



# Orinda Community Church

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

## Order of Worship Sunday, September 26, 2021, 10 am

**Reflection:** To be the salt, you also need to be the shaker. To shake the world. Shake the truth. Shake the people. Shake the word. Have it sprinkle, melt and preserve humanity. — Anthony Liccione

### WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Nik Nackley

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP\*

Adapted from Psalm 124

Robert Steiner

**One:** If it had not been God who was on our side when our troubles beset us,

**All: then they would have swallowed us up alive.**

**One:** Then the flood of difficulties would have swept us away, the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters.

**All: Blessed be our Divine Friend, who has not given us as prey to the catastrophes of the world.**

**One:** We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the fowlers; the snare is broken, and we have escaped.

**All: Our help is in the name of our Holy Guide, who made heaven and earth.**

HYMN BH 181

*You Are the Salt of the Earth, O People*

\* *Stand as you are able*

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Robert Steiner

**Oh Divine Guide, let us be salt for the earth,  
salt that brings the healing of God;  
Let us share the flavor of life,  
life in the heart of God.**

**Bring forth a life of mercy,  
bring forth the fullness of peace,  
bring forth, at last, your justice,  
bring forth the revelation of God. Amen.**

WORD OF ASSURANCE

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

TIME WITH CHILDREN

*Light of the World*

Leslie O'Brien

**WE LISTEN**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Robert Steiner

Numbers 11: 4-6, 10-16, 24-29  
Mark 9: 38-50

SERMON

*Salt and Prophecy*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

HYMN BH 575

*O for a World*

\* *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

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.**

HYMN BH 89

*Awake, Awake to Love and Work*

BENEDICTION\*

POSTLUDE

\* *Stand as you are able*

## **Orinda Community Church**

10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA

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office@orindachurch.org

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.

## **Coming up at Alta Mesa Center for the Arts**

### **Alta Mesa Center Reading Series:**

October 10<sup>th</sup> at 4:00pm AMCA hosts an afternoon reading and discussion to celebrate Indigenous People's Day and benefiting the Sogorea Te' Land Trust.

Featuring James Thomas Stevens and Aja Couchois Duncan.

To register for this free online event, go to:

<https://forms.gle/92aVuSzm5aJ2Nw3A6> or check our website at **orindacommunitychurch.org** for a link.

(Sogorea Te' Land Trust is "an urban Indigenous women-led land trust that facilitates the return of Indigenous land to Indigenous people.")

**NEW: Bimonthly Generative Writing Workshops:**

October Theme: Remembrance

Oct 2nd & October 16th at 10:00am – 12:00pm

In-Person at the Orinda Community Church Fellowship Hall

10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA

(vaccine and masks required as suggested by the CDC)

Space limited to 15 in-person writers.



In this dynamic, two-day writing workshop, we will read and discuss poems and short prose pieces that celebrate life and give voice to loss in haunting, hopeful, and healing ways. Then, in a series of guided, writing exercises, suitable for prose writers (fiction and nonfiction) and poets, we will generate new work to help us honor and begin to reconcile the losses of the last several years.

Instructor: Mary Volmer

\$60.00 suggested donation for both sessions (2 hours each).  
(You are welcome to donate more to support the community.)

No one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Can't make it both days, no problem. Just let us know which day you'll be joining us. For a link to register, please go to our website at **[orindacommunitychurch.org](http://orindacommunitychurch.org)**

## 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 begin with a reading, spend 15 minutes in silent prayer, and then offer a time for processing.
- 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 are in attendance. 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 p.m.** *For the link, check your eblast or go to our website: [orindacommunitychurch.org](http://orindacommunitychurch.org)*
- The **Theology and Scripture Group** continues to meet at **2:00 p.m. on Thursdays** via Zoom. We are now reading the second chapter in a study of Elaine Pagels' book *Beyond Belief, the secret gospel of Thomas*. Please join us for lively and meaningful conversation. *For the link, check your eblast or go to our website: [orindacommunitychurch.org](http://orindacommunitychurch.org)*
- **Sunday Insanity!** The Youth Group meets **immediately after services on Sunday.**
- The Writers' Group meets every other week **Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m.** via Zoom. All are welcome. The next meeting date is **October 5<sup>th</sup>.** *For the link, check your eblast or go to our website: [orindacommunitychurch.org](http://orindacommunitychurch.org)*

**AND IN OTHER NEWS:**

**Ushering Services were provided this week by John Skidgel, Phillip Bernard, Ann Sherpick, Gail Mead, and Lani Shepp. Thank you!**

**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](mailto:office@orindachurch.org)**



**Homecoming & Installation Save the date! On **October 3rd**, we will celebrate our annual Homecoming after church with a meal and fun activities. Then, at 2:00 p.m., we will celebrate the Installation of Elizabeth as the pastor of OCC, so please join us for that service!**

**LASTLY, the best email to reach the church office is: [office@orindachurch.org](mailto:office@orindachurch.org)**