

Lent 1

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, CA
March 9, 2025 at 9:30a

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.

The Season of Lent is a time of preparation for the coming of Easter. Originally understood to be a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by new converts, Lent later became a time of thoughtful penance by all Christians. Today, Christians oftentimes use the days of Lent to focus on our relationship with God, our growing as disciples and our extending ourselves in service. However you choose to remember Lent, may this season be a time for you to grow!

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.holyshepherd.org and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

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

GATHERING MUSIC ALL THINGS NEW
Lyrics and Music by Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive

▲ 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** GOD OF WONDERS
Lyrics and Music by Steve J. Hindalong and Marc Byrd

**Lord of all creation, of water earth and sky,
The heavens are Your tabernacle.
Glory to the Lord on high.**

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy,
You are holy, holy.
The universe declares Your majesty,
You are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth.
Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Early in the morning, I will celebrate the light.
And when I stumble in the darkness,
I will call Your name by night.**

**God of wonders beyond our galaxy,
You are holy, holy.
The universe declares Your majesty,
You are holy, holy.
Lord of heaven and earth.
Lord of heaven and earth.**

**Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.
Hallelujah to the Lord of heaven and earth.**

▲ 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: Let us pray Compassionate God, how easily you love those who look unlovable to us! How readily you welcome undesirables into your home! How slow we are to follow your example. Turn our hearts toward all who are considered outcast, shunned, and unclean so that we may love our neighbor without pity or apathy, for the sake of the one who became flesh to cleanse the world of sin and death forever, Jesus Christ our redeemer.

P: **Amen.**

THE LESSON

Luke 10:25-42

An expert in the law stood up to test Jesus. "Teacher," he said, "what must I do to inherit eternal life?" He said to him, "What is written in the law? What do you read there?" He answered, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind and your neighbor as yourself." And he said to him, "You have given the right answer; do this, and you will live."

But wanting to vindicate himself, he asked Jesus, "And who is my neighbor?" Jesus replied, "A man was going down from Jerusalem to Jericho and fell into the hands of robbers, who stripped him, beat him, and took off, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a priest was going down that road, and when he saw him he passed by on

the other side. So likewise a Levite, when he came to the place and saw him, passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan while traveling came upon him, and when he saw him he was moved with compassion. He went to him and bandaged his wounds, treating them with oil and wine. Then he put him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. The next day he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said, 'Take care of him, and when I come back I will repay you whatever more you spend.' Which of these three, do you think, was a neighbor to the man who fell into the hands of the robbers?" He said, "The one who showed him mercy." Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus's feet and listened to what he was saying. But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me." But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

THE SONG OF THE DAY

LORD HAVE MERCY
Lyrics and Music by Steve Merkel

***Jesus I've forgotten the words that you have spoken.
Promises that burned within my heart have now grown dim
With a doubting heart I follow the paths of earthly wisdom.
Forgive me for my unbelief, renew the fire again.***

Chorus

***Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy, on me.
Lord have mercy, Christ have mercy,
Lord have mercy, on me.***

***I have built an altar where I worship things of man.
I have taken journeys that have drawn me far from you.
Now I am returning to your mercies ever flowing.
Pardon my transgressions, help me love You again.***
(Chorus)

***I have longed to know You and Your tender mercies,
Like a river of forgiveness ever flowing without end.
I bow my heart before you
in the goodness of your presence.
Your grace forever shining like a beacon in the night.***
(Chorus Twice)

THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

L: Merciful Savior, we thank you for the life and hope and healing which you have offered us at this table of grace. May your presence fill us with strength for our life and our Lenten journeys.

P: **Amen.**

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!**

▲ OUR 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
Vicar Meagan Kim – Vocalist
Bob Schmalz – Vocalist
Steve Swanback – Vocalist
Ed Szaky – Vocalist
Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through Luke's Gospel? Next week's text is Luke 13:1-9, 31-35, the story of the Jesus' lament for the Holy City of Jerusalem.

We grieve with the family of **Yvonne Tschudi** at her passing earlier this week. May the peace which eluded Yvonne in the final years of her life be hers in abundance in the heavenly kingdom. And may that same peace sustain and strengthen husband Otto and daughter Solveig as they walk through these days of sorrow.

You are invited to a **Memorial Service** in thankfulness for the life of **Bob Valentine** on Saturday, March 22nd at 10am here at Holy Shepherd. A brunch reception will follow in our Center for Ministry building.

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