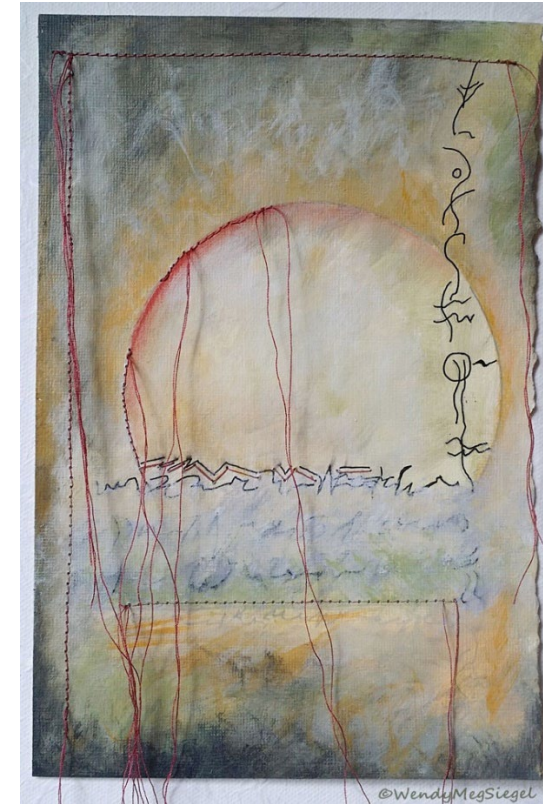


Orinda Community Church
Order of Worship
Sunday, July 16, 2023, 10:00 a.m.



art by Wendy Meg Siegel

Reflection: Before I can say *I am*, I was. Heraclitus and I, prophets of flux, know that the flux is composed of parts that imitate and repeat each other. Am or was, I am cumulative, too. I am everything I ever was... I am much of what my parents and especially my grandparents were -- inherited stature, coloring, brains, bones (that part unfortunate), plus transmitted prejudices, culture, scruples, likings, moralities, and moral errors that I defend as if they were personal and not familial. — Wallace Stegner

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP* *from Psalm 119*

Robin Holmes

One: Holy One, your word is a lamp to our feet.

All: It is a light on our many paths.

One: Then give us life, O God, according to your word.

All: And hear the words we raise to you, for we do not forget your story and all that you have said.

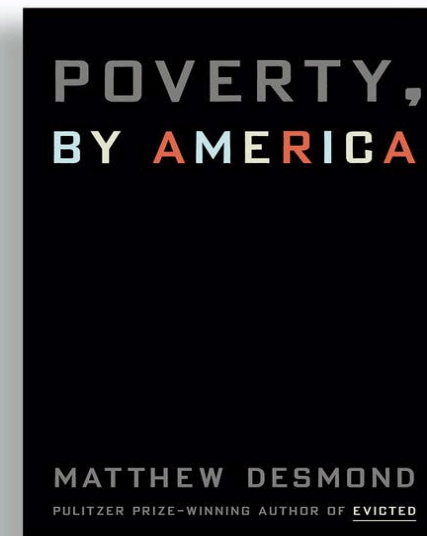
One: Your word is our heritage forever, and the joy of our hearts.

All: We open our hearts to live your story, your living word, forever.

**Stand as you are able*

2nd Hour

The Reading Group is holding a **2nd Hour Presentation** (date to be announced) about the book *Poverty, by America* by Pulitzer Prize winning author, Matthew Desmond. We encourage you to begin reading now so that you can be part of the discussion when we meet!



HOPE SOLUTIONS

BACKPACK DRIVE



OCC has a long tradition of helping to supply backpacks and school supplies for children by working with Hope Solutions.

Hope Solutions is now running the backpack drive online, with 2 options. You can sign up for a specific age and purchase the backpack and supplies yourself and drop off at Hope Solutions (or ask Karen Sanford to drop it off if you cannot make the drive), or send a donation online. Please check your eblasts for the link to sign up and/or give.

Alternatively, you can always donate by sending a check to
Hope Solutions, 399 Taylor Boulevard, Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523
hopesolutions.org

HYMN* BH 611

O Day of God, Draw Near

R.B.Y. Scott

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Robin Holmes

Almost unsuspecting, your spirit, your Word made flesh, arrives and rests here with us in this quiet. You, Loving One, speak your never-ending prayer as we form our prayers in response to the fragile moments of our lives. And your song is in the silence. Before we say more, help us to pause, listen, and drink you in. Then, when we are ready, God, help us to speak our truest prayers and hear your presence within our words. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

WE LISTEN

SOLO

**Stand as you are able*

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 25:20-34

Robin Holmes

Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to God for his wife, because she was barren; and God granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the LORD. And God said to her,

"Two nations are in your womb,
and two peoples born of you shall be divided;
the one shall be stronger than the other,
the elder shall serve the younger."

When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them.

When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob.

Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.



Thank you to this week's ushers:

**Kathi Kling
Jeane Samuelsen
Roger Samuelsen
Karen Sanford**



COUNCIL MEETING CANCELED ~ SUMMER HIATUS

**The meeting scheduled on 7/26/23 has been postponed
due to folks traveling during July.**

**The next Church Council Meeting is
Wednesday, August 23 at 7:00 p.m.**



The Good Table, in El Sobrante, is a sister U.C.C. church doing wonderful things! They are making a new church that will share property with a Planting Justice nursery, a business that trains and employs formerly incarcerated people.

**There is a community work day the
last Saturday of every month 12-3pm
July 29
5166 Sobrante Ave, El Sobrante 94803**

Here's an invitation from The Good Table:

Wear sturdy shoes, clothes you don't mind getting dirty, and bring work gloves, gardening tools if you have them, and a mask to help us tend our beautiful planting beds and continue to clean up our construction site. Or just stop by for a tour! We've made lots of progress towards opening our pay-what-you-can and pay-it-forward community cafe, food and craft marketplace, organic tree and plant nursery and gathering space for the arts, education, music, and spiritual community. Help get the site closer to Opening Day-ready!

SERMON

The Birthright

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

WE RESPOND

HYMN* BH 615

Enter in the Realm of God

Lavon Baylor

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.**

**Stand as you are able*

MOMENT FOR ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 616

I Want to Be Ready

African American Spiritual

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

POSTLUDE

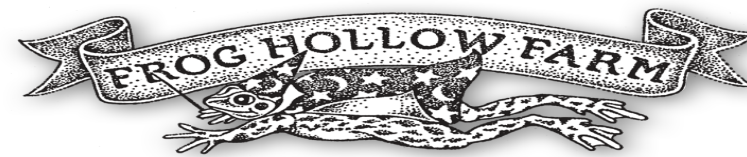
David Milnes

**Stand as you are able*



Anna will be off next week, July 17 – 21. We are happy to welcome Ruth Kaiser as her fill-in for the week. Ruth came to us through Holden where she works as a substitute teacher.

**REDUCED Office Hours next week, July 17-21,
will be from 9 am – 1 pm.**



CSA

Every Tuesday, Frog Hollow drops off boxes of fruit and folks that have signed up for weekly or bi-weekly boxes pick them up.

It's east to sign up, go to www.froghollow.com and choose Orinda as your pick-up location. The boxes are deposited on the parking lot side of Fellowship Hall for pickup.



Questions? You can ask Anna in the office, or go to their website www.froghollow.com or email them at csa@froghollow.com



OCC is hosting Camp Brainy Bunch here this Summer.

The Directors of the camp have extended a \$100/per week discount to church members.

Camp Brainy Bunch is where learning meets FUN!

Day Camps are available for grades 1 – 6.

There are weekly themes like Dynamite Doctors, Extraordinary Engineers, and Daring Detectives.

Go to campbrainybunch.com if you would like to sign up, using code **2023OCC100 to get the discount.**

Orinda Community Church

10 Irwin Way, Orinda, CA 94563

(925) 254-4906

office@orindachurch.org

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson, Senior Pastor

David Milnes, Director of Music

Anna Gregory, Office Administrator

WEEKLY EVENTS

In addition to 10 am Sunday worship, we offer these weekly:

- ✚ 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, July 20, at 2:00 pm.

And these, every other week:

- ✚ Two Tuesdays a month, the **Writers Group** shares and discusses their writings via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 25.
- ✚ Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45 p.m., the **Reading Group** meets via Zoom. Our next meeting is Thursday, July 27, at 4:00 p.m. The room opens at 3:45 p.m. for welcome and chatting.

CREATION JUSTICE ANNOUNCEMENT



JULY IS PLASTIC-FREE MONTH!

We all try to recycle, but sadly much of the plastic produced, especially numbers 2-7 plastics, end up in the landfill anyway.

Read this quote from Repurpose:

“Many of us consider plastic recycling a great step toward lowering our ecological footprint and protecting the environment. However, **less than 10% of plastic waste generated globally has been recycled so far.** A somewhat larger portion (**12%**) has been incinerated and the rest has simply ended up in landfills and our oceans.”

Our best option is to reuse, but how? Below are some suggestions from the Zero Waste Store. Check out their website <http://zerowastestore.com> and the other sites below.

1. Reduce your plastic usage & replace it with reusables or refillables.
2. Avoid single-use plastic.
3. Avoid small plastics that are unlikely to be recycled, (usually numbers 2 through 7).
4. If you see plastic pollution, pick it up.
5. Know where plastic is in your products. Replace it or avoid it altogether.
6. Recycle better. Know what your municipality can recycle and only send those items to the facility.
7. Vote & fight for legislation such as bag bans.
8. Pressure local government to enforce plastic bans and create better waste management rules.
9. Ask & call out companies to do better. From local restaurants to major corporations.
10. Rethink your wardrobe — or at least your next purchase. Try to avoid “fast fashion” and plastic materials.

Other sites to check out:

www.rePurpose.Global

<http://ecologycenter.org/plastic-free-july/>

<http://grove.co>

<http://netzero.com>

<http://Dropps.com>