

Orinda Community Church
Order of Worship
Sunday, July 30, 2023, 10:00 a.m.



Owl, Book of Hours, London, c. 1460; Harley MS

Reflections:

Yesterday I was clever, so I wanted to change the world.
Today I am wise, so I am changing myself. — Rumi

It is not that I'm so smart. But I stay with the questions
much longer. — Albert Einstein

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Leonore Cruise

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP* *from the prayer of Solomon, 1 Kings* Jeane Samuelson

One: Holy One, there is no God like you, in heaven above, or on earth beneath, who keeps covenant and mercy with your pilgrims who walk before you with all their heart.

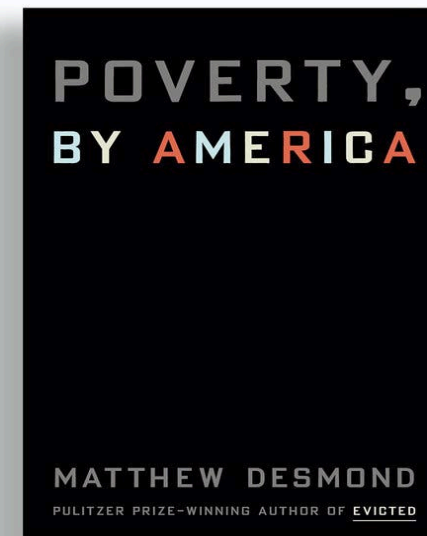
All: **You have been faithful to all you promised us: what you spoke with your mouth, you have fulfilled with your hand.**

One: And now, O God, may your word be verified in our worship today.

All: **May you find our prayers worthy, O God. Hearken to the cried and the thanksgiving which your people pray before you today.**

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!



**Stand as you are able*

HOPE SOLUTIONS

BACKPACK DRIVE



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

The deadline to turn in backpacks was July 28th, but they are still accepting cash donations.

If you want to help, you can go to the website
hopesolutions.org

or send a check to:

Hope Solutions
399 Taylor Boulevard
Pleasant Hill, CA, 94523

HYMN* **RH** 454

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Clara H. Scott

COMMUNITY PRAYER *from the prayer of Solomon, 1 Kings* Jeane Samuelsen

God, do you indeed dwell on the earth? Behold, the heaven of heavens cannot contain you; how much less the earthly homes that we have built? Yet we pray that your eyes may be open toward each house night and day, that you will hearken unto the prayer which your servants shall make.

Then hear us in heaven, and forgive us our errors. Teach us the good way wherein we should walk, and make our world fertile and harmonious. And when a stranger joins us, helps us to welcome the stranger to your love and to your word.

By this way, we return to you with all our hearts and with all our souls, that your eyes remain open to the supplications of your people, and you turn to us in all that we pray to you. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

**Stand as you are able*

WE LISTEN

SOLO

SCRIPTURE READING *Kings 3:5-12* Jeane Samuelson

At Gibeon the LORD appeared to Solomon in a dream by night; and God said, "Ask what I should give you."

And Solomon said, "You have shown great and steadfast love to your servant my father David, because he walked before you in faithfulness, in righteousness, and in uprightness of heart toward you; and you have kept for him this great and steadfast love, and have given him a son to sit on his throne today. And now, O LORD my God, you have made your servant king in place of my father David, although I am only a little child; I do not know how to go out or come in. And your servant is in the midst of the people whom you have chosen, a great people, so numerous they cannot be numbered or counted. Give your servant therefore an understanding mind to govern your people, able to discern between good and evil; for who can govern this your great people?"

It pleased the Lord that Solomon had asked this. God said to him, "Because you have asked this, and have not asked for yourself long life or riches, or for the life of your enemies, but have asked for yourself understanding to discern what is right, I now do according to your word. Indeed I give you a wise and discerning mind; no one like you has been before you and no one like you shall arise after you.

**Stand as you are able*



Thank you to this week's ushers:

**Joyce Crawford
Robin Holmes
Nancy Peterson
Jan Rosefield
Karl Schonborn**

COFFEE HOUR SIGN-UPS

**The ushers have the Coffee Hour sign-up sheet.
We are looking for August Volunteers.**



**If you're able to take on this greatly appreciated service for one Sunday,
please sign up today!**

Alta Mesa Center for the Arts



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.

It's Summer!



However, the church is still operating full time.

Please remember your pledge during the summer. We're counting on you!

SERMON

Wisdom

Reverend Leonore Cruise

WE RESPOND

HYMN* RH 451

Be Thou My Vision

Carlton R. Young

A TIME OF PRAYER

Reverend Leonore 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

Reverend Leonore Cruise

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* RH 206 *I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light* Kathleen Thomerson

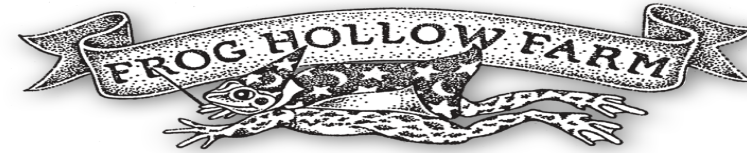
BENEDICTION*

Reverend Leonore Cruise

POSTLUDE

David Milnes

**Stand as you are able*



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.

They also offer eggs, olive oil, cheese, pasture raised meats, spices, sauces, coffee, fruit spreads, honey, and much more!

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

CENTERING PRAYER

As you may know, Elizabeth's family has suffered another difficult loss, and she is attending the funeral of her mother-in-law this weekend.

The Chapel will be unlocked on Monday, July 31st, at 9:30 am for anyone who would like to use the space during the regular time for Centering Prayer.



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

**Keep an eye out for the Zoom link in your
e-blasts if you would like to attend virtually.**

Orinda Community Church

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(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**. (*note, 7/31/23 the Chapel will be opened for solitary reflection.)
- ✚ 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, August 3, 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, August 8.
- ✚ Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45 p.m., the **Reading Group** meets via Zoom. Our next meeting is Thursday, August 10, 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>