDING SONG

"AS WITH GLADNESS MEN OF OLD"

Lyrics by William Dix / Music by Conrad Kocher / ELW #302

***As with gladness men of old
did the guiding star behold;
as with joy they hailed its light,
leading onward, beaming bright;
so, most gracious Lord, may we
evermore be led by thee.***

***As they offered gifts most rare
at thy cradle, rude and bare,
so may we with holy joy,
pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring,
Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.***

***Holy Jesus, ev'ry day
keep us in the narrow way;
and when earthly things are past,
bring our ransomed souls at last
where they need no star to guide,
where no clouds thy glory hide.***

***In the heav'nly county bright
need they no created light;
thou its light, its joy, its crown,
thou its sun which goes not down;
there forever may we sing
alleluias to our king.***

▲ 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:

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