



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 the Christ-Child's guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live!

Your Offerings We have 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

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Gail Kiyomura

WORDS OF WELCOME

- L: People of God, we gather to worship the One true God.
- C: **We gather to worship the One who spoke in the beginning and created something out of nothing.**
- L: People of God, we gather to worship the one true God.
- C: **We gather to worship the One who took on the clothing of humanity to set those who were oppressed free.**

L: People of God, we gather to worship the One true God.

C: **We gather to worship the One whose Spirit rests continually upon us, calling us out of ourselves and out into life.**

▲ **GATHERING SONG** ANGELS FROM THE REALMS
Lyrics by J. Montgomery / Music by H. Smart / ELW #275

**Angels, from the realms of glory,
wing your flight o'er all the earth;
once you sang creation's story,
now proclaim Messiah's birth:**

Refrain: **Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the new-born king.**

**Shepherds, in the fields abiding,
watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing,
yonder shines the infant light.** [Refrain]

**All creation, join in praising
God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising
to the eternal Three in One.** [Refrain]

▲ 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: **Holy Parent, you blessed Jesus with a rich line of diverse and interesting ancestors. Bless our families and our households – including those related to us by blood and those brought near to us by love. For the sake of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

THE LESSON

Matthew 1:1-17

An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah, the son of David, the son of Abraham.

Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Judah and his brothers, and Judah the father of Perez and Zerah by Tamar, and Perez the father of Hezron, and Hezron the father of Aram, and Aram the father of Aminadab, and Aminadab the father of Nahshon, and Nahshon the father of Salmon, and Salmon the father of Boaz by Rahab, and Boaz the father of Obed by Ruth, and Obed the father of Jesse, and Jesse the father of King David.

And David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah, and Solomon the father of Rehoboam, and Rehoboam the father of Abijah, and Abijah the father of Asaph, and Asaph the father of Jehoshaphat, and Jehoshaphat the father of Joram, and Joram the father of Uzziah, and Uzziah the father of Jotham, and Jotham the father of Ahaz, and Ahaz the father of Hezekiah, and Hezekiah the father of Manasseh, and Manasseh the father of Amos, and Amos the father of Josiah, and Josiah the father of Jechoniah and his brothers, at the time of the deportation to Babylon.

And after the deportation to Babylon: Jechoniah was the

father of Salathiel, and Salathiel the father of Zerubbabel, and Zerubbabel the father of Abiud, and Abiud the father of Eliakim, and Eliakim the father of Azor, and Azor the father of Zadok, and Zadok the father of Achim, and Achim the father of Eliud, and Eliud the father of Eleazar, and Eleazar the father of Matthan, and Matthan the father of Jacob, and Jacob the father of Joseph the husband of Mary, who bore Jesus, who is called the Messiah.

So all the generations from Abraham to David are fourteen generations; and from David to the deportation to Babylon, fourteen generations; and from the deportation to Babylon to the Messiah, fourteen generations.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

ONCE IN DAVID'S ROYAL CITY

Lyrics by C. Alexander / Music by H. Gauntlett / ELW #269

***Once in royal David's city
stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby
in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ, her little child.***

***He came down to earth from heaven
who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable,
and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly,
lived on earth our Savior holy.***

***And our eyes at last shall see him,
through his own redeeming love;
for that child so dear and gentle
is our Lord in heav'n above;
and he leads his children on
to the place where he is gone.***

***Not in that poor lowly stable,
with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven,
set at God's right hand on high;
there his children gather round,
bright like stars, with glory crowned.***

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

THE AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Philippians 2:5-11

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

THE HANDS THAT FIRST HELD MARY'S CHILD
Lyrics by Thomas Troeger / Music by Dan Forrest

▲ THE COMMUNION LITANY

- L: 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.
- 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.**
- L: In 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.

HOLY COMMUNION

As we share Holy Communion, we invite you to come down the center aisle to receive the bread and wine that bear the Promise of Christmas. After consuming the elements, please deposit your empty cup in the small

basket and return to your seat by the side aisle. During the serving of Holy Communion, you are invited to join in the following songs:

IN THE BLEAK MIDWINTER

Lyrics by C. Rosetti / Music by G. Holtz / ELW #294

***In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.***

***Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;
heav'n & earth shall flee away when he comes to reign;
in the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.***

***What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man I would do my part;
yet what can I give him - give my heart.***

FROM HEAV'N ABOVE TO EARTH I COME
Lyrics and Music by Martin Luther / ELW #268

***"From heav'n above to earth I come
to bear good news to ev'ry home!
Glad tidings of great joy I bring
to all the world, and gladly sing:"***

***Look, look, dear friends, look over there!
What lies within that manger bare?
Who is that lovely little one?
The baby Jesus, God's dear Son.***

***Welcome to earth, O noble Guest,
through whom this sinful world is blest!
You turned not from our needs away;
how can our thanks such love repay?***

***Were earth a thousand times as fair
and set with gold and jewels rare,
still such a cradle would not do
to rock a prince so great as you.***

AT CHRISTMASTIME

Lyrics by Luke Waddling / Music Trad. English / ELW #274

***At Christmastime all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring.
At Christmastime all Christians sing
to hear the news the angels bring:
news of great joy, news of great mirth,
news of our merciful king's birth.***

*Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad?
Then why should we on earth be sad,
since our redeemer made us glad,
when from our sin he set us free,
all for to gain our liberty?*

*When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
When sin departs before his face,
then life and health come in its place.
Angels rejoice with us and sing,
all for to see the new-born King.*

*All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night.
All out of darkness we have light,
which made the angels sing this night:
"Glory to God in highest heav'n;
peace on earth, and goodwill. Amen."*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BENEDICTION

▲ **SENDING SONG** IN A LOWLY MANGER BORN
Lyrics by Ko Yuki / Music by Seigi Abe / ELW #718

*In a lowly manger born,
humble life begun in scorn;
under Joseph's watchful eye,
Jesus grew as you and I;
knew the suff'rings of the weak,
knew the patience of the meek,
hungered as but poor folk can;
this is he. Behold the man!*

*Visiting the lone and lost,
steading the tempest-tossed,
giving of himself in love,
calling minds to things above.
Sinners gladly hear his call;
publicans before him fall,
for in him new life began;
this is he. Behold the man!*

*Then, to rescue you and me,
Jesus died upon the tree.
See in him God's love revealed;
by his passion we are healed.
Now he lives in glory bright,
lives again in pow'r and might;
come and take the path he trod,
son of Mary, Son of God.*

▲ THE CHARGE

L: Go in peace, to love and serve the newborn King!
P: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING MUSIC

Gail Kiyomura

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

Bethany Valentine – Vocalist and Creative Director
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Gail Kiyomura – Pianist

A special word of thanks is extended to **Gail Kiyomura** this morning for sharing her musical gifts with us as our pianist and accompanist this morning. Gail recently completed a term as Vice-President of the Sierra Pacific Synod and is also a member of the governing board of the Chromatica Choir which regularly meets on our campus. Thank you, Gail – and 'Wow'!

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.