



**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.holyshepherd.org](http://www.holyshepherd.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.holyshepherd.org](http://www.holyshepherd.org) and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

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

## GATHERING MUSIC

Julie Hamre

## 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

ON JORDAN'S BANK

Lyrics by C. Coffin / Music by M. Praetorius / ELW #249

***On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and harken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!***

***Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;  
make straight the way for God within,  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there.***

***We hail you as our Savior, Lord,  
our refuge and our great reward;  
without your grace we waste away  
like flow'rs that wither and decay.***

***Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more;  
oh, let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.***

***All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.***

### ▲ 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: **Almighty God, by the power of your Spirit, Peter discovered that Kingdom of God was far more expansive than Peter previously imagined it to be. We humbly ask that you might pour your Spirit into our lives and tear down our own presumptions about who is welcome in your Kingdom and who is not – that our lives might be conformed to your expansive embrace. For we ask this in the name of the one who welcomes all peoples into new life with you, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

#### THE LESSON

Acts 10:34-48

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every people anyone who fears him and practices righteousness is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him.

"We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to

preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

#### KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

#### A SONG OF PRAISE IN CHRIST THERE IS NO EAST OR WEST

Lyrics by John Oxenham / Music African Amer. / ELW 650

*In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one community of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

*In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere  
their high communion find;  
his service is the golden cord  
close binding human-kind.*

*Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God  
are surely kin to me.*

*In Christ now meet both east and west,  
in him meet south and north;  
all Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.*

#### THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

#### ▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH based on Acts 10:38-43

**We are people who have heard the Good News.**

- **How God anointed Jesus with the Spirit of Truth.**
- **How Jesus healed those he encountered along the way.**
- **How Jesus was killed by those who feared his goodness.**
- **How Jesus was raised from death by the Creator of all that is.**

**We have been called to be witnesses to that Good News.**

- **That God is the God of the living and the dead.**
- **That God offers forgiveness to all who would trust God.**
- **That God is better to us than we are to ourselves.**
- **That God calls us to respect God and embody God's love to our neighbors.**

**May we be Good News people this day and always!  
Amen.**

#### **A MUSICAL OFFERTORY**

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY  
Lyrics by F.W. Faber / Music by Paul Langford

#### **▲ 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 songs with our Worship Team.*

SPIRIT OF THE LIVING GOD  
Lyrics and Music by Daniel Iverson

***Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me,  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.  
Break me, melt me, mold me, fill me.  
Spirit of the Living God,  
Fall afresh on me.*** (Repeat)

THERE IS A BALM IN GILEAD  
Lyrics and Music Trad. African American / ELW #614

Refrain: ***There is a balm in Gilead  
to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead  
to heal the sin-sick soul.***

***Sometimes I feel discouraged  
and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit  
revives my soul again.*** [Refrain]

***If you cannot preach like Peter,  
if you cannot pray like Paul,  
you can tell the love of Jesus  
and say, "He died for all."*** [Refrain]

***Don't ever be discouraged,  
for Jesus is your friend;  
and if you lack for knowledge,  
he'll not refuse to lend.*** [Refrain]

#### **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**

GO, MY CHILDREN

Lyrics by Jaroslav Vajda / Music Trad. Welsh / ELW #543

*Go, my children, with my blessing,  
Never alone.*

*Waking, sleeping, I am with you;  
You are my own.*

*In my love's baptismal river  
I have made you mine forever.*

*Go, my children, with my blessing -  
You are my own.*

*Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.*

*Here you learned how much I love you,  
What I can cure.*

*Here you heard my dear Son's story;  
Here you touched him, saw his glory.*

*Go, my children, sins forgiven,  
At peace and pure.*

*Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
Closer to me;*

*Grow in love and love by serving,  
Joyful and free.*

*Here my Spirit's power filled you;  
Here his tender comfort stilled you.*

*Go, my children, fed and nourished,  
Joyful and free.*

▲ **THE CHARGE**

L: Go – in peace – to love God by serving your neighbor!

C: **Thanks be to God!**

**SENDING MUSIC**

Julie Hamre

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

**Bethany Valentine** – Vocalist & Creative Director

**Gretchen Koellermeier Stenson** – Vocalist

**Joe Zingale** – Vocalist

**Pastor John Valentine** – Vocalist

**Julie Hamre** – Organist and Pianist

For those interested in reading ahead as we journey through the Book of Acts this summer, next week's text is Acts 15:1-11

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