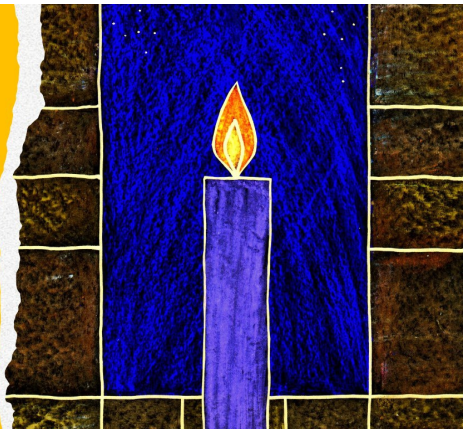


Advent!

November 27, 2022
9:30am

Holy Shepherd
Lutheran Church
Orinda, CA



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 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 We have once again resumed the practice of 'passing the offering plate' during our musical offertory. If you would prefer to support the work of our congregation electronically, 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

Julie Hamre

WORDS OF WELCOME

▲ THE INVITATION

- L: Advent is a time of expectation.
- P: **A time to celebrate the One true hope of the world in which we live.**
- L: Advent is a time of preparation.
- P: **A time to prepare ourselves for the arrival of the Prince of Peace.**
- L: Advent is a time to remember ancient words.
- P: **A time to recall that those words are meant for us.**

- L: That the days are surely coming when righteousness and justice will abound.
- P: **That the days are surely coming when God's Word will be written on our hearts.**
- L: That the days are surely coming when the lion will lie down with the lamb.
- P: **That the days are surely coming when God will make all things new.**
- L: So let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, we are a selfish people. Our peace depends on Your coming. We are a sinful people. Our pardon depends on Your coming. We are a broken people. Our lives depend on your grace. And so we pray those ancient words: "Maran atha." – "Lord, come soon."
- P: **Maran atha. Lord, come soon.**
- L: In the Advent of the Christ, the dawn from on high does break upon us. In the Advent of the Christ, God looks upon you with peace, and pardon and grace. In the Advent of the Christ, God forgives you all your sins.
- P: **Amen!**

▲ GATHERING SONG

REJOICE, REJOICE, BELIEVERS

Lyrics by L. Laurenti / Music Trad. Swedish / ELW #244

**Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
and let your lights appear;
the evening is advancing,
and darker night is near.
The bridegroom is arising
and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
at midnight comes the cry.**

**The watchers on the mountain
proclaim the bridegroom near;
go forth as he approaches
with alleluias clear.
the marriage feast is waiting;
the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
The bridegroom is at hand.**

**Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
arise, O Sun so longed for,
o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
we plead, O Lord, to see
the day of earth's redemption
that sets your people free!**

▲ THE CELEBRATION OF LIGHT

L: *Jesus Christ, you are the light of the world.*

P: ***The light no darkness can overcome.***

L: *Stay with us now, for it is evening.*

P: ***And the day is almost over.***

L: *Let your light scatter the darkness.*

P: ***And shine within you people here.***

▲ A HYMN OF PRAISE

JOYOUS LIGHT

Lyrics and Music by Marty Haugen / ELW #561

***Joyous light of heavenly glory,
loving glow of God's own face,
you who sing creation's story,
shine on every land and race.
Now as evening falls around us,
we shall raise our songs to you.
God of daybreak, God of shadows,
come and light our hearts anew.***

***In the stars that grace the darkness,
in the blazing sun of dawn,
in the light of peace and wisdom,
we can hear your quiet song.
Love that fills the night with wonder,
love that warms the weary soul,
love that bursts all chains asunder,
set us free and make us whole.***

***You who made the heaven's splendor,
every dancing star of night,
make us shine with gentle justice,
let us each reflect your light.
Mighty God of all creation,
gentle Christ who lights our way,
loving Spirit of salvation,
lead us on to endless day.***

▲ PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you!

P: **And also with you!**

L: Let us pray:

P: **Faithful God, you proved your faithfulness to your people when they cried out to you in distress. Be present in our distress, and show us how to be faithful to you in the midst of suffering. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE LESSON

Habakkuk 1:1-7; 2:1-4; 3:17-19

The oracle that the prophet Habakkuk saw:

O Lord, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not listen? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongdoing and look at trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law becomes slack, and justice never prevails. The wicked surround the righteous; therefore judgment comes forth perverted.

Look at the nations and see! Be astonished! Be astounded! For a work is being done in your days that you would not believe if you were told. For I am rousing the Chaldeans, that fierce and impetuous nation, who march through the breadth of the earth to seize dwellings not their own. Dread and fearsome are they; their justice and dignity proceed from themselves.

I will stand at my watchpost and station myself on the rampart; I will keep watch to see what he will say to me and what he will answer concerning my complaint. Then the Lord answered me and said: Write the vision; make it plain on tablets, so that a runner may read it. For there is still a vision for the appointed time; it speaks of the end and does not lie. If it seems to tarry, wait for it; it will surely come; it will not delay. Look at the proud! Their spirit is not right in them, but the righteous live by their faithfulness.

Though the fig tree does not blossom and no fruit is on the vines; though the produce of the olive fails and the fields yield no food; though the flock is cut off from the fold and there is no herd in the stalls, yet I will rejoice in the Lord; I will exult in the God of my salvation. God, the Lord, is my strength; he makes my feet like the feet of a deer and makes me tread upon the heights.

KIDTALK

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson
(includes the Lighting of the Advent candle)

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

LOST IN THE NIGHT

Lyrics by Olav Lee / Music Trad. Finnish / ELW #243

***Lost in the night do the people yet languish
longing for morning the darkness to vanquish,
plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish
Will not day come soon? Will not day come soon?***

***Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?
Shall those who have light no light let us borrow
giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?***

***Sorrowing wand'ers, in darkness yet dwelling
dawned has the day of a radiance excelling
death's deepest shadows forever dispelling
Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!***

***Light o'er the land of the needy is beaming
rivers of life through its deserts are streaming
bringing all peoples a Savior redeeming
Come and save us soon! Come and save us soon!***

THE SERMON

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY

based on Philippians 2

As people of God, we find our hope and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross.

Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

THE OFFERTORY

BETHLEHEM WIND

Lyrics and Music by Joseph Martin

▲ THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*We gather our prayers for the church, those in need, and
all of God's good creation, utilizing the prayer refrain
"God, in your mercy, hear our prayer."*

▲ THE COMMUNION LITANY

L: God spoke in the beginning; out of darkness came night and day, out of emptiness came creation, out of loneliness came humankind.

P: **And God said, "This is very good."**

L: God spoke when the world was troubled; giving voice to the prophets, moving through Mary as she gave birth to her child, crying as a baby lying in a manger.

P: **And still God said, "This is very good."**

L: God comes to us in bread and wine, for on the night when he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took the bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples and said, 'Take; eat; this is my body which is given for you. This do in remembrance of me.' In the same way he also took the cup after the supper, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to

them saying, 'Drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

P: **And still God says. "This is very good."**

L: And because of God's goodness we are bold to pray:

P: **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 Holy Communion this morning, we invite you to come to the Altar Rail and kneel or stand as you are able. During the serving of Holy Communion, you are invited to join in singing the following songs:

COME, THOU LONG EXPECTED JESUS

Lyrics by C. Wesley / Music by W. Walker / ELW #254

***Come, thou long expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us;
let us find our rest in thee.
Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,
dear desire of ev'ry nation,
joy of ev'ry longing heart.***

***Born thy people to deliver,
born a child, and yet a King;
born to reign in us forever,
now thy gracious kingdom bring.
By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.***

O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL

Lyrics and Music Trad. French / ELW #257

***O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here,
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.***

*O come, O Wisdom from on high
embracing all things far and nigh:
in strength and beauty come and stay;
teach us your will and guide our way.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.*

*O come, O Branch of Jesse, free
your own from Satan's tyranny;
from depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave..
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.*

*O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer;
O Sun of justice, now draw near
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
and death's dark shadow put to flight..
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.*

*O come, O King of nations, come,
O Cornerstone that binds in one:
refresh the hearts that long for you;
restore the broken, make us new. .
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to you, O Israel.*

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

L: We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of the feast to come. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

P: **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BENEDICTION

L: May the wisemen's starlight guide your journey. May the angels' chorus ring in your ears. May the humble trust of Mary fill your heart. And may the promise that God is with us comfort you every step of the way.

P: **Amen!**

▲ **SENDING SONG** "HE CAME DOWN"
Traditional Cameroonian Carol / ELW #253

*He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love;
He came down that we may have love,
Hallelujah forevermore.*

*He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace;
He came down that we may have peace,
Hallelujah forevermore.*

*He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy,
Hallelujah forevermore.*

*He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope;
He came down that we may have hope,
Hallelujah forevermore.*

*He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life;
He came down that we may have life,
Hallelujah forevermore.*

▲ THE CHARGE

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

P: **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 and Creative Director
Gretchen Stenson – Vocalist
Diana Riveness Young — Vocalist
Sharon Tissue — Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Joe Zingale – Vocalist
Michael Stenson – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Julie Hamre – Organist and Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through the Old Testament? Next week's text is Esther 4:1-17

Save the Date! There is a special meeting of the congregation for the purpose of considering a significant expansion to our Preschool program. The meeting is slated for next Sunday, December 4 at 10:45am in the Center for Ministry Building.

Biblical passages are resourced from the New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission

MUSIC REPRINTED AND STREAMED WITH
PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE #A-710728
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.