



Orinda Community Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ
Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

Order of Worship Sunday, August 15, 2021, 10 am

Reflection: *Over my head, I hear music in the air. There must be a God somewhere.*
African-American spiritual

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Nik Nackley

WELCOME

Reverend Lee Cruise

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Little Elk, Lakota

Nancy Peterson

One: Hey! Learn to hear my feeble voice.
At the center of the sacred hoop
You have said that I should make the tree to bloom.

**Many: With tears running, O Great Spirit,
With running eyes I must say
The tree has never bloomed.**

One: It may be that some little root of the sacred tree still lives.
Nourish it then
That it may leaf
And bloom
And fill with singing birds!

**Many: Hear me, that the people may once again
Find the good road
And the shielding tree.**

* *Stand as you are able*

HYMN BH 514*

Over My Head

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Nancy Peterson

**In God's wisdom and compassion,
may we receive grace to live anew
and continue to feast on the living bread which is given to us each day.
We give thanks to the Holy One who lifts us up with the gift of
forgiveness.**

WORD OF ASSURANCE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.
Many: **And also with you.**

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Leslie O'Brien

WE LISTEN

SOLO

Simple Gifts

Miles McCall, soloist

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Nancy Peterson

Lesson from the Hebrew Scriptures: I Kings 17:8-16

Lesson from the Gospel: Matthew 25:35-49

SERMON

Victim or Champion?

Reverend Lee Cruise

HYMN BH 11*

Bring many Names

Carlton Young, 1989

* *Stand as you are able*

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF PRAYER

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our God, 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.
Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

MOMENT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

A TIME OF GIVING

OFFERTORY INVITATION

OFFERTORY SOLO

Jesslyn Thomas, soloist

DOXOLOGY*

OLD HUNDREDTH, 1551

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

A TIME OF PEACE AND ASSURANCE

Reverend Lee Cruise

HYMN BH 547*

Amazing Grace

Columbia Harmony, 1829

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Lee Cruise

* *Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor
Leslie Darwin O'Brien, Pastoral Outreach & Family Ministry
David Milnes, Director of Music
Anna Gregory, Office Administrator



Orinda Community Church is participating in a new endeavor! Alta Mesa Center for the Arts, under the leadership of Mary Volmer, is an interfaith arts and spirituality hub, housed within and sponsored by Orinda Community Church.

REGULAR WEEKLY OFFERINGS AT THE CHURCH

Mondays at 9:30 am we have centering prayer in the chapel. This is a time of silent, contemplative prayer. We will begin with a reading, spend 15 minutes in silent prayer, and then offer a time for processing.

The Writers' Group meets every other week **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m** via Zoom. All are welcome. The next meeting date is **August 24**. The writing prompt (if you need one) is to reflect on how your life has changed during/as a result of the pandemic. Check the church website for the zoom link.

We are piloting in-person contemplative services in the chapel on **Wednesdays at 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.** We may offer only one Wednesday service depending on how many attend. This is a short service that includes readings, music, and time for prayer. The church will continue to send out an electronic version of the contemplative service each Wednesday as well.

Join Leslie via zoom for an interlude of uplift, refreshment and music, **Thursdays at 1:00 pm**. Check the church website for the zoom link.

The Bible study has rebranded itself as the *Scripture and Theology Group*. It continues on **Thursdays at 2 pm** via Zoom. We are about to begin a study of Elaine Pagels' book *Beyond Belief, the Secret Gospel of Thomas*. In order for people to have time to get the book we are taking a week's break and will next meet on **Thursday, August 19**. Please join us for lively and meaningful conversation. Check the church website for the zoom link.

HELP WANTED! Babysitter/Nursery Nanny

Do you know someone who might be interested in being our Baby Sitter/Nursery Nanny? We are looking for someone who is responsible, warm, loving, and fun and available to work from 9:45 am to 11:45 am on Sundays (with possible additional hours later). The job includes watching infants and toddlers. SAFE Church fingerprinting procedures will be required.

If interested, please email us: office@orindachurch.org

