



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

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

## CALL TO WORSHIP

I CAN ONLY IMAGINE

### ▲ WORDS OF WELCOME

- L: People of God, stand up! Come and join in the journey with Jesus – a journey that leads through city streets and an upper room – and ultimately to a cross and a tomb.
- P: **We come in our own different ways, walking in our own styles, at our own speeds; but we come to join the journey.**
- L: Let us walk in the truth of who we are and who God is. Let us walk the way with Jesus into real life, as he listens and learns, as he laughs and cries, as he lives and dies.

P: **We come to walk with the One who is the Way and the Truth and the Life.**

L: We begin our time of worship this morning in the name of the Father, and of the Son (+), and of the Holy Spirit.

P: **Amen.**

▲ **GATHERING SONG** LORD, I LIFT YOUR NAME ON HIGH  
Lyrics and Music by Rick Founds

*Lord, I lift Your name on high  
Lord, I love to sing Your praises  
I'm so glad You're in my life  
I'm so glad You came to save us*

*You came from heaven to earth to show the way  
From the earth to the cross my debt to pay  
From the cross to the grave, from the grave to the sky  
Lord, I lift your name on high!*

(Repeat both verse and refrain)

### ▲ WORDS OF CONFESSION AND HOPE

- L: These days of Lent are days for us to pay special attention to Jesus' journey to the cross. They are days for us to hear the stories of people whom Jesus encountered along the way. And they are days for us to realize that we are those very people ..... We think of someone like Peter.
- P: **And we realize that we too are guilty of running away from our commitments.**
- L: We think of someone like Judas.
- P: **And we realize that we too are more interested in our own agendas than the agenda of our Lord.**
- L: We think of someone like Pontius Pilate.
- P: **And we realize that we too are tempted to choose easy answers rather than the right ones.**
- L: We think of someone like Caiaphas.
- P: **And we realize that we too are tempted to abuse what authority we've been given.**
- L: We think of people like Mary and Mary Magdalene, the disciples and the crowd.
- P: **And we realize that in their story we find our stories too.**
- L: But most of all, we discover in Jesus' story – in His giving Himself for us all – that there is forgiveness of our sin, hope for our future and strength for our journeys.

## ▲ PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: May God be with you!

P: **And also with you!**

L: God of holy anticipation....

**P: You have promised that you would return at a time unknown to us. Make us ready, so that when you return we might be welcomed into your kingdom with open arms. We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## THE LESSON

Matthew 25:1-13

*Jesus spoke this parable to his friends and followers: "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.*

As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

## KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

**SONG OF THE DAY** OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART, LORD  
Lyrics and Music by Paul Baloche

***Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.  
Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you,  
I want to see you.***

***To see you high and lifted up,  
shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power in love,  
as we sing holy, holy, holy.***

***Open the eyes of my heart, Lord.  
Open the eyes of my heart.  
I want to see you,  
I want to see you.***

***To see you high and lifted up,  
shining in the light of your glory.  
Pour out your power in love,  
as we sing holy, holy, holy.***

***Holy, holy, holy,  
Holy, holy, holy,  
Holy, holy, holy,  
I want to see You.***

## THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

### ▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The words of the ancient "Christ hymn" – as recorded in Philippians 2 – invite us to consider both who Jesus is and whom we are called to be.*

**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. Amen.**

### ▲ THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*We pray for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family — using the prayer refrain, "Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**".*

## THE OFFERTORY

STILL

Lyrics and Music by Legacy Five

## THE COMMUNION LITANY

L: In the breaking of bread and the sharing of the cup, Jesus offered his first followers peace and friendship, trust and forgiveness, the love and embrace of God - and Jesus offers those same gifts. For – 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:

**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 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.*

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

### BORNING CRY

Lyrics and Music by John Ylvisaker / ELW #732

***I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.***

***I was there when you were but a child,  
with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell.***

***When you heard the wonder of the Word  
I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord,  
to whom you now belong.***

***If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk 'till rising sun.***

***In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.***

***When the evening gently closes in,  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just one more surprise."***

***I was there to hear your borning cry,  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized,  
to see your life unfold.***

### BIND US TOGETHER

Lyrics and Music by Bob Gillman / WOV #748

***Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together  
With cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together,  
Bind us together with love.***

***There is only one God,  
There is only one King;  
There is only one Body,  
That is why we sing:***

***Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together  
With cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together,  
Bind us together with love.***

***You are the family of God,  
You are the promise divine;  
You are God's chosen desire,  
You are the glorious new wine.***

***Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together  
With cords that cannot be broken.  
Bind us together, Lord,  
Bind us together,  
Bind us together with love.***

## **THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **THE BENEDICTION**

L: May the Peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord.

P: **Amen!**

▲ **SENDING SONG**

"LEAVE EVERYTHING BEHIND"

Lyrics and Music by Jeremy Johnson and Paul Marino

*Lord, tell me to go,  
And I will go, where You lead.  
I'm stepping out on faith,  
'Cause I know You will make,  
A way for me.*

*I will leave everything behind,  
I will follow You, with all of my life.  
You oh Lord, my one desire,  
I will leave everything behind,  
I will leave everything behind.*

*I am ready to be used,  
However You may choose, Lord send me.  
Oh I, oh I am not ashamed,  
To proudly wear Your name,  
For all to see.*

*Oh I will leave everything behind,  
I will follow You, with all of my life.  
You oh Lord, my one desire,  
I will leave everything behind,  
I will leave everything behind.*

*Oh I will leave everything behind,  
I will follow You, with all of my life.  
You oh Lord, my one desire,  
I will leave everything behind,  
I will leave everything behind.*

▲ **THE CHARGE**

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

P: **Thanks be to God!**

**SENDING MUSIC** LEAVE EVERYTHING BEHIND (Reprise)

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

**Tom Henry** – Vocalist, Guitarist and Creative Director

**Bethany Valentine** – Vocalist

**Diana Riveness Young** — Vocalist

**Elizabeth Humphrey** – Vocalist

**Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson** — Vocalist

**Steve Swanback** – Vocalist

**Bob Schmalz** – Vocalist

**Pastor John Valentine** – Vocalist

**Marc Levine** – Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through Matthew's Gospel? Next week's text is 25:31-46

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