

Pentecost 15

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
September 10, 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. 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

GATHERING MUSIC

Julie Hamre

▲ OUR CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who greets us in this and every season, whose word never fails and whose promise is sure.

P: **Amen.**

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of our neighbors.

P: **Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned. We have squandered your blessings. We have hoarded your bounty. We have not been good stewards of your abundant goodness. In the name of Jesus, forgive us.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Righteous God, we confess that we have sinned. We have failed to be honest. We have lacked the courage to speak. And we have not loved our

neighbors as ourselves. In the name of Jesus, forgive us.

Silence is kept for reflection.

L: Beloved of God, hear the Good News. God's grace is greater than our sin. God's hope is greater than our fear. Claim the gift of God's mercy and know God's gift of peace, for you are freed and forgiven in the name of Jesus Christ.

P: **Amen.**

▲ GATHERING SONG

ALL CREATURES, WORSHIP ...

Lyrics by Francis of Assisi / Music Anon. / ELW #835

**All creatures, worship God most high!
Sound every voice in earth and sky: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Sing, brother sun, in splendor bright,
sing, sister moon and stars of night:**

Chorus: **Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia,
alleluia, alleluia!**

**Sing, brother wind; with clouds and rain
you grow the gifts of fruit and grain: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear sister water, useful, clear,
make music for your Lord to hear:** (Chorus)

**Sing, brother fire, so mirthful, strong;
drive far the shadows, join the throng: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Dear mother earth, so rich in care,
praise God in colors bright and rare:** (Chorus)

**O sisters, brothers, take your part,
and worship God with humble heart: Alleluia! Alleluia!
All creatures, bless the Father, Son,
and Holy Spirit Three in One:** (Chorus)

▲ THE GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: **And also with you.**

▲ THE KYRIE

ELW #157

L: *In peace, in peace, Let us pray to the Lord ...*

P: **Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

L: *For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord ...*

P: **Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

L: *For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word. Let us pray to the Lord ...*

P: ***Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.***

L: *Help, save and defend us, O God.*

P: ***Amen.***

▲ THE HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW #167

(Refrain) ***Now the feast and celebration,
All of creation sings for joy
To the God of life and love and freedom:
Praise and glory forevermore!***

***Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
Whose blood has freed and united us
To be one great people of God.*** (Refrain)

***Power and riches, wisdom and might
All honor and glory to Christ forever.*** (Refrain)

***For God has come to dwell with us,
To make us people of God;
To make all things new.*** (Refrain)

▲ PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you!

P: ***And also with you!***

L: Let us pray: Holy Creator, you created humankind in your own image to care for the earth and help one another. Give us hearts to continue tending to all that you have made so that the earth will sustain life for generations to come. We pray this in the name of Jesus, the One who is the embodiment of love.

P: ***Amen.***

THE LESSON

Genesis 2:4b-25

In the day that the Lord God made the earth and the heavens, when no plant of the field was yet in the earth and no vegetation of the field had yet sprung up—for the Lord God had not caused it to rain upon the earth, and there was no one to till the ground, but a stream would rise from the earth and water the whole face of the ground—then the Lord God formed man from the dust of the ground and breathed into his nostrils the breath of life, and the man became a living being. And the Lord God planted a garden in Eden, in the east, and there he put the man whom he had formed. Out of the ground the Lord God made to grow every tree that is pleasant to the

sight and good for food, the tree of life also in the midst of the garden, and the tree of the knowledge of good and evil. A river flows out of Eden to water the garden, and from there it divides and becomes four branches. The name of the first is Pishon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Havilah, where there is gold, and the gold of that land is good; bdellium and onyx stone are there. The name of the second river is Gihon; it is the one that flows around the whole land of Cush. The name of the third river is Tigris, which flows east of Assyria. And the fourth river is the Euphrates.

The Lord God took the man and put him in the garden of Eden to till it and keep it. And the Lord God commanded the man, "You may freely eat of every tree of the garden, but of the tree of the knowledge of good and evil you shall not eat, for in the day that you eat of it you shall die." Then the Lord God said, "It is not good that the man should be alone; I will make him a helper as his partner." So out of the ground the Lord God formed every animal of the field and every bird of the air and brought them to the man to see what he would call them, and whatever the man called every living creature, that was its name. The man gave names to all cattle and to the birds of the air and to every animal of the field, but for the man there was not found a helper as his partner. So the Lord God caused a deep sleep to fall upon the man, and he slept; then he took one of his ribs and closed up its place with flesh. And the rib that the Lord God had taken from the man he made into a woman and brought her to the man. Then the man said, "This at last is bone of my bones and flesh of my flesh; this one shall be called Woman, for out of Man this one was taken." Therefore a man leaves his father and his mother and clings to his wife, and they become one flesh. And the man and his wife were both naked and were not ashamed.

KIDTALK

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson

SONG OF THE DAY ALL THINGS BRIGHT AND BEAUTIFUL

Lyrics by C. Alexander / Music Trad. English / WOV #767

Refrain: ***All things bright and beautiful,
All creatures great and small!
All things wise and wonderful,
The Lord God made them all.***

***Each little flower that opens,
Each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colors,
God made their tiny wings.*** (Refrain)

***The purple headed mountains,
The river running by,***

*The sunset, and the morning
That brightens up the sky. (Refrain)*

*God gave us eyes to see them,
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty,
Who has made all things well. (Refrain)*

THE SERMON

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson

▲ 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

HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD
Arranged by Joel Ramey

▲ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

ELW #191

L: *The Lord be with you.*

P: **And also with you.**

L: *Lift up your hearts.*

P: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

P: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

L: *It is our duty and delight we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

P: **Holy, holy, holy are you, God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.
Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes in your name
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

P: 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.' And that same Jesus who called us to remember, and who is present with us now, invites 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. 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:

AS THE GRAINS OF WHEAT

Lyrics and Music by Marty Haugen / ELW 465

Refrain

**As the grains of wheat
once scattered on the hill
were gathered into one
to become our bread;
So may all your people
from all the ends of earth,
be gathered into one in you.**

**As this cup of blessing
is shared within our midst
may we share the presence
of your love. (Refrain)**

**Let this be a foretaste
of all that is to come
when all creation shares
this feast with you. (Refrain)**

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."*

THE POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

LET ALL THINGS NOW LIVING

Lyrics by K. Davis / Lyrics Welsh Folk Tune / ELW #881

*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
To God the creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, God's light goes before us,
A pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
Till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
As forward we travel from light into light.*

*God rules all the forces: the stars in their courses.
And sun in its orbit obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
With glad adoration a song let us raise
Till all things now living unite in thanksgiving:
To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!*

▲ 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
Sharon Tissue – Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Diana Riveness – Vocalist
Won K. Yang – Vocalist
Joe Zingale – Vocalist
John Goetz – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Julie Hamre – Guest Pianist

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