

Pentecost 14

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
September 3, 2023

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person or online (on Facebook Live or archived at www.holyshepherd.org.) May you know God's grace as we worship.

Know that You Are Welcome! We share in Holy Communion during the context of this morning's service. This is the table of the Lord. Jesus is the host and 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 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

▲ 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

ANCIENT WORDS

Lyrics and Music by Lynn DeShazo

*Holy words long preserved
for our walk in this world,
They resound with God's own heart;
Oh, let the ancient words impart.*

Chorus:

*Ancient words ever true,
changing me and changing you;
We have come with open hearts,
oh let the ancient words impart.*

*Words of life, words of hope
give us strength, help us cope;
In this world where'er we roam
ancient words will guide us home.* (Chorus)

*Holy words of our faith
handed down to this age,
Came to us through sacrifice;
Oh, heed the faithful words of Christ.* (Chorus)

▲ OUR OPENING LITANY

based on 1 John 4

- L: God has not given us a spirit of fear, but a spirit of power and love.
- C: **All who love are born of God.**
- L: Greater love has no one than this: that a person lay down their life for a friend.
- C: **God loved the world so much that God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.**
- L: If God so loved us, we ought to love one another.
- C: **We shall love our neighbors as ourselves.**
- L: Let us not love in word and speech alone, but in deed and in truth.
- C: **May our love be honest and genuine.**
- L: Let us love one another.
- C: **For love is of God.**

▲ THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: So let us pray ...

C: **Holy God – the Holy Scriptures have been written for the nourishment of your people. Grant that we may hear them, read them, and inwardly digest them, that our lives might be shaped by your truth and formed in your image. For we ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen!**

THE LESSON

Matthew 26:26-35; 69-75

While they were eating, Jesus took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you, I will never again drink of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. Then Jesus said to them, "You will all fall away because of me this night, for it is written, 'I will strike the shepherd, and the sheep of the flock will be scattered.' "But after I am raised up, I will go ahead of you to Galilee." Peter said to him, "Even if all fall away because of you, I will never fall away." Jesus said to him, "Truly I tell you, this very night, before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." Peter said to him, "Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you." And so said all the disciples.

Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. A female servant came to him and said, "You also were with Jesus the Galilean." But he denied it before all of them, saying, "I do not know what you are talking about." When he went out to the porch, another female servant saw him, and she said to the bystanders, "This man was with Jesus the Nazarene." Again he denied it with an oath, "I do not know the man." After a little while the bystanders came up and said to Peter, "Certainly you are also one of them, for your accent betrays you." Then he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know the man!" At that moment the cock crowed. Then Peter remembered what Jesus had said: "Before the cock crows, you will deny me three times." And he went out and wept bitterly.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

SONG OF THE DAY

LORD, SPEAK TO US THAT ...

Lyrics by F. Havergal / Music by R. Schumann / ELW #676

*Lord, speak to us, that we may speak
In living echoes of your tone;
As you have sought, so let us seek
Your straying children, lost and lone.*

*Oh, lead us, Lord, that we may lead
The wand'ring and the wav'ring feet;
Oh, feed us, Lord, that we may feed
Your hung'ring ones with manna sweet.*

*Oh, teach us, Lord, that we may teach
The precious truths which you impart;
And wing our words, that they may reach
The hidden depths of many-a heart.*

*Oh, fill us with your fullness, Lord,
Until our very hearts o'erflow
In kindling thought and glowing word,
Your love to tell, your praise to show.*

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH THE APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. 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 OFFERTORY

SHEPHERD ME, O GOD
Lyrics and Music by Marty Haugen

▲ 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. After consuming the Communion elements, please deposit your empty cup in the small basket and return to your seat by the side aisle. During the sharing of Holy Communion, you are invited to join our Worship Team in the following songs:

ONE BREAD, ONE BODY

Lyrics and Music by John B. Foley / ELW#496

***One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.***

***Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more***

***One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.***

***Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all***

***One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.***

***Grain for the fields scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all***

***One bread, one body, one Lord of all,
one cup of blessing which we bless.
And we, though many, throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.***

THOSE WHO SEE LIGHT

Lyrics and Music by Nancy Elze and Donald Osuna

***Those who see light can walk in the dark.
Those who see love can see God.
Those who look up will discover God's face,
those who look down will uncover God's path,
those who perceive God is here with us now
will see God's return.***

***Those who see light can walk in the dark.
Those who see love can see God.
Those who have witnessed the sunrise and set,
those who have studied a flower unfold,
those who have focused on land, sea, and sky
have seen Jesus Christ.***

***Those who see light can walk in the dark.
Those who see love can see God.
Those who see good in each person they meet,
those who look after their neighbors in need,
those who believe God's now living in them
will see God's return.***

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

▲ THE BENEDICTION

L: Go now into the world to be God's witnesses —
sustained and supported by the God who is known
to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen!**

▲ SENDING SONG GIVE TO OUR GOD IMMORTAL PRAISE!

Lyrics by I. Watts / Music arr. by J. Hatton / ELW #848

***Give to our God immortal praise!
Mercy and truth are all his ways.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.***

***He sent his Son with pow'r to save
from guilt and darkness and the grave.
Wonders of grace to God belong;
repeat his mercies in your song.***

***Give to the Lord of lords renown;
the King of kings with glory crown.
His mercies ever shall endure
when lords and kings are known no more!***

▲ 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 and Creative Director

Diana Riveness – Vocalist

Won K. Yang – Vocalist

Joe Zingale – Vocalist

John Goetz – Vocalist

Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist

Julie Hamre – Organist and Pianist

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