

# Lent 4

Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church  
Orinda, CA  
March 30, 2025 at 9:30a

**Welcome to Worship** with Holy Shepherd Lutheran Church, whether you worship with us in-person or online (on Facebook Live or archived at [www.holyshepherd.org](http://www.holyshepherd.org).) May you know God's grace as we worship.

**Know that You Are Welcome!** We share in Holy Communion during the context of this morning's service. This is the table of the Lord. Jesus is the host and we are his guests. Jesus welcomes everyone to come and eat and be nourished, fed and forgiven. Come and eat and live!

**Offerings are an Act of Worship!** Offerings are one way we express both our gratitude for God's wondrous love and our commitment to for work of ministry. To support our work electronically, visit [www.holyshepherd.org](http://www.holyshepherd.org) and utilize Givelify, our online giving platform.

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

## GATHERING MUSIC

Julie Hamre

## OUR CALL TO WORSHIP

BLESSED ASSURANCE

as offered by Amanda Mccarthy and Julie Hamre

## OUR WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity (+), one God, who journeys with us these days of Lent, and sustains us with the gift of grace.

P: **Amen.**

L: Let us acknowledge before God and one another, our need for repentance and God's mercy .... Holy God:

P: **We confess to you our faults and our failings. Too often we neglect and do not trust your holy word; too often we take for ourselves instead of giving to others; too often we spoil rather than steward your creation; too often we cause hurt though you call us to heal; too often we choose fear over compassion. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, as we seek to follow in your way of life. Amen.**

L: Hear the good news: God so loved the world that God sent Jesus to be both 'God with us' and God for us', that life may be real in Him. This promise is for you! God embraces you with divine mercy, forgives you in Christ's name, and revives you in the Spirit's power.

P: **Amen.**

## ▲ GATHERING SONG

ALL ARE WELCOME

Lyrics and Music by Marty Haugen / ELW #641 / Vss 1-3

**Let us build a house where love can dwell  
And all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell  
how hearts learn to forgive  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions  
Rock of faith and vault of grace  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place**

**Let us build a house where prophets speak  
And words are strong and true  
Where all God's children dare to seek  
To dream God's reign anew  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
And a symbol of God's grace  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place**

**Let us build a house where love is found  
In water, wine and wheat  
A banquet hall on holy ground  
Where peace and justice meet  
Here the love of God, through Jesus  
Is revealed in time and space  
As we share in Christ the feast that frees us  
All are welcome, all are welcome  
All are welcome in this place**

## ▲ THE GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

P: **And also with you.**

## ▲ THE KYRIE

ELW #157

L: *In peace, in peace, Let us pray to the Lord ...*

P: **Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

L: *For the Reign of God, and for peace throughout the world, for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord ...*

P: **Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

L: *For your people here, who have come to give you praise, for the strength to live your Word. Let us pray to the Lord ...*

P: **Lord, have mercy, Christ have mercy, Lord, have mercy.**

L: *Help, save and defend us, O God.*

P: **Amen.**

### ▲ THE HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW #167

(Refrain) **Now the feast and celebration,  
All of creation sings for joy  
To the God of life and love and freedom:  
Praise and glory forevermore!**

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,  
Whose blood has freed and united us  
To be one great people of God.** (Refrain)

**Power and riches, wisdom and might  
All honor and glory to Christ forever.** (Refrain)

**For God has come to dwell with us,  
To make us people of God;  
To make all things new.** (Refrain)

### ▲ PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: The Lord be with you!

P: **And also with you!**

L: Let us pray: Divine Word, you sent Moses to speak law to the people and bring order to chaos. You sent prophets to speak repentance and bring hope to the hopeless. You sent your son, Jesus, to become your living Word. Open our ears to hear your word, and our hearts to reflect the light of your truth to others, for the sake of the Incarnate Word, Jesus Christ.

P: **Amen.**

### THE LESSON

Luke 16:19-31

*Jesus said:* "There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man's table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he lifted up his eyes and saw Abraham

far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, 'Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue, for I am in agony in these flames.' But Abraham said, 'Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things and Lazarus in like manner evil things, but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.' He said, 'Then I beg you, father, to send him to my father's house—for I have five brothers—that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.' Abraham replied, 'They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.' He said, 'No, father Abraham, but if someone from the dead goes to them, they will repent.' He said to him, 'If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.' "

### KIDTALK

Pastor John Valentine

### THE SONG OF THE DAY

JESUS, PRICELESS TREASURE

Lyrics by J. Franck / Music by L. Lindeman / ELW #775

**Jesus, priceless treasure,  
Source of purest pleasure,  
Truest Friend to me;  
Ah! how long I've panted,  
And my heart has fainted,  
Thirsting, Lord, for Thee!  
Thine I am, O spotless Lamb,  
nothing in this world can hide Thee,  
Nought I ask beside Thee.**

**In thine arm I rest me,  
Foes who would molest me  
Cannot reach me here;  
Though the earth be shaking,  
Every heart be quaking,  
Jesus calms my fear;  
Lightnings flash and thunders crash;  
yet, though sin and hell assail me,  
Jesus will not fail me.**

**Hence, all fears and sadness,  
For the Lord of gladness,  
Jesus, enters in;  
God, who dearly loves us,  
from all trial saves us,  
gives sweet peace within.  
I have borne this worldly scorn;  
Still in Thee lies purest pleasure,  
Jesu, priceless treasure!**

## THE SERMON

Pastor John Valentine

### ▲ OUR AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*These words – as recorded in Philippians 2 – invite us to consider both who Jesus is and whom we are called to be.*

**As people of God, we find our hope and salvation in Christ Jesus our Lord, who, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

### THE PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE

*In this season of repentance and healing, we offer our prayers on behalf of God's community in the church and the world, and utilizing the prayer refrain, "Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**"*

### THE OFFERTORY

IN THIS VERY ROOM

Lyrics and Music by Ron and Carol Harris

### ▲ THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

L: *The Lord be with you.*

P: **And also with you.**

L: *Lift up your hearts.*

P: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

P: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

L: *It is our duty and delight ..... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:*

P: **Holy, holy, holy are you, God of pow'r and might:  
Heaven and earth are filled with your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest!  
Blessed is the One who comes in your name  
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.**

P: In the night in which he was betrayed our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: 'Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.' Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and

gave it for all to drink, saying: 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.' And that same Jesus who called us to remember, and who is present with us now, invites us all to pray:

P: **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.**

### HOLY COMMUNION

*As we share Holy Communion, we invite you to come down the center aisle and come to the altar rail to receive the bread and wine that bear the promise that God is with us. After consuming the elements, please deposit your empty cup in the small basket and return to your seat by the side aisle. During the serving of Holy Communion, you are invited to join in singing the songs listed below.*

#### WE COME TO THE HUNGRY FEAST

Lyrics and Music by Ray Makeever / ELW #479

**We come to the hungry feast,  
hungry for a word of peace.  
To hungry hearts unsatisfied  
The love of God is not denied.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

**We come to the hungry feast  
hungry for a world released  
from hungry folk of ev'ry kind,  
the poor in body, poor in mind.  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

**We come to the hungry feast  
hungry that the hunger cease,  
and knowing, though we eat our fill,  
the hunger will stay with us; still  
We come, we come to the hungry feast.**

#### SHEPHERD ME, O GOD

Lyrics and Music by Marty Haugen / ELW #780  
(Choir will sing verses – please join in the refrain)

Refrain:

**Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,  
beyond my fears, from death into life.**

*God is my shepherd, so nothing shall I want,  
I rest in the meadows of faithfulness and love,  
I walk by the quiet waters of peace.*

Refrain:

***Shepherd me, O God, beyond my wants,  
beyond my fears, from death into life.***

*Gently you raise me and heal my weary soul,  
you lead me by pathways of righteousness and truth,  
my spirit shall sing the music of your name.*

[Refrain]

*Though I should wander the valley of death,  
I fear no evil, for you are at my side,  
your rod and your staff, my comfort and my hope.*

[Refrain]

*You have set me a banquet of love  
in the face of hatred,  
crowning me with love beyond my power to hold.*

[Refrain]

*Surely your kindness and mercy  
follow me all the days of my life;  
I will dwell in the house of my God forevermore.*

[Refrain]

## THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## THE BENEDICTION

L: May the God of glory dwell in you richly, name you beloved, and shine brightly on your path; and may the blessing of almighty God, the Father, the (+) Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you always.

P: **Amen!**

▲ **OUR SENDING SONG** OH, FOR A THOUSAND TONGUES  
Lyrics by Charles Wesley / Music by C. Glaser / ELW #886

***Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing  
my great Redeemer's praise,  
the glories of my God and king,  
the triumphs of his grace!***

***My gracious Master and my God,  
assist me to proclaim,  
to spread through all the earth abroad  
the honors of your name.***

***The name of Jesus charms our fears  
and bids our sorrows cease,  
sings music in the sinner's ears,  
brings life and health and peace.***

***He speaks, and list'ning to his voice,  
new life the dead receive;  
the mournful, broken hearts rejoice,  
the humble poor believe.***

***To God all glory, praise, and love  
be now and ever giv'n  
by saints below and saints above,  
the church in earth and heav'n.***

## ▲ THE CHARGE

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

P: **Thanks be to God!**

## SENDING MUSIC

Julie Hamre

Thank you to this morning's Worship Team for sharing their gifts of music with us today, including:

**Bethany Valentine** – Vocalist and Creative Director  
**Gretchen Stenson** – Vocalist  
**Diana Riveness Young** – Vocalist  
**Pastor Pam Schaefer Dawson** – Vocalist  
**Vicar Meagan Kim** – Vocalist  
**Steve Swanback** – Vocalist  
**Pastor John Valentine** – Vocalist  
**Julie Hamre** – Organist and Pianist

A special word of thanks is extended to clarinetist **Amanda Mccarthy** and pianist **Julie Hamre** for their musical collaboration on this morning's Call to Worship. Thank you for sharing your gifts in this way!

We are delighted to welcome **Carys Chung**, **Nathan Cabiles** and **Isaiah Kim** to the Lord's Table this morning. They each recently completed the Holy Communion unit of our faith-milestones program. We thank God for each of you and for what God is doing in your lives!

Interested in reading ahead as we journey through Luke's Gospel? Next week's text is Luke 18:31—19:10

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