

Orinda Community Church

An Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, November 27, 2022, 10 am

First Sunday of Advent

Reflection: “Give light and the darkness will disappear of itself.”

-- Desiderius Erasmus

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT AND RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Kurt Sunderbruch

One: *(People reaching arms forward in welcome)*
Welcome on this glorious day!

All: *(People turn to face each other)*
Welcome to all on this sabbath day!

One: *(People smile)*
We celebrate the Divine presence on this First Sunday of Advent.

All: *(People smiling, facing each other, shouting)*
Alleluia, Alleluia!

**Stand as you are able*

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Kurt Sunderbruch

Our Creator, we pray these words of Jo Harjo, an indigenous leader of our land:

“We are here to serve each other. At some point we have to understand that we do not need to carry a story that is unbearable. We observe the story...feel the story...let the story go...forgive the story.”

Divine one, guide us in forgiving love as we live our stories. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE 1st CANDLE OF ADVENT – HOPE

Reverend Bev Blaisdell

WORD OF ASSURANCE

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

WE LISTEN

SOLO

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 2:1-4 (The Voice Bible)

Kurt Sunderbruch

There will come a time when the mountain where the Eternal's house stands
Will become the highest, most magnificent -- grander than any of the mountains around
it. And all of the nations of the world will run there, wanting to see it, feel it, fully
experience it. Many people of all languages, colors, and creeds will come.

Come! Let us go to this mountain so that we may learn from the Eternal how best to be.
The eternal will decide what's fair among nations and will settle disputes among all sorts
of people.

Meanwhile, the people will hammer their swords into sickles, reshape their spears into
pruning hooks.

One nation will not attack another. They will not practice war anymore.

Words of Richard, Nez Perce Nation:

“I am proud to be a Native.
I forgive those who have erased my people.
I walk slowly every day.
I am smiling when I look into other’s eyes.
I know my truth. I am at peace.”

SERMON

The Mountains Remember

Reverend Leonore Cruise

HYMN* BH 113

Little Bethlehem of Judah

Calvin Seerveld

WE RESPOND

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

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

STEWARDSHIP

OFFERTORY SOLO

**Stand as you are able*

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 154

Go, Tell it on the Mountain

AFRICAN AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Leonore Cruise

**Stand as you are able*

Orinda Community Church

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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 from 12:15 pm to 1:45 pm. 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. 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:

Phil Bernard, Leslie Dickson, Gail Mead, and John Skidgel

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!

**THE BOY SCOUTS ARE COMING TO OCC TODAY
11/27, Wreath Sale after services**



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

Wreaths are \$30.00

Food Banks are finding a greater need than ever, due to rising inflation.
Is it time to clean out your cupboards?
Please bring your food donations and let's fill that barrel in the Narthex!





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.

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

ICE
FROZEN WORLDS PHOTOGRAPHY
BRIAN SHEPP



featuring the piece: "Mother & Child"

TRUCKEE/TAHOE AIRPORT | MAIN TERMINAL | RED TRUCK CAFE