



The 4th Sunday after Epiphany

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, CA
February 2, 2025

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person or online (on Facebook Live or archived at www.holysshepherd.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!

Offerings are an Act of Worship! Offerings are one way we express both our gratitude for God's wondrous love and our commitment to for work of ministry. To support our work electronically, visit www.holysshepherd.org and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

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

GATHERING MUSIC IF NOT NOW
Lyrics and Music by Carrie Underwood

WORDS OF WELCOME

▲ OUR WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: On the first day of creation, God said, "Let there be light." In the person of Jesus Christ, God said, "I am the Light of the world." By the power of the Spirit, God has ignited the light of life in us.

P: **But we have focused on the darkness that surrounds and overwhelms us, that frightens and numbs us.**

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: **But we have used artificial lights to try and eliminate the darkness in our lives.**

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: **But we have tried to deny the power of the darkness by pretending that it isn't there.**

L: Forgive us, O God, for these our actions of failure and our failures to act.

P: **Forgive us, Lord God, for putting our trust in ourselves rather that You.**

L: Hear the good news! God has come as a light in the darkness. In the light of Christ we find forgiveness for our past, strength for our present and hope for our future. In Christ, we are enabled to begin life anew. Thanks be to God!

▲ **GATHERING SONG** OPEN THE EYES OF MY HEART
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.**

**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.**

**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.**

▲ OUR OPENING SENTENCES

L: In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

P: He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him.

L: In him was life, and that life was the light of all people.

P: The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

L: The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

P: And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

L: So let us pray:

P: Lord of the Sabbath, your followers were told not to work on the Sabbath, and yet they boldly plucked grain to show that you are Lord of all. The world tells us not to rest on the Sabbath. Show us how to rest boldly, rejecting conventions that go against your will, and instead praying and resting as you did up on the mountain, for the glory of your word and work, Lord Jesus Christ. Amen..

THE LESSON

Luke 6:1-16

One Sabbath while Jesus was going through some grain fields, his disciples plucked some heads of grain, rubbed them in their hands, and ate them. But some of the Pharisees said, "Why are you doing what is not lawful on the Sabbath?" Jesus answered, "Have you not read what David did when he and his companions were hungry? How he entered the house of God and took and ate the bread of the Presence, which it is not lawful for any but the priests to eat, and gave some to his companions?" Then he said to them, "The Son of Man is lord of the Sabbath."

On another Sabbath he entered the synagogue and taught, and there was a man there whose right hand was withered. The scribes and the Pharisees were watching him to see whether he would cure on the Sabbath, so that they might find grounds to bring an accusation against him. But he knew what they were thinking, and he said to the man who had the withered hand, "Come and stand in the middle." He got up and stood there. Then Jesus said to them, "I ask you, is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save life or to destroy it?" After looking around at all of them, he said to him, "Stretch out your hand." He did so, and his hand was restored. But they were filled with fury and began discussing with one another what they might do to Jesus.

Now during those days he went out to the mountain to pray, and he spent the night in prayer to God. And when day came, he called his disciples and chose twelve of them, whom he also named apostles: Simon, whom he named Peter, and his brother Andrew, and James, and John, and Philip, and Bartholomew, and Matthew, and Thomas, and James son of Alphaeus, and Simon, who was called the Zealot, and Judas son of James, and Judas Iscariot, who became a traitor.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

THE HYMN OF THE DAY

I AM THE RESURRECTION
Lyrics and Music by Ray Repp

[Chorus] *I am the resurrection and the life;
Those who believe in me will never die.
I am the resurrection and the life;
Those who believe in me will live a new life.*

*I have come to bring the truth;
I have come to bring you life;
If you believe, then you shall live.* [Chorus]

*In my word, you all will come to know
It is love which makes the Spirit grow
If you believe, then you shall live.* [Chorus]

*Keep in mind the things that I have said
Remember me in the breaking of the bread
If you believe, then you shall live.* [Chorus]

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY

based on Philippians 2

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.

OFFERTORY

IS HE WORTHY?

Lyrics and Music by Andrew Peterson

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

We pray for the Church, the world, and all in need, utilizing the prayer refrain: "Source of all goodness, let there be light."

▲ 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 in the gift of Holy Communion, we invite you to come down the center aisle and kneel/stand at the altar rail to receive the bread and wine. After consuming the elements, please deposit your empty cup in the basket and return to your seat by the side aisle.

HERE IS BREAD

Lyrics and Music by Graham Kendrick / ELW #483

***Here is bread, here is wine,
Christ is with us, He is with us.
Break the bread, drink the wine,
Christ is with us here.***

Refrain

***In this bread there is healing,
in this cup there's life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit,
Christ is with us here.***

***Here is grace, here is peace,
Christ is with us, He is with us.
Know His grace, find peace,
feast on Jesus here.*** (Refrain)

***Here we are, joined as one,
Christ is with us, He is with us.
We'll proclaim, 'til he comes,
Jesus crucified.*** (Refrain)

WE COME TO YOU

Lyrics and Music by Joshua Blakesley

***By Your body and blood, by Your life and Your love;
Renew us.
May Your sacrifice be forgiveness in me;
Heal us.***

Chorus

***We come to You, We come to You
Broken, hungry,
We come to You, We come to You
Make us whole again.***

***In the body of Christ, we are brought to new life;
Restore us.
May the flesh that we eat, and the blood that we drink
Save us.***
(Chorus 2x)

COVENANT KEEPER

Lyrics and Music by Twila Paris

***Covenant maker, I made a start
Covenant breaker, I broke Your heart
Your word is deeper, Faithful and true
Covenant keeper, make me like You***

***Covenant maker, You made a way
Infinite taker, I made You pay
But Your love was deeper, Faithful and true
Covenant keeper, make me like You***

***Your word is deeper, Faithful and true
Covenant keeper, make me like You
Make me like You***

THE COMMUNION BLESSING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BENEDICTION

L: The God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

P: **Amen!**

▲ SENDING SONG GRACE THAT IS GREATER Lyrics and Music by Bart Millard

*Marvelous grace of our loving Lord
Grace that exceeds our sin and our guilt
Yonder on Calvary's mount outpoured
There where the blood of the Lamb was spilled*

*Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within
Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that is greater than all our sin*

*Marvelous, infinite, matchless grace
Freely bestowed on all who believe
You who are longing to see His face
Will you this moment His grace receive?*

*Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within
Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that is greater than all our sin*

*Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that will pardon and cleanse within
Grace, grace, God's grace
Grace that is greater than all our sin
Grace that is greater than all our sin*

▲ THE CHARGE

L: Go in peace, to love God by serving your neighbor!
P: **Thanks be to God!**

SENDING MUSIC GRACE THAT IS GREATER (Reprise)

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

Tom Henry – Vocalist, Guitarist and Creative Director
Bethany Valentine – Vocalist
Diana Riveness Young — Vocalist
Elizabeth Humphrey — Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Marci Bauer – Vocalist
Bob Schmalz – Vocalist
Steve Swanback – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through the Gospel according to Luke this Epiphany season?
Next week's text is Luke 7:1-17.

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