

Orinda Community Church  
Order of Worship  
Sunday, March 31, 2024, 10:00 a.m.  
Easter Sunday



*The Myrrhbearers, from the Syriac Gospels*

## Reflection:

And I looked for the departing of life with all my might and expected to have seen the body completely dead. But I saw him not so. And just in that same time that it seemed to me, by all appearances, that his life might no longer last, and the showing of the end must needs be near—suddenly, as I beheld the same cross, his face changed into a joyful expression. The changing of his blissful expression changed mine, and I was as glad and merry as it was possible to be. Then our Lord brought this merrily to mind: “Where is now any point of thy pain or of thy grief?”

—Julian of Norwich

## WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Nik Nackley

BRINGING OF THE LIGHT & RINGING OF THE HOUR

The Acolytes



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, or if you'd like to volunteer, please contact Amy Parlett at [saparlett@comcast.net](mailto:saparlett@comcast.net)



Please keep bringing your clothing items to the church for the Trinity Center.

They are always especially in need of men's pants and shoes, but will accept all clean clothes with some life left in them. Women's clothes are needed as well.

Contact Nancy Thursby if you have any questions:  
[nlthursby@comcast.net](mailto:nlthursby@comcast.net)

# Peace Vigil



**Each Thursday at 10 am, any and all are welcome to join the Peace Vigil in the church library where we make birds to recognize and cherish the beloved lives of children lost in war, especially those now dying of starvation in Palestine.**

## **2<sup>nd</sup> Hour SAVE THE DATE!**

Next Sunday, April 7<sup>th</sup>, after 10 am services, please plan on staying for Karen Sanford, who will be sharing her Spiritual Journey.

WELCOME

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP\*

Nancy Peterson

One: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels!  
O Universe, dance!

**All: Jesus Christ, our Holy One, is risen!  
Sound the song of life!**

One: Rejoice, O earth, in glory,  
revealing the splendor of your creation,  
radiant in brightness!

**All: Christ has conquered death!  
Now his life and glory fill us!  
Darkness vanishes forever!**

HYMN\* BH 233

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

Charles Wesley

*\*Please stand, as you are able*

## COMMUNITY PRAYER

Nancy Peterson

**As we gaze upon the splendor of this flame  
fed by melting wax conceived by mother bee,  
grant that this Easter candle may make our darkness light.  
For Christ the morning star has risen in glory;  
Jesus is risen from the dead  
and his flame of love still burns within us!  
The Holy One sheds this peaceful light on all the world!  
Amen.**

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

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

## SCRIPTURE READINGS

Nancy Peterson

*Luke 22:47-51*

While he was still speaking, there came a crowd, and the man called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He drew near to Jesus to kiss him, but Jesus said to him, "Judas, would you betray the Son of Man with a kiss?" And when those who were around him saw what would follow, they said, "Lord, shall we strike with the sword?" And one of them struck the servant of the high priest and cut off his right ear. But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him.

## BLACK WEALTH BUILDERS FUND



If you are interested in contributing to this innovative program, please write "Black Wealth Builders Fund" in the memo portion of your check, and submit to an usher or to the OCC office.

Together, we can make steps to repair the decades of discrimination that has damaged black communities.

Our Easter offering will go to the Black Wealth Builders Fund.

For more information about this program, go to  
<https://www.arlingtoncommunitychurchucc.org/bwb>



**The church office will be closed on Easter Monday.**



Thank you to this week's ushers:

Joyce Crawford, Mike Kersten,  
Lin Lyons, Gwyn McNeilus,  
Karen Sanford and Karl Schonborn

---

## FELLOWSHIP HOUR



Volunteers are needed each week to make the coffee for the Fellowship Hour and to bring a treat to share.

The Ushers have the sign-up sheet.  
Please sign up for a Sunday!

Today's coffee and treats were brought to you by

**Jill Oberheim**

SCRIPTURE READINGS (continued)

Nancy Peterson

*Mark 15:21*

And they compelled a passer-by coming from the country, Simon of Cyrene (the father of Alexander and Rufus), to carry His cross.

*Luke 23:39-43*

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

*Matthew 27: 50-54*

And Jesus cried out again with a loud voice and yielded up his spirit. And behold, the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. And the earth shook, and the rocks were split. The tombs also were opened. And many bodies of the saints who had fallen asleep were raised, and coming out of the tombs after his resurrection they went into the holy city and appeared to many. When the centurion and those who were with him, keeping watch over Jesus, saw the earthquake and what took place, they were filled with awe and said, "Truly this was the Son of God!"

SERMON

*Easter at All Times*

Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

## WE RESPOND

HYMN\* BH 238

Now the Green Blade Rises

John M.C. Crum

## 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

*\*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**.
- ❖ 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, April 4.

**And these, every 2 weeks:**

- ❖ Two Tuesdays a month, the **Writers' Group** shares and discusses their writings via Zoom at 10:00 a.m. The next meeting is Tuesday, April 2.
- ❖ 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, April 4.

PLEASE JOIN US AFTER SERVICES  
TODAY FOR REFRESHMENTS  
AND AN EASTER EGG HUNT!



OFFERTORY ANTHEM

HYMN\* 241      *Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day*      Anonymous

BENEDICTION\*      Reverend Elizabeth Robinson

POSTLUDE      Nik Nackley

**HAPPY EASTER!**

*\*Please stand, as you are able*



## *Easter Flower Sponsors*



### *Given in Memory of:*

**Dekkers H. Davidson**  
**Myron Matteson**  
**Katherine Matteson**  
by Anne Barr and Fred Matteson

**Doug and Beverley Finlayson**  
by Leslie Dickson

**Robert Elkinton**  
**Jim and Andree Hull**  
by Joyanne Elkinton-Walker

**Jim Frane**  
**Marge Hennigar**  
by Tré Frane

**Deb Stephenson**  
by Brent and Laurie Goetzl

**Anna and Franz Johnson**  
**Eleanor and Charles Kersten**  
by Michael and Elizabeth Kersten

**Dr. Marion and Albert Andersen**  
by In Suk Kim-Andersen

**Jim and Jane Mead**  
**Reg and Christine Robinson**  
by Gail and Chris Mead

**Eunice and Richard Poethig**  
**Catherine and James Rue**  
by Kathryn Poethig and Victoria Rue

**Jamie Samuelsen**  
by Jeane and Roger Samuelsen

**The Reverend Irvin G. Thursby and Mrs. Louise H. Thursby**  
**Mr. Samuel C. Lapidge, Jr. and Mrs. Margaret S. Lapidge**  
**The Reverend John A. Thursby**  
by Nancy Thursby

**John R. Welland**  
**Mary and John S. Welland**  
by Marilyn Welland

### *Given in Honor of:*

**Louise Davidson**  
by Anne Barr and Fred Matteson

**The Joyce Crawford Family**  
by Joyce Crawford

**Shea Ann Kling** graduating Suma Cum Laude, Arizona State  
by Kathi Kling