

epiphany 4

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
January 30, 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 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

Julie Hamre

WORDS OF WELCOME

▲ **GATHERING SONG** "ARISE, YOUR LIGHT HAS COME"
Lyrics by Ruth Duck / Music by William Walter / ELW 314

**Arise, your light has come! The Spirit's call obey;
show forth the glory of your God
which shines on you today.**

**Arise, your light has come! Fling wide the prison door;
proclaim the captive's liberty,
good tidings to the poor.**

**Arise, your light has come! All you in sorrow born,
bind up the brokenhearted ones
and comfort those who mourn.**

**Arise, your light has come! The mountains burst in song!
Rise up like eagles on the wing,
God's pow'r will make us strong.**

▲ 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 Life, shower us in your living water, bringing us to new life, fresh and clean. Walk with us as we share the knowledge of your living water with others, so that all might live — for we ask this in the name of the One who is the fount of every blessing, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

THE LESSON

John 4:1-42 (verses 21-42 are printed below)

Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." Jesus said to her, "I am he, the one who is speaking to you."

Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" They left the city and were on their way to him.

Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something." But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor."

Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there two days. And many more believed because of his word. They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

SONG OF THE DAY

"FOR ALL THE FAITHFUL WOMEN"

Lyrics by H. Stuempfle / Music Traditional Finnish / ELW 419

*For all the faithful women
who served in days of old
To you shall thanks be given,
to all their story told.
They served with strength and gladness
in tasks your wisdom gave.
To you their lives bore witness,
proclaimed your power to save."*

*Recall the outcast woman
with whom our Lord conversed,
Christ gave her living water
to quench her deepest thirst.
Like her, our hearts are yearning,
Christ offers us his word,
Then may our lips be burning
to witness to our Lord.*

*All praise to God the Father!
All praise to Christ the Son!
All praise the Holy Spirit,
who binds the Church in one!
With saints who went before us,
with saints who witness still,
We sing glad alleluias
and strive to do Your will.*

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

"I HEARD THE VOICE OF JESUS SAY"

Lyrics and Music by Lloyd Larson

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

▲ OUR SENDING SONG

"DRAWN TO THE LIGHT"

Lyrics and Music by John Ylvisaker / ELW 593

*People who walk in darkness have sought
A light in the heart of the darkest night.
Just when we thought all would be lost,
We were drawn to the light of God.*

Refrain: ***Dawn is in sight! Gone is the night,
Drawn to the light and the morning.
Glorious and bright, oh, what a sight
To be drawn to the light of God.***

*How can we tell a heaven from hell
If ev'ryone dwells in the dark of night?
Morning dispels, gently compels,
And we're drawn to the light of God. (Refrain)*

*Where is the sun? Oh, there will be none!
The Lamb is the one who is shining bright,
Bids us to come! Life has begun
When we're drawn to the light of God. (Refrain)*

▲ 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
Joe Zingale – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Julie Hamre – Organist and Pianist
