

# Orinda Community Church

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

## ORDER OF WORSHIP Sunday, October 2, 2022, 10 am Ordinary Time



**Reflection:** He seems in these verses to capture something of the nature of pilgrimage - the precise directions to somewhere often awkward to find; and you're not sure quite why you came or what it was you're looking for. If you find it, or it finds you, words cannot easily convey what has happened but it becomes part of the journey that continues.

-- Richard Foster, from the *Daily Celtic Prayerbook*

## WE GATHER

PRELUDE

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT AND RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Mary Volmer

CALL TO WORSHIP\*

Robin Holmes

**One:** Dear Lord, we long for you.

**All:** Even as you are all around us, we can't see you.

**One:** Dear Lord, we feel the ache of separation.

**All:** We long to feel your presence in our lives.

**One:** Heavenly One, we fear we are lost.

**All:** The distractions of our daily lives obscure our sense of you.

**One:** Heavenly One, help us find the path to you.

**All:** Show us the way, the truth, and the light to restore us to you.

HYMN\* BH 308

*At the Font We Start Our Journey*

Ernest Hawkins, 1842

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Robin Holmes

**Dear God, sometimes it feels like we are wandering in life, wondering why we are here, wondering if we're doing the right thing, doubting if you're paying attention, and feeling lost and alone. How do we find our way to you? How will we recognize you when you come to us? Help us see past life's illusions and distractions. Guide us past the pitfalls and put us on the path to a life filled with love, wonder, and wisdom. Show us the creation the way you see it. Show us how the world looks through the lens of your eternal love. Amen.**

WORD OF ASSURANCE

Mary Volmer

**One:** The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many:** And also with you.

*\*Stand as you are able*

**WE LISTEN**

## ANTHEM

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Robin Holmes

*Exodus 3:1-6*

3 Moses was keeping the flock of his father-in-law Jethro, the priest of Midian; he led his flock beyond the wilderness, and came to Horeb, the mountain of God. <sup>2</sup> There the angel of the LORD appeared to him in a flame of fire out of a bush; he looked, and the bush was blazing, yet it was not consumed. <sup>3</sup> Then Moses said, 'I must turn aside and look at this great sight, and see why the bush is not burned up.' <sup>4</sup> When the LORD saw that he had turned aside to see, God called to him out of the bush, 'Moses, Moses!' And he said, 'Here I am.' <sup>5</sup> Then he said, 'Come no closer! Remove the sandals from your feet, for the place on which you are standing is holy ground.' <sup>6</sup> He said further, 'I am the God of your father, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob.' And Moses hid his face, for he was afraid to look at God.

*Luke 9:1-3*

9 Then Jesus called the twelve together and gave them power and authority over all demons and to cure diseases, and he sent them out to proclaim the kingdom of God and to heal. <sup>3</sup> He said to them, 'Take nothing for your journey, no staff, nor bag, nor bread, nor money—not even an extra tunic.'

## SERMON

*Holy Ground*

Kurt Sunderbach

**WE RESPOND**

## HYMN\* BH 377

*Forward through the Ages*

Arthur Sullivan, 1871

## A TIME OF PRAYER

Mary Volmer

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

*\*Stand as you are able*

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

Mary Volmer

OFFERTORY SOLO

DOXOLOGY **RH** 94

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

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

HYMN\* BH 418

*My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff*

Thomas Lynch, 1855

BENEDICTION\*

Kurt Sunderbach

*\*Stand as you are able*

## Orinda Community Church

10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA

925 254 4906

office@orindachurch.org

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

David Milnes, Director of Music

Anna Gregory, Office Administrator



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.

### The Alta Mesa Center for the Arts presents:

A reading and discussion of

**Slaves for Peanuts:**

**A Story of Conquest, Liberation, and a Crop That Changed History**

by

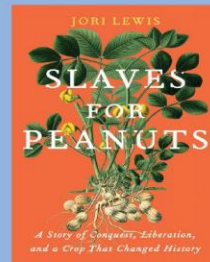
Award winning independent writer and editor

**Jori Lewis**

with Lillian Howan

October 9, 2022 at 4:00pm (pacific)

Register for this free, online event here: <https://forms.gle/vSkj3TJ9ZznC3aL26>



Alta Mesa Center for the Arts, an interfaith arts hub, is housed and sponsored by Orinda Community Church.

Questions? Contact Mary Volmer: [altamesacenter@gmail.com](mailto:altamesacenter@gmail.com)

## Weekly Events

Each week, in addition to our 10 a.m. Sunday worship, the church offers regular programming.

- ✚ Monday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Chapel, we host **Centering Prayer**.
- ✚ Wednesday mornings at 10:00 a.m., we hold a brief **Contemplative Service** in the chapel, which includes readings, music, prayer time, and silence. This service also goes out electronically.
- ✚ **Life and Loss Group** meets every Thursday in the Fireside Room at 12 noon. You are welcome to simply attend, or if you have questions, please call or email the office.
- ✚ Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m., our **Theology and Scripture** group meets via Zoom to discuss theology and the bible, and other topics. Our next meeting is Thursday, October 6, at 2:00 pm.

Every other week:

- ✚ Two Tuesdays a month, the **Writers' Group** shares and discusses their writings via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. (Their work is featured in the narthex and Fellowship Hall; take a look!) Next meeting is Tuesday, October 4, at 10 am.
- ✚ Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45, the **Reading Group** is doing a close study of the novels of Marilynne Robinson, starting with Gilead. We meet via Zoom. Next meeting is Thursday, October 6, at 4 pm. The room will open at 3:45 pm for welcome and chatting.



Ushers

**THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS THIS WEEK:**

Mike Kersten, Bill & Carey Carpenter, and Kathleen Wiegand

---

## SEWING CIRCLE



**The Sewing Circle will put quilts out on the pews on October 2nd. The quilts will be for sale or for sponsorship. We will also have an assortment of finished fabric art pieces that can be used for table runners, decorative mats, etc. They also will be for sale on that day and will be featured in the auction!**

---

*Save the date!*



*Fall Festival and Auction Sunday, November 6, 2022*



## MERCY & JUSTICE/CREATION JUSTICE NEWS & EVENTS

Karen Sanford [ksanford227@gmail.com](mailto:ksanford227@gmail.com)  
Nancy Thursby [nlthursby@comcast.net](mailto:nlthursby@comcast.net)

- ✓ **Hope Solutions Dinner, October 13<sup>th</sup>:** Mercy & Justice will be providing dinner at Garden Park Apartments again this year. Volunteers will be needed. Contact Karen Sanford or Nancy Thursby to volunteer to donate food and/or to serve.
- ✓ **Faithful Voting Second Hour, “What’s on the Ballot?”:** A second hour featuring an informative program and discussion of the propositions that will appear on our ballot will be held October 23<sup>rd</sup>.
- ✓ **Common Hope:** Want to sponsor a child in Guatemala? See Karen Sanford or Roger Samuelsen, [rogsam58@gmail.com](mailto:rogsam58@gmail.com)  
M & J hopes to sponsor a service trip to Guatemala in 2023.
- ✓ **Connie Doty Memorial Knitting Group:** A new group has formed to create service projects, like chemo-caps for cancer patients who have lost their hair due to treatment. Interested? Contact Nancy Thursby



- ✓ **Winter Nights:** The church will be hosting two sessions in 2023, February 20-March 6 and May 1-15.
- ✓ **Next Mercy & Justice Meeting:** October 3, 1:30-3:00 pm in the Olive Grove.



**Orinda Community Church's 2022 FUNdraiser Online**  
**beginning Monday, October 31**  
**Pick-up and Closing Party on Sunday, November 6<sup>th</sup>**

- **STARTING NOW:** You can offer **an adventure, a service, an item, a gift certificate, or a food and wine offering\*** by completing the form on the opposite side and submitting it to our Auction Administrator, Gail Mead (grmead@comcast.net) ASAP, but **no later than OCTOBER 28, 2022.**
- **This year's auction will be both online and in person!** The online auction starts October 31<sup>st</sup> and closes November 5<sup>th</sup>. On November 6<sup>th</sup>, after services, there will an in-person auction (OCC only) & pick-up party for sold auction items, and sale of items not sold at the close of the online auction. You, the donor, can choose if you prefer your item to be sold in-person to OCC members only.
- **ONLINE AUCTION:** You, your family/friends, will be able to purchase one or more of our awesome offerings at OCC's Annual **FUNdraiser** website. This is the same site as last year and a link will be sent before we "go live". If you registered last year, you are still in the system for this year. Items will be active from October 31<sup>st</sup> until sold and the auction will close on Saturday, November 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **IN-PERSON AUCTION** This year we are soliciting donations for an in-person auction, to be held after church, on Sunday November 6. Donors must choose their donation whether their donation will be offered to ALL (online), or just OCC members.
- **NOVEMBER 6<sup>th</sup>:** On Sunday, November 6, in addition to our in-person auction, we will have a **Pick-up Party** after church. You can pick up your purchases and we will have food to celebrate and maybe a few additional goodies to add to your basket.

• **OFFERINGS** **BE CREATIVE!**

**Adventures:** (Always fun!!)

Cabin in the Mountains/Condo at the Beach  
 Concerts / Theatre tickets  
 Hikes / Moon Walks / Bike Rides  
 Tournaments: *Tennis, Golf, Bridge*

**Services:** (Always needed!)

Gardening / Babysitting Services  
 Consultation (organizing, computer, etc.)  
 Guide (to any place)  
 Tutoring (in anything)  
 Repair (of anything)

**Items:** (Always nice to have!)

Theme gift baskets  
 Pie / Bread / Bouquet -A Month  
 Musical Instrument  
 Car, boat, vehicles (working)  
 Sports equipment  
 Paintings/works of art

**Gift Certificates:** (Always appreciated!)

Dining at your favorite restaurant  
 Reading at your favorite bookstore  
 Flowers, chocolate, wine  
 Visits to the zoo or science center

**Food and Wine:** (Back by popular demand!)

This year, we are accepting in-person food offerings. All participants MUST be vaccinated, and the host will set any other rules for participation (i.e., only outdoors, only during the day, etc.) These offerings can include any of our traditional "feasts" - including backyard BBQs, a Valentine's Day dinner party, a pig roast, or a themed dinner – or they might include something new.

**(FORM ON BACK)**

# OCC FALL FUNDRAISER DONATION FORM

---

**Online Auction begins Monday, October 31**

**Submit your offering form ASAP but no later than Friday, October 28.  
Please do not leave any blanks!!!**

**Pick-up Party on Sunday, November 6, following worship**

**Deposit in offertory plate or church office or delivery to Auction Administrator (below)**

TITLE OF OFFERING \_\_\_\_\_

DATE\* \_\_\_\_\_ TIME \_\_\_\_\_

PLACE\*\* \_\_\_\_\_

DESCRIPTION \_\_\_\_\_

Okay to auction ONLINE OR IN PERSON? (please check one)

ONLINE OKAY (anyone can bid) \_\_\_\_\_ IN-PERSON ONLY (only for OCC) \_\_\_\_\_

MAXIMUM # OF PARTICIPANTS \_\_\_\_\_

SUGGESTED PRICE: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ per person? \_\_\_ event? \_\_\_ item? \_\_\_

Minimum bid? \_\_\_\_\_ Increments? \_\_\_\_\_

DONOR(S): \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ PHONE \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL \_\_\_\_\_

\*Be as specific as possible – no later than November 2023.

\*\* Church facilities can be available by arrangement.

**Auction Administrator:** Gail Mead  
510-414-6222 (mobile)  
grmead@comcast.net