

Orinda Community Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 20, 2022, 10 am



Christ Visits Mary and Martha - Joos Goeymare (1573-1611)

Reflection:

“The ministry of service...and the ministry of the word require one another.” -- Rev. Dr. Niveen Sarras

“Be not afraid of [spaciousness]. Some are born [spacious], some achieve [spaciousness], and others have [spaciousness] thrust upon them.”

-- adapted from William Shakespeare, *Twelfth Night*,
with thanks to Christian McEwan

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Tak Maga

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT AND RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Leonore Cruise

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Chris Mead

One: Holy Spirit, we live in a culture of haste and busyness. We rush through the day, burdened by to-do lists, and hemmed in by responsibilities.

All: **Teach us how to make space in our lives for silence, for stillness, and for contemplation. Teach us to find peace even in the midst of haste and busyness.**

One: We have been taught we must prove ourselves worthy of regard by the standards of our culture. We have been taught that we must win at any cost, even at the cost of our integrity and spirit.

All: **Teach us to question those cultural standards. Give us the courage to find in God's presence, a love whose only condition is our presence in return.**

HYMN* **RH** 593

Here I am, Lord

Dan Schutte

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Chris Mead

Holy Spirit, we lose our way. We become distracted and consumed by social conventions, resentments, and tribal loyalties. We are desperate to prove ourselves worthy of regard, when again and again your teaching reminds us: we need not be worthy, only willing to surrender our earthly goals, however noble, for the greater gifts of discernment, love, and compassion. Help us to recognize and honor the spiritual gifts of others, even (and especially) when they differ greatly from our own. And as we open our houses to friends and loved ones, may we also open our hearts to the presence that gives life and purpose to all the living world. Amen.

WORD OF ASSURANCE

Reverend Leonore Cruise

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**Stand as you are able*

WE LISTEN

SOLO

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42

Chris Mead

³⁸ As Jesus and his disciples were on their way, he came to a village where a woman named Martha opened her home to him. ³⁹ She had a sister called Mary, who sat at the Lord's feet listening to what he said. ⁴⁰ But Martha was distracted by all the preparations that had to be made. She came to him and asked, "Lord, don't you care that my sister has left me to do the work by myself? Tell her to help me!"

⁴¹ "Martha, Martha," the Lord answered, "you are worried and upset about many things, ⁴² but few things are needed—or indeed only one. Mary has chosen what is better, and it will not be taken away from her."

SERMON

Two Sisters: Mary and Martha

Mary Volmer

HYMN* BH 423

Great Is Your Faithfulness

William Runyan

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Lee Cruise

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.**

**Stand as you are able*

MOMENT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mary Volmer

STEWARDSHIP

Kristin Armanini, TOPS director
Bill Abriel, stewardship chair

OFFERTORY SOLO

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Reverend Leonore Cruise

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* **RH** 400

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

WYETH

BENEDICTION*

Mary Volmer

Orinda Community Church

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office@orindachurch.org

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

David Milnes, Director of Music

Anna Gregory, Office Administrator

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. We will miss a meeting because of Thanksgiving, so the next meeting is Thursday, December 1, 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, November 29, 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, December 1, at 4 pm. The room will open at 3:45 pm for welcome and chatting.



THANK YOU TO OUR USHERS THIS WEEK:

Jeane Samuelsen, Roger Samuelsen, John Thursby, and Joan Upshaw

DIRECTORIES

We have been distributing updated OCC Directories. If you would like the office to send you a copy by email or snail mail, please email Anna at office@orindachurch.org or call 925-254-4906.

Also, if you would like to have your photo added to the directory, you can send your photo by email, or stop by the office and Anna will take your pic so subsequent editions can be more complete with all of your beautiful faces!



**The church office will be closed for Thanksgiving
Wednesday thru Friday, November 23rd - 25th**

Life After Loss Time Change

The Life After Loss Group has a time change: It is still every Thursday, but now goes from 12:15 pm – 1:45 pm. There will be NO meeting on Thanksgiving.

Lucina, who is living right now in the cottage had her bicycle stolen. If you have a bike you are no longer using, would you consider giving it to her? Many thanks for considering it!



WE ARE EXCITED FOR A RICH ADVENT SEASON AT ORINDA COMMUNITY CHURCH!

Please join us for our **Advent Workshop** on Sunday, December 4th, 4 pm - 7 pm.

We also hope you will join us for our **Advent Wednesday** evening services at 7:00 pm:

December 7: Reading of the Velveteen Rabbit by Mimi McCall

December 14: Sarah Elovich is offering a performance and meditation on **Channukah**

December 21: Our Solstice service with the labyrinth in Fellowship Hall

Each service will be accompanied by wonderful music by our remarkable musicians.

December 24: We welcome you to our 5:00 pm Christmas Eve Service. We will be conducting this a little bit differently this year, not with the traditional children's pageant, but with all the usual magic.

December 25: Is a Sunday! We welcome you to a simple Christmas service at 10 am. Depending how many people come, we may snuggle up in our beautiful chapel to celebrate and spend time together. Please let us know if you expect to be there so we can plan accordingly. Tell Anna in the office by email office@orindachurch.org, phone (925) 254-4906, or just stop by!

IF YOU NEED A RIDE TO ANY OF THE EVENING SERVICES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE AND WE WILL TRY TO ASSIST WITH CARPOOLING.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO HELP WITH RIDES, PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.

THE BOY SCOUTS ARE COMING TO OCC TODAY & 11/27



Local Boy Scouts of America Troop, 402G, is the biggest ALL-GIRL Scout troop in the nation!

Our wreaths are 22' in diameter, come straight from the Oregon forest, smell great, and even come with a handmade bow. We charge \$30 for each wreath.

These wreaths make great gifts for the holidays for friends, family, teachers and even the mail carrier.

We also make it easy for you to donate wreaths as we are partnering with Diablo Meals on Wheels and will deliver donated wreaths to their senior community.

This fundraiser helps fund our troop activities for the entire year and allows all scouts to equitably participate. Some of the activities we have planned this year include-

- Camping and canoeing at the Russian River
- Snowshoeing and snow camping at Mt. Shasta
- Hiking and backpacking at Pt. Reyes
- Experiencing Oceanography at Salt Point

Experiences like these in the scouting program help to build scouts' confidence and love of the outdoors while also providing them with leadership opportunities and creating many happy memories along the way!


If you would like to support our troop by purchasing a wreath, please purchase wreaths by going to our troop website <https://www.troop402.org/wreath-purchase> or look for us after church service on 11/20 or 11/27.

Thank you so much for your support. Troop402.org



NICOLE READER'S ART SHOW CONTINUES THROUGH NOVEMBER:

LOOKING OUT, LOOKING IN
Paintings by Nicole Reader



**13 PAINTINGS OF CONTEMPLATIVE
PEOPLE TURNING THEIR EYES ELSEWHERE**

The figures here are focused on their own environment, whether internal or external, rather than acknowledging the gaze of the viewer. Some are perched on literal overlooks, dramatic landscapes opening up before them; others barely look off the edge of the canvas, their vision turned inward.

ORINDA LIBRARY ART GALLERY
26 Orinda Way, Orinda, CA 94563

The show will be on exhibit throughout November 2022
nicolereader.com | lamorindaarts.org/current-exhibits

And check out Brian Shepp's website: www.BrianShepp.com

NEW SHOW!

opening
OCTOBER 18, 2022

through
JANUARY 17, 2023

I C E
FROZEN WORLDS PHOTOGRAPHY
BRIAN SHEPP



featuring the piece: "Mother & Child"

TRUCKEE/TAHOE AIRPORT | MAIN TERMINAL | RED TRUCK CAFE