

3rd Sunday after

Pentecost

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
9:30am on June 26, 2022

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person and online worshipers (live-streamed on Facebook @HSLCORinda or archived at www.holy shepherd.org.) In whatever way you join us, may you know God's grace as we worship.

Please Note though many indoor masking requirements have been lifted in Contra Costa County – in-person worshipers are strongly encouraged to wear face coverings while indoors on our campus. Wearing face coverings is one way we can actively love our neighbors as ourselves!

Know that You Are Welcome! We share in Holy Communion during the context of this morning's service. This is the Lord's table. He is the host. We are his guests. He welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live!

Your Offerings While continuing pandemic restrictions discourage the traditional 'passing of the offering plate', know that we welcome your gifts to the work of our congregation both locally and globally. An offering plate is located in our entryway / narthex area if you would like to share a gift to support our efforts. Alternatively, we'd invite you to visit our website at www.holy shepherd.org and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

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

GATHERING MUSIC "AS IT IS IN HEAVEN"
Lyrics and Music by Matt Maher and Ed Cash

WORDS OF WELCOME

▲ OUR CALL TO WORSHIP

L: We gather here in this place in a spirit of honesty. Just as we are, not just as we hope we might be. Whole yet broken, filled yet empty, hopeful yet hopeless.

C: **May God's Spirit of wholeness blow through our lives.**

L: We gather in a spirit of humility. Thankful that God has given us in Jesus Christ a gift which we could never obtain on our own.

C: **May God's Spirit of truth open our eyes to God's goodness.**

L: We gather in a spirit of unity. Side by side at God's table of grace, that we might be fed by the Bread of life.

C: **May God's Spirit of healing work in us and through us. May God's blessing alive in us become a blessing to those around us.**

▲ **GATHERING SONG** "HERE I AM TO WORSHIP"
Lyrics and Music by Tim Hughes

**Light of the world you stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.**

Chorus

**So here I am to worship; here I am to bow down;
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me.**

**King of all days, oh, so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above,
Humbly You came to the Earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.**

(Chorus)

Bridge

**And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.....**

(Chorus 2x)

▲ **OUR OPENING LITANY** CALLED TO BE CHURCH
based on the Book of Acts

L: The last time Jesus was with His disciples, he told them: "When the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the world."

C: **So we pray, 'Come, Holy Spirit.'**

L: And the Spirit came among them.

C: **And they began to speak to their neighbors about the amazing love of God.**

L: And the Spirit stayed among them.

C: **And they devoted themselves to learning and fellowship, to worship and prayer.**

L: And the Spirit wove them together.

C: **And they supported one another as they could, and were thankful for what they had.**

L: The Spirit called them into action.

C: **To speak the truth and to speak for God.**

L: The Spirit challenged their assumptions.

C: **And their eyes were opened to new possibilities.**

L: The Spirit invited them to journey

C: **And wherever they went, they spoke of the mighty acts of God.**

L: May the same Spirit which called, gathered, enlightened and sanctified those first Christians be present with us.

C: **For we pray, 'Come, Holy Spirit.'**

L: So let us pray

C: **Holy God – even in the earliest days of the church there was division and dissension. But you raised up faithful leaders to be about the work of ministry and so restored a spirit of unity among them. Raise up faithful leaders among us, that we might be one and that the work of ministry might be done among us. For we ask this in the name of your beloved Son. Amen.**

THE LESSON

Acts 6:1-10

Now during those days, when the disciples were increasing in number, the Hellenists complained against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution of food. And the twelve called together the whole community of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should neglect the word of God in order to wait on tables. Therefore, brothers and sisters, select from among yourselves seven men of good standing, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we may appoint to this task, while we, for our part, will devote ourselves to prayer and to serving the word." What they said pleased the whole community, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and the Holy Spirit, together with Philip, Prochorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. They had these men stand before the apostles, who prayed and laid their

hands on them.

The word of God continued to spread; the number of the disciples increased greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith. Stephen, full of grace and power, did great wonders and signs among the people. Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), Cyrenians, Alexandrians, and others of those from Cilicia and Asia, stood up and argued with Stephen. But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he spoke.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

A SONG OF PRAISE

"HERE I AM, LORD"

Lyrics and Music by D. L. Schutte / ELW #574

*I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people's cry,
All who dwell in dark and sin, my hand will save.
I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright,
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?*

Chorus

*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

*I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?*

(Chorus)

*I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide, 'til their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?*

(Chorus)

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH 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 PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*Empowered by the Holy Spirit to manifest the Good News to the ends of the earth, we pray for the church, for people in need, and for all of creation, utilizing the prayer refrain "God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**"*

▲ THE COMMUNION LITANY

L: Let us pray: Lord Jesus, you came to us as a tiny Baby born in danger and discomfort. You grew into a Man whom the world can never forget. You offered up your body and blood for the sake of our broken lives and our broken world. So come to us now in this bread and this wine. Unite us and strengthen us by your presence and through your Word, that we might be your faithful children in this world.

For together we remember that – on the night in which he was betrayed – our Lord Jesus took bread and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me." And that same Jesus who called us to remember, and who is present with us now, is the One who taught us all to pray:

C: **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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

As we share in the gift of Holy Communion this morning, we invite you to come to the Altar Rail and kneel or stand

as you are able. You are encouraged to remove your mask once you have arrived at the Altar Rail, and don it anew before returning to your seat.

During the serving of Holy Communion, you are invited to sing the following song with our Worship Team.

"FLY LIKE A BIRD"

Lyrics and Music by Ken Canedo

Refrain

***Fly like a bird to the Lord, my soul
I want to soar like an eagle.
Though I may journey far away from home
I know I'll never be alone.***

***O God you know who I am;
You know my hopes and my dreams;
In my pondering and fears
in my joy and in my tears;
O God your presence is real.***

(Refrain)

***Where can I run to your love?
Where can I find all your grace?
From the dawn of morning's light
to the darkness of the night;
O God your presence is real.***

(Refrain)

***When I am down and afraid;
When I am falling away;
You extend a gentle hand
and I know you understand;
O God your presence is real.***

(Refrain)

"CHRIST ABOVE ME"

Lyrics and Music by John Chisum and George Searcy

Chorus

***Christ above me, Christ beside me,
Christ within me ever guiding;
Christ behind me, Christ before,
Christ, my love, my life, my Lord.***

***Bread of life from heaven,
Lover of my soul;
Peace of God so ever present,
I surrender my control to*** (Chorus)

***Mercy everlasting,
Tenderness divine;
Word of God so ever healing,
I surrender heart and mind to*** (Chorus)

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

▲ THE BENEDICTION

L: Go now as witnesses to the love and grace and hope that we find in Jesus Christ. And may God raise you from all that would entomb you; may Christ Jesus call you by name and go ahead of you; and may the Holy Spirit empower you for all that is good.

C: **Amen!**

▲ THE SENDING SONG "A THOUSAND AMENS" Lyrics and Music by Tim Timmons

(Sung traditionally)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

(Sung upbeat)

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

***Unfailing love comes with the morning.
It's Your faithfulness we sing at night.
It's Your kindness, Lord, that leads to our healing.
All glory to our Maker, and a thousand amens.***

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, Ye heavenly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.***

***Unfailing love comes with the morning.
It's Your faithfulness we sing at night.
It's Your kindness, Lord, that leads to our healing.
All glory to our Maker, and a thousand amens.***

▲ THE CHARGE

L: Go – in peace – to love God by serving your neighbor!
C: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING MUSIC "A THOUSAND AMENS" (Reprise)

Thank you to this morning's Worship Team for sharing their gifts of music with us today, including:

Diana Riveness Young – Vocalist and Creative Director
Elizabeth Humphrey – Vocalist
Bethany Valentine – Vocalist
Marci Bauer – Vocalist
Ed Szaky – Vocalist
Steve Swanback – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist

For those interested in reading ahead as we journey through the Book of Acts this summer, next week's text is
Acts 7:44 – 8:3

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