

All Saints Sunday



Holy Shepherd Lutheran
Church
Orinda, CA
November 5, 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: For the community in which we live – this is a season of thankfulness. It is a time to remember the abundance with which we have been blessed. It is a time to remember those with whom we are called to share. So let us begin our time of worship by recalling words first penned by our nation's sixteenth president, Abraham Lincoln: "We have been the recipients of the choicest bounties of heaven; we have been preserved these many years in peace and prosperity; we have grown in numbers, wealth and power as no other nation has ever grown. But we have forgotten God."

P: **Forgive us our forgetfulness, Lord God.**

L: "We have forgotten the gracious hand which preserved us in peace and multiplied and enriched

and strengthened us, and we have vainly imagined, in the deceitfulness of our hearts, that all these blessings were produced by some superior wisdom and virtue of our own."

P: **Forgive us our arrogance, Lord God.**

L: "Intoxicated with unbroken success we have become too self-sufficient to feel the necessity of redeeming and preserving grace, too proud to pray to the God that made us."

P: **Forgive us our blindness to our own failings and to the needs of our neighbors.**

L: Hear the Good News: The Lord is gracious and full of compassion, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. To all who believe in Jesus Christ God grants freedom from the power of sin, and through the Holy Spirit gives life, forgiveness, and resurrection from the dead.

P: **Amen!**

▲ GATHERING SONG

FOR ALL THE SAINTS

Lyrics by W. How / Music by R.V. Williams / ELW #422 (alt)

**For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**You were their rock, their refuge, and their might;
you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;
'mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold,
live as the saints who nobly fought of old.
and share with them a glorious crown of gold.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet in your love our faithful lives entwine.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
then hearts are brave again, and faith grows strong.
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

▲ 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:
P: **God of Elijah, with fire you made your presence known to the worshipers of Baal. Help us to resist the temptation to place our trust and faith in anything other than you. Receive our worship and strengthen our faith. For we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

THE LESSON

1 Kings 18:20-39

So Ahab sent to all the Israelites and assembled the prophets at Mount Carmel. Elijah then came near to all the people and said, "How long will you go limping with two different opinions? If the Lord is God, follow him, but if Baal, then follow him." The people did not answer him a

word. Then Elijah said to the people, "I, even I only, am left a prophet of the Lord, but Baal's prophets number four hundred fifty. Let two bulls be given to us; let them choose one bull for themselves, cut it in pieces, and lay it on the wood but put no fire to it; I will prepare the other bull and lay it on the wood but put no fire to it. Then you call on the name of your god, and I will call on the name of the Lord; the god who answers by fire is indeed God." All the people answered, "Well spoken!" Then Elijah said to the prophets of Baal, "Choose for yourselves one bull and prepare it first, for you are many; then call on the name of your god, but put no fire to it." So they took the bull that was given them, prepared it, and called on the name of Baal from morning until noon, crying, "O Baal, answer us!" But there was no voice and no answer. They limped about the altar that they had made. At noon Elijah mocked them, saying, "Cry aloud! Surely he is a god; either he is meditating, or he has wandered away, or he is on a journey, or perhaps he is asleep and must be awakened." Then they cried aloud, and, as was their custom, they cut themselves with swords and lances until the blood gushed out over them. As midday passed, they raved on until the time of the offering of the oblation, but there was no voice, no answer, and no response.

Then Elijah said to all the people, "Come closer to me," and all the people came closer to him. First he repaired the altar of the Lord that had been thrown down; Elijah took twelve stones, according to the number of the tribes of the sons of Jacob, to whom the word of the Lord came, saying, "Israel shall be your name"; with the stones he built an altar in the name of the Lord. Then he made a trench around the altar, large enough to contain two measures of seed. Next he put the wood in order, cut the bull in pieces, and laid it on the wood. He said, "Fill four jars with water and pour it on the burnt offering and on the wood." Then he said, "Do it a second time," and they did it a second time. Again he said, "Do it a third time," and they did it a third time, so that the water ran all around the altar and filled the trench also with water.

At the time of the offering of the oblation, the prophet Elijah came near and said, "O Lord, God of Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, let it be known this day that you are God in Israel, that I am your servant, and that I have done all these things at your bidding. Answer me, O Lord, answer me, so that this people may know that you, O Lord, are God and that you have turned their hearts back." Then the fire of the Lord fell and consumed the burnt offering, the wood, the stones, and the dust and even licked up the water that was in the trench. When all the people saw it, they fell on their faces and said, "The Lord indeed is God; the Lord indeed is God."

THE SONG OF THE DAY

REJOICE IN GOD'S SAINTS

Lyrics by F.P. Green / Music by J. Hadyn / ELW #418 (alt)

***Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days;
a world without saints forgets how to praise.
Their faith in acquiring the habit of prayer,
their depth of adoring, Lord, help us to share.***

***Some march with events to turn them God's way;
some need to withdraw, the better to pray;
some carry the gospel through fire and through flood:
our world is their parish; their purpose is God.***

***Rejoice in those saints, unpraised and unknown,
who bear someone's cross or shoulder their own;
they shame our complaining, our comforts, our cares:
what patience in caring, what courage, is theirs!***

***Rejoice in God's saints, today and all days;
a world without saints forgets how to praise.
In loving, in living, they prove it is true:
the way of self giving, Lord, leads us to you.***

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.

A MUSICAL OFFERTORY

FOR THE SAINTS

Lyrics and Music by Jennifer Klein and David Angermann

▲ 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."

While we remember all of God's saints on this All Saints Sunday, we particularly recall with gratitude the lives of

these members and close friends of our congregation:

*Martha Billman
Gerald Petrone
Barbara Schaefer*

*Jon Hudak
Bev Riveness
Doug Timmons*

▲ 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.***

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.' 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 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:

CHANGE MY HEART, O GOD

Lyrics and Music by Eddie Espinosa / ELW #801

(Refrain) **Change my heart, O God, Make it ever true;
Change my heart, O God, May I be like you.**

**You are the Potter, I am the clay;
Mold me and make me, This is what I pray.** (Refrain)

SHALL WE GATHER AT THE RIVER

Lyrics and Music by Robert Lowry / ELW #423

**Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?**

Refrain: **Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river;
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.**

**On the margin of the river,
washing up its silver spray,
we will walk and worship ever,
all the happy golden day.** [Refrain]

**Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we ev'ry burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown.** [Refrain]

**Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace.** [Refrain]

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS / THE BENEDICTION

▲ SENDING SONG HOLY, HOLY, HOLY
Lyrics by R. Heber / Music by J.B. Dykes / ELW 413

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning
our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons,
blessed Trinity!**

**Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns
around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,**

**which wert and art,
and evermore shalt be.**

**Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinfulness
thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in pow'r,
in love and purity.**

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name
in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons,
blessed Trinity!**

▲ 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
Won Yang – Vocalist
John Goetz – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Julie Hamre – Organist and Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through the Old Testament this Fall? Next week's text is Hosea 11:1-9

Upcoming Chromatica Chorale Concerts presenting "We Remember" (Choral Reflections on Love, Peace and the Hope to Come) on Saturday, November 11th at 7pm at Peace Lutheran Church in Danville and on Sunday, November 12th at 3pm here at Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church. Speak with Bethany Valentine for more information or to purchase tickets.

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