

epiphany 2

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church
Orinda, California
January 16, 2022

Welcome to Worship with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church. Amid these days of COVID-19, we welcome some of you in-person and others online (via Facebook @HSLCOrinda and our webpage www.holyshepherd.org.) In whatever way you join us, may you know God's grace as we worship.

Please Note that indoor masking requirements have been reinstated in Contra Costa County and thus all in-person worshipers are required to wear face coverings while in our Sanctuary. More importantly, wearing face coverings is one way we can actively love our neighbors as ourselves!

▲ indicates that you are invited to stand as you are able

GATHERING MUSIC

"SONG OF RECONCILIATION"
Lyrics and Music by Susan Ashton

WORDS OF WELCOME

▲ GATHERING SONG

"HERE I AM TO WORSHIP"
Lyrics and Music by Tim Hughes

**Light of the world you stepped down into darkness,
Opened my eyes let me see
Beauty that made this heart adore You,
Hope of a life spent with You.**

Chorus

**So here I am to worship; here I am to bow down;
Here I am to say that You're my God.
You're altogether lovely, altogether worthy
Altogether wonderful to me.**

**King of all days, oh, so highly exalted,
Glorious in heaven above,
Humbly You came to the Earth You created,
All for love's sake became poor.**

(Chorus twice)

Bridge: **And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost**

**To see my sin upon that cross.
And I'll never know how much it cost
To see my sin upon that cross.....**
(Chorus twice)

▲ OUR OPENING SENTENCES

L: On the first day of creation, God said, "Let there be light." In the person of Jesus Christ, God said, "I am the Light of the world." By the power of the Spirit, God has ignited the light of life in us.

P: **But we have focused on the darkness that surrounds and overwhelms us, that frightens and numbs us.**

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: **But we have used artificial lights to try and eliminate the darkness in our lives.**

L: Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

P: **But we have tried to deny the power of the darkness by pretending that it isn't there.**

L: Forgive us, O God, for these our actions of failure and our failures to act.

P: **Forgive us, Lord God, for putting our trust in ourselves rather than You.**

L: Hear the good news! God has come as a light in the darkness. In the light of Christ we find forgiveness for our past, strength for our present and hope for our future. In Him we are enabled to begin life anew. So let us pray ...

P: **Zealous God, your son, Jesus, expressed anger at abuses and injustice. Stir our hearts to concern – and not apathy – for injustice in our world, and teach us to make right all that may be wrong, for we ask this in the name of the One who came to make all things right, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

THE LESSON

John 2:13-25

The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" But he was speaking of the temple of his body. After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

When he was in Jerusalem during the Passover festival, many believed in his name because they saw the signs that he was doing. But Jesus on his part would not entrust himself to them, because he knew all people and needed no one to testify about anyone; for he himself knew what was in everyone.

KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

A SONG FOR THE SEASON

"HIS MERCY IS MORE"

Lyrics and Music by Matt Boswell and Matt Papa

Chorus ***Praise the Lord! His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness, New every morn
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more***

***What love could remember no wrongs we have done,
And grace and in love, He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea without bottom or shore,
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more***

Chorus

***What patience would wait as we constantly roam,
What Father, so tender, is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest, the vilest, the poor,
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more!***

Chorus

***What riches of kindness He lavished on us,
His blood was the payment, His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt we could never afford,
Our sins, they are many, His mercy is more***

Chorus

SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

▲ WORDS TO LIVE BY

based on John 1 and John 8

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him is life, and that life is the light of all people. And that light shined in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

But that godly Word is not just a word of history from our distant past. Rather, in the person of Jesus Christ, that Word became flesh and lived among us — and lived, and died, and rose again. And it is that same Jesus Christ who speaks to us the promise: 'I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness but will have the light of life.'

THE OFFERTORY

"SHED A LITTLE LIGHT"

Lyrics and Music by James Taylor

THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

(Utilizing the prayer refrain "God, in your mercy Hear our prayer" and concluding with the Lord's Prayer)

Our Father, 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; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BENEDICTION

L: May the humility of the shepherds, the perseverance of the wise men, the joy of the angels, and the peace of the Christ-child be God's gift to you this Epiphany time and always.

P: Amen!

▲ OUR SENDING SONG

"TAKE TO THE WORLD"

Lyrics and Music by Derek Webb

***Go in peace to love and to serve,
And let your ears ring long with what you've heard
And may the bread on your tongue leave a trail of crumbs,
To lead the hungry back to the place that you are from***

***And take to the world, this love, this hope and faith
And take to the world this rare, relentless grace
And like the three in one,
Know you must become what you wanna save
'Cause that's still the way He takes to the world.***

***So go and go far, Take light deep in the dark
Believe what's true, He uses all, even you
And may the bread on your tongue leave a trail of crumbs
To lead the hungry back to the place that you are from.***

***And take to the world, this love, this hope and faith
And take to the world this rare, relentless grace
And like the three in one,
Know you must become what you wanna save
'Cause that's still the way He takes to the world.***

▲ THE CHARGE

Go, in peace, to love God by serving your neighbor!

Thanks be to God!

SENDING MUSIC

"TAKE TO THE WORLD" (Reprise)

Thank you to this week's Worship Team, including:

Tom Henry – Vocalist, Guitarist and Creative Director

Diana Riveness Young – Vocalist

Bethany Valentine – Vocalist

Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson – Vocalist

Pastor John Valentine – Vocalist

Marc Levine – Pianist

Following worship this morning, Holy Communion will be offered in our Sanctuary from 10:30a to 11:15a. We offer this Sacrament in a manner in keeping with the best guidance of our County Health Department. Please plan to join us as you are able.