

Orinda Community Church
Order of Worship
Sunday, January 14, 2024, 10:00 a.m.



Reflection:

. . . But one thing is certain
If we merge mercy with might,
and might with right,
then love becomes our legacy
and change our children's birthright
So let us leave behind a country (community/church)
better than the one we were left with
Every breath from my bronze-pounded chest,
we will raise this wounded world into a wondrous one
We will rise from the gold-limbed hills of the west...
We will rebuild, reconcile and recover
and every known nook of our nation and
every corner called our country,
our people diverse and beautiful will emerge,
battered and beautiful
When day comes we step out of the shade,
afame and unafraid
The new dawn blooms as we free it
For there is always light,
if only we're brave enough to see it
If only we're brave enough to be it.

— Excerpts from *“The Hill We Climb.”* by Amanda Gorman

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

David Milnes

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes

WELCOME

Reverend Erin King

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP*

Robin Holmes

One: Light of God, illuminate the path that leads us to healing, hope and wholeness.

All: **Re-ignite each one of us with your light, O God.**

One: Fill this sanctuary and the sanctuary of our hearts; and shine with such brightness that we marvel in awe.

All: **This morning O God, we are open to your light becoming our light.**

**Please stand, as you are able*



Elementary aged kids are welcome to join us in the Agape Center each week for some learning and fun!

Kids start in the Sanctuary for Sunday service and then are excused part way through, to go to Sunday School.

For any questions about Sunday School please contact Amy Parlett at saparlett@comcast.net

**We are having lunch after the budget meeting.
Thank you to Vangie for organizing this
(and for making the coffee!)**



However, we are always looking for volunteers to make the coffee and provide a treat each week after Sunday morning service. So, if you're able to take on this greatly appreciated service for one Sunday, please sign up today!

**The ushers have the Coffee Hour sign-up sheet.
January & February Volunteers Needed!**



Thank you to this week's ushers:

Jill Oberheim
Lani Shepp
Marilyn Welland
Betty Wu



ARE NEEDED!

About 4 friendly volunteers are needed to join our usher teams for the 2024 calendar year. Youth are especially encouraged to volunteer. Two additional greeters are also needed to focus on welcoming first-time visitors to our worship services. The commitment for both ushers and greeters is for just one Sunday a month.

If you would like to volunteer or for more information, please contact our Usher Coordinator, Mike Kersten, at mikejkersten@aol.com or by cell 925-254-2209

HYMN* BH 178 *We Have the Strength to Lift and Bear* Thomas H. Troeger

COMMUNITY PRAYER

Robin Holmes

Let us pray: O God who glimmers among us, open our eyes to see your light in our world. Remind us that your light is also within us. Capture our attention. Give us courage to show our light, whether it's the size of a small flashlight or the size of a candle on a table or even the size of a light beam from a lighthouse. And when we forget to do so, help us remember no matter what, Your light is always present. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

ANTHEM

**Please stand, as you are able*

WE LISTEN

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Robin Holmes

Isaiah 60:1-5a

Arise, shine, for your light has come,
and the glory of the LORD rises upon you.
See, darkness covers the earth
and thick darkness is over the peoples,
but the LORD rises upon you
and his glory appears over you.
Nations will come to your light,
and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

Lift up your eyes and look about you:
All assemble and come to you;
your sons come from afar,
and your daughters are carried on the hip.
Then you will look and be radiant,
your heart will throb and swell with joy.

Matthew 5:14-16

Here's another way to put it: You're here to be light, bringing out the God-colors in the world. God is not a secret to be kept. We're going public with this, as public as a city on a hill. If I make you light-bearers, you don't think I'm going to hide you under a bucket, do you? I'm putting you on a light stand. Now that I've put you there on a hilltop, on a light stand—shine! Keep open house; be generous with your lives. By opening up to others, you'll prompt people to open up with God, this generous Father in heaven.



- Today, January 14 after services, there will be a brief budget meeting, lunch will follow, and then a concert from Lukas Vesely starting at 1 pm in the Sanctuary.
- The Church Office will be closed Monday, January 15th in honor of Martin Luther King, Jr.
- Centering Prayer is also canceled Monday, January 15th.
- On Tuesday, January 16, 6:30 – 7:30 pm, there will be an information session to learn about how congregations can impact racial wealth disparities. Check your eblasts for more information and the link to register. This is in connection with Reverend Barry Cammer and Arlington Church.
- OCC's Annual Meeting will be after 10 am services on Sunday, January 21st.
- Our planned conversation about the crisis in Gaza has been postponed to Sunday, January 28, after the 10 am Service. We will have a facilitated discussion, utilizing Quaker Dialogue.



Winter Nights will be at OCC February 12 -26, 2024

Sign-ups for helping begins today
January 7, before and after Sunday service.

We need volunteers to:

1. Come at 5:00 AM to put out coffee and cold breakfast for the guests (everyone leaves by 7:00 AM) — Monday thru Friday.
2. Prepare and serve dinner for guests and volunteers at 6:00 PM every night.
3. Prepare and serve hot breakfast 8:00 AM — Saturday and Sunday.
4. Play with children from 5:00 to 8:00 PM— and have dinner with them! — Monday thru Friday.
5. Help work with school age students on their homework 5:00 to 8:00 PM — Monday-Thursday — dinner included.
6. Spend the night as a backup for Winter Nights staff and help with cold breakfast — 8:00 PM to 7:00 AM — every night.

SIGN UP TODAY!

SERMON

Light Bearers for God

Reverend Erin King

WE RESPOND

HYMN*

This Little Light of Mine (below) African American Spiritual

This little light of mine

singing-bell.com

This lit-tle light of mine— I'm gon-na let it shine—
 5 This lit-tlelight of mine— I'm gon na let it shine— This lit-tle light of mine—
 11 I'm gonna let it shine— Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine—

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
 Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
 Hide it under a bushel, no! I'm gonna let it shine
 Don't let another blow it out, I'm gonna let it shine
 Let it shine around the world, we're gonna let it shine**

**Please stand, as you are able*

A TIME OF PRAYER

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

OFFERTORY SOLO

An invitation from Joyanne Elkinton-Walker:
You are cordially invited to my book-signing on

January 18, 2024

at 2:00 pm

at Orinda Books

276 Village Square, Orinda,

to share the publication of my new book,

Jeanne LeBreton



Congratulations Joy!

**Please stand, as you are able*



January Reading: Making Space 2024



Dawn Angelicca Barcelona



Celeste Chan



Jennifer Hasegawa



Grace Loh Prasad

Sunday, January 28th - 4pm PT on Zoom

Facilitated by Candy Shue and Maw Shein Win



Hosted and sponsored by
Orinda Community Church,
in collaboration with:



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 164

Arise, Your Light is Come

Ruth Duck

BENEDICTION*

Reverend Erin King

POSTLUDE

David Milnes

**Please stand, as you are able*

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.
** Please note, Centering Prayer is canceled on 1/15/24.*
 - ✚ 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. No need to sign up. Please stop by if you are interested.
 - ✚ Thursday afternoons at 2:00 p.m., our Theology and Scripture group meets via Zoom to discuss theology, the bible, and other topics. The next meeting is Thursday, January 18.
- 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, January 23.
 - ✚ Two Thursdays a month, starting at 3:45 p.m., the Reading Group meets via Zoom. The room opens 15 minutes early for welcome and chatting. Our next meeting is Thursday, January 25.

Today, January 14, 2024

- Immediately following this morning's service, we will hold a brief budget meeting, which will last about 30 minutes (or less!)
- Following that, lunch in the Narthex, And then . . .

Lukas Vesely Presents

Songs of Gratitude

Lukas Vesely - piano & bass

Jonathan Bautista - sax

Sunday

January 14, 2024

1 pm

Orinda Community Church

Sanctuary