

Lent 5

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, CA
April 6, 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.

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 SONG OF RECONCILIATION
Lyrics and Music by Susan Ashton and Margaret Becker

▲ 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** HERE I AM TO WORSHIP
Lyrics and Music by Tim Hughes

**Light of the world you stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.**

Chorus

**So here I am to worship; here I am to bow down;
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me.**

**King of all days, oh, so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above,
Humbly You came to the Earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.**

(Chorus 2X)

**And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross**

(Chorus 2X)

▲ 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 Lord of the lost, we are quick to judge and slow to accept those whom we consider lower than ourselves. But you show us the way of acceptance, forgiveness, and peace. We thank you for teaching us to love, for the sake of the one who is the essence of love itself, Jesus Christ our loving Lord.

P: **Amen.**

THE LESSON

Luke 18:31 — 19:10

Then he took the twelve aside and said to them, "Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and everything that is written about the Son of Man by the prophets will be accomplished. For he will be handed over to the gentiles, and he will be mocked and insulted and spat upon. After they have flogged him, they will kill him, and on the third day he will rise again." But they understood nothing about all these things; in fact, what he said was hidden from them, and they did not grasp what was said.

As he approached Jericho, a blind man was sitting by the roadside begging. When he heard a crowd going by, he asked what was happening. They told him, "Jesus of Nazareth is passing by." Then he shouted, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Those who were in front sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he shouted even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and ordered the man to be brought to him, and when he came near, he asked him, "What do you want me to do for you?" He said, "Lord, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Receive your sight; your faith has saved you." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him, glorifying God, and all the people, when they saw it, praised God.

He entered Jericho and was passing through it. A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short

in stature. So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him. All who saw it began to grumble and said, "He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner." Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, "Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor, and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much." Then Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, because he, too, is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost."

KIDTALK

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson

THE SONG OF THE DAY

LOVE ONE ANOTHER

Lyrics and Music by Greg Ronning

Chorus: ***Love one another, share your heart;
Love one another, let it start;
The magic of love isn't magic at all;
It's you and me and Jesus doing it all.***

***Hearts weren't meant to stand alone;
Hearts aren't made out of cold grey stone;
Together in love, there's a chance;
We can turn mourning into a dance.***
[Chorus]

***On the horizon there's a shining light;
There's an end to the lonely night;
It ain't no star or shining sun;
It's you and me together in the kingdom as one.***
[Chorus]

***When you see somebody down and out;
Give them love, not a reason to doubt;
As long as someone's hurt you're never free;
Give them a hand, give them a kingdom to see.***
[Chorus]

THE SERMON

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson

▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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. Amen.

▲ THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*We pray this day for the church, the life of the earth, and the whole human family — using the prayer refrain, "Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**".*

THE OFFERTORY A STRANGE WAY TO SAVE THE WORLD
Lyrics and Music by M.R. Harris, D.A. Koch and D.A. Clark

▲ THE COMMUNION LITANY

L: In the breaking of bread and the sharing of the cup, Jesus offered his first followers peace and friendship, trust and forgiveness, the love and embrace of God - and Jesus offers those same gifts.

For - 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:

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, we invite you to come down the center aisle and come to the altar rail to receive the bread and wine that bear the promise that God is with us. During the serving of Holy Communion, you are invited to join in singing the following songs:

COME TO JESUS

Lyrics and Music by Josh Blakesley and Sarah Hart

***People of the God of ages
Welcome to your brand new day***

***Leave the world and all it's trappings
Come into amazing grace
Let go your every fear
There is only mercy here***

Refrain

***Come to Jesus, hope that frees us, life that breathes in us
Come to Jesus, and believe that he is love
Oh come. Oh come***

***All who walk alone in shadow
All who stand with faith assured
Those who follow with abandon
Those who long for something more
These are the gifts we bring
Our lives the offering
(Refrain)***

***Welcome pauper, rich man, leper
Hungry, exiled, joyful, poor
Come you pris'nr, free man, sinner
Come to the Lord. Come to the Lord
(Refrain)***

COME TO THE WATER

Lyrics and Music by Marsha J. Stevens

***You said You'd come and share all my sorrows,
You said You'd be there for all my tomorrows;
I came so close to sending You away,
But just like You promised
You came there to stay;
I just had to pray!***

(Chorus)

***And Jesus said,
"Come to the water, stand by My side,
I know you are thirsty,
you won't be denied;
I felt ev'ry teardrop
When in darkness you cried,
And I'm here to remind you
That for those tears I died."***

***Jesus, I give You my heart and my soul,
I know that without God I'd never be whole;
Savior, You opened all the right doors,
And I thank You and praise
You from earth's humble shores;
Take me, I'm Yours.***

(Repeat Chorus twice)

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 OLD CHURCH CHOIR Lyrics and Music by Zach Williams and Ethan Hulse

*There's revival, and it's spreading
Like a wildfire in my heart
Sunday morning, Hallelujah
And it's lasting all week long*

*Can you hear it? Can you feel it?
It's the rhythm of a gospel song
Once you choose it, you can't lose it
There ain't nothin',
there ain't nothin'
gonna steal my joy*

Refrain:

*I've got an old church choir singing in my soul
I've got a sweet salvation and it's beautiful
I've got a heart overflowing 'cause I've been restored
There ain't nothing gonna steal my joy
No there ain't nothing gonna steal my joy*

*When the valleys, that I wander
Turn to mountains, that I can't climb
You are with me, never leave me
There ain't nothin',
there ain't nothin'
gonna steal my joy*

(Repeat Refrain 2x)

▲ THE CHARGE

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

SENDING MUSIC

OLD CHURCH CHOIR
(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
Diana Riveness Young – Vocalist
Bethany Valentine – Vocalist
Elizabeth Humphrey – Vocalist
Marci Bauer – Vocalist
Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist
Vicar Meagan Kim – Vocalist
Bob Schmalz – Vocalist
Steve Swanback – Vocalist
Marc Levine – Pianist

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through Luke's Gospel? Next week's text is Luke 19:29-44, the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem.

Biblical passages are resourced from the New Revised Standard Version, Updated Edition. Copyright © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission

MUSIC REPRINTED AND STREAMED WITH
PERMISSION UNDER ONE LICENSE #A-710728
ALL RIGHTS RESERVED.