

9th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
9:30am on August 7, 2022

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person or are online worshippers (live-streamed on Facebook [@HSLCORinda](#) or archived at [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 worshippers 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](#) and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

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

GATHERING MUSIC

IF NOT NOW

Lyrics and Music by Carrie Newcomer

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

LET THE RIVER FLOW

Lyrics and Music by Darrell Evans

**Let the poor one say I am rich again
Let the lost one say I am found again
And let the river flow
Let the blind one say I can see again
Let the dead one say I am born again
And let the river flow; let the river flow**

**Let the river flow
Let the river flow
Holy Spirit come
Move in power
Let the river flow.**

**Let the poor one say I am rich again
Let the lost one said I am found again
And let the river flow
Let the blind one say I can see again
Let the dead one say I am born again
And let the river flow; let the river flow**

**Let the river flow
Let the river flow
Holy Spirit come
Move in power
Let the river flow.**

▲ 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, you opened Lydia's heart to the Good News of Jesus and made her a witness to the faith, using her gifts and talents for the sake of your Kingdom. By the power of that same Spirit, open our hearts to your Good News and make us witnesses to the faith, that we might use our gifts and talents for the sake of your Kingdom. For we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

THE LESSON

Acts 16:6-15

They went through the region of Phrygia and Galatia, having been forbidden by the Holy Spirit to speak the word in Asia. When they had come opposite Mysia, they attempted to go into Bithynia, but the Spirit of Jesus did not allow them; so, passing by Mysia, they went down to Troas. During the night Paul had a vision: there stood a man of Macedonia pleading with him and saying, "Come over to Macedonia and help us." When he had seen the vision, we immediately tried to cross over to Macedonia, being convinced that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

We therefore set sail from Troas and took a straight course to Samothrace, the following day to Neapolis, and from there to Philippi, which is a leading city of the district of Macedonia and a Roman colony. We remained in this city for some days. On the Sabbath day we went outside the gate by the river, where we supposed there

was a place of prayer, and we sat down and spoke to the women who had gathered there. A certain woman named Lydia, a worshiper of God, was listening to us; she was from the city of Thyatira and a dealer in purple cloth. The Lord opened her heart to listen eagerly to what was said by Paul. When she and her household were baptized, she urged us, saying, "If you have judged me to be faithful to the Lord, come and stay at my home." And she prevailed upon us.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

A SONG OF PRAISE

COME TOUCH THE SON
Lyrics and Music by Tom Henry

*To live the dream, to find a way to go.
To live His truth, a path so clear to know.
To walk among the things that mean so much.
To give yourself in hopes that He will touch . . .
Your life and your faith; Your life and your living;
To be all in one.
He's given His life; He's part of the living,
Come touch the Son!
Come touch the Son!*

*Don't go alone surrounded by all your fears.
Through shadows unknown, that journey could last for
years.
Just welcome the day when darkness turns to light.
A day, I'm told, with sunshine throughout the night.
Be a part of His life; be in touch with His living;
Make it all flow.
Your faith is your light, His Spirit is in you,
Come touch the Son!
Come touch the Son!*

*Your path is clear, it leads straight down the road;
Beware the curves that can topple your heavy load;
You're almost there, reach out, and take His hand;
Then walk with Christ and journey throughout the land.
You'll find your life, the wings of your living,
Strengthened by love.
His grace is inside, the core of your being,
You've touched the Son!
You've touched the Son!
You've touched the Son!*

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.**

▲ 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.

HERE IS BREAD, HERE IS WINE

Lyrics and Music by Graham Kendrick / ELW #483

***Here is bread, here is wine,
Christ is with us, He is with us.
Break the bread, drink the wine,
Christ is with us here.***

Refrain

***In this bread there is healing,
in this cup there's life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit,
Christ is with us here.***

***Here is grace, here is peace,
Christ is with us, He is with us.
Know His grace, find peace,
feast on Jesus here.*** (Refrain)

***Here we are, joined as one,
Christ is with us, He is with us.
We'll proclaim, 'til he comes,
Jesus crucified.*** (Refrain)

HE KNOWS MY NAME

Lyrics and Music by Tommy Walker

***I have a Maker, He formed my heart
Before even time began my life was in his hands***

***He knows my name
He knows my every thought
He sees each tear that falls
And hears me when I call.***

***I have a Father, He calls me his own
He'll never leave me no matter where I go.***

***He knows my name
He knows my every thought
He sees each tear that falls***

And hears me when I call.

*He knows my name
He knows my every thought
He sees each tear that falls
And hears me when I call.
And hears me when I call.*

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. 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

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*

*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?*

*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*

*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
Grace that is greater than all our sin*

▲ THE CHARGE

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

C: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING MUSIC

GRACE THAT IS GREATER (reprise)

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

Tom Henry – Guitarist, Vocalist and Creative Director
Elizabeth Humphrey – Vocalist
Diana Riveness Young – Vocalist
Bethany Valentine – Vocalist
Marci Bauer – Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Ed Szaky – Vocalist
Steve Swanback – Vocalist
Bob Schmalz – 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 16:16-34

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