

OUR SAVIOR'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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POETRY AS PRAYER, PRAISE, AND PRESENCE **Pentecost 1 (June 05 - July 10)**

WHO WE ARE

We are a community grounded in the life and teachings of Jesus.

- We embrace an open approach to every spiritual journey.
- We ask questions together and value every voice.
- We strive for justice through service to the world.

We seek to be transformed by the path we walk together.

WE ARE A RECONCILING IN CHRIST CONGREGATION

We are a community embraced by the mystery of God's love for all creation.

We look for the Christ shining in every race, every child and family shape, every sexual orientation and gender identity, every physical and mental ability, every economic status, and every faith perspective. Within this dynamic community, we foster meaningful connections and experiences as we live into faith and face the issues of our time.

Together, we strive to live with loving hearts, open minds, and hands extended to all.

"... for all of you are one in Christ." – Gal. 3:2



We begin the service with two invocations. The definition of invocation is "the summoning of a deity or the supernatural." The Christian definition continues, "Typically, it invites and welcomes God's presence at an event or ceremony."

Some invocations are musical; we are using the sound of bells, a historic means of calling people to worship. Some invocations are spoken, as our first poem of the day by the twelfth-century mystic, Hildegard of Bingen. Her prayer-poem invokes the presence of the Holy Spirit, a representation of God that we celebrate during the season of Pentecost.

MUSICAL INVOCATION

WELCOME

Martin Morley, Director of Worship and Music

Please rise as you are able

POETIC INVOCATION

congregational parts in bold

Hildegard of Bingen

Holy Spirit, Comforting fire, Life of all creation,
**Anointing the sick, cleansing body and soul,
Fill this body!**

Holy Spirit, Sacred breath, Fire of love,
**Sweetest taste, Beautiful aroma,
Fill this heart!**

Holy Spirit, Filling the world, from the heights to the deep,
**Raining from clouds, filling rivers and sea,
Fill this mind!**

Holy Spirit, Forgiving and giving, uniting strangers, reconciling enemies,
**Seeking the lost, and enfolding us together,
Fill those gathered here!**

Holy Spirit, Bringing light into dark places, igniting praise,
Greatest gift, our Hope and Encourager,
Holy Spirit of Christ, I praise you! Amen.

Please be seated

L POETRY FROM A HYMN

congregational parts in bold

Shirley Erena Murray

The Spirit calls us, one and all
To share the gifts of life and light,
To know God's grace within this place,
To hear the Gospel's words aright:
**Gather to pray, to listen well,
Gather to give all we can give,
Gather to learn and to discern
The secrets of God's way to live!**

The Spirit sings, the Spirit brings
New zest, new vision, new design
For worlds at peace, for webs of care,
For work and worship to combine:
**Gather to pray, to listen well,
Gather to give all we can give,
Gather to learn and to discern
The secrets of God's way to live!**

The Spirit calls to us who fall
On stony tracks, on paths of pain,
Will hold us strong when life goes wrong,
Will set us free from sorrow's chain:

**Gather to pray, to listen well,
Gather to give all we can give,
Gather to learn and to discern
The secrets of God's way to live!**

The Spirit blazes through the waste
Of war and want, of tears and grief,
Inspires and fires us not to fail
In new commitment, new belief:

**Gather to pray, to listen well,
Gather to give all we can give,
Gather to learn and to discern
The secrets of God's way to live!**

POEM OF THE DAY

see bulletin insert

Pastor Dan Senter

TIME FOR REFLECTION

L SCRIPTURE FOR THE DAY

see bulletin insert

POETRY FROM A HYMN

see bulletin insert

PRAYERS

PEACE

SPECIAL MUSIC

COMMUNION/LABYRINTH WALK

L POETRY ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION

Shirley Erena Murray

In the singing, in the silence,
In the hands expectant, open,
In the blessing, in the breaking,
In the Presence at this table –

Jesus Christ,
**Jesus Christ,
Be the wine of grace;**
Jesus Christ,
**Jesus Christ,
Be the bread of peace.**

In the question, in the answer,
In the moment of acceptance,
In the heart's cry, in the healing,
In the circle of your people –

Jesus Christ,
Jesus Christ,
Be the wine of grace;
Jesus Christ,
Jesus Christ,
Be the bread of peace.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

As part of our congregation's welcome to all, our communion elements are gluten-free and alcohol-free.

GATHERING IN COURTYARD/ANNOUNCEMENTS



Notes on writers of the poems printed in this bulletin:

Hildegard of Bingen [1098-1179] was a German Benedictine abbess who wrote music, poetry, and hymns long before such activities were considered appropriate for women. A mystic visionary, she wrote groundbreaking works on historical and medical topics, as well. Lutherans commemorate her on September 17.

Shirley Erena Murray [1931-2020] was a New Zealand poet who channeled her talent into writing lyrics for hymns. Her work was praised for its inclusive language and "the directness with which they (lyrics) confront contemporary issues." Martin Morley served with Shirley on the faculty of the Music and Worship Weeks in Montreat, North Carolina, in summer 1996, as clinicians for handbells and hymn writing. Shirley may or may not have learned anything about handbells, but Martin learned a LOT about hymn writing!

**PLEASE RETURN THIS BOOKLET AFTER THE SERVICE SO IT MAY BE USED AGAIN
FEEL FREE TO TAKE HOME YOUR WORSHIP INSERT**

Announcements

Prayer Requests

For Maddie House and her family, giving thanks for a benign test result and praying for full healing after upcoming surgery.

For the Anderson/Barnes family as they mourn the loss of Dick Anderson. Dick died in his sleep following a cardiac arrest at home on Monday, May 30. We will all miss him dearly.

For Megan Rohrer and their family. Rev. Dr. Rohrer resigned last week as Bishop of our Sierra Pacific Synod. Prayers also asked for synod leadership as they regroup.

Annual Meeting Today

You are invited to stay following our abbreviated service to participate/vote in the Annual Meeting of the Congregation. Important agenda items: 1. Review and vote on the 2022-23 fiscal year budget; 2. Review the Capital Expenditures report; 3. Vote on updates to the OSLC Constitution; 4. Vote on nominees for new church leadership.

How do algorithms shape us?

Friday, June 17 at 7pm

OSLC highschoolers are invited to have an online conversation with other youth about how the algorithms in social media platforms shape how we see ourselves, one another, and our world. What have you noticed? What can we do? This conversation will be facilitated by a Data Science Graduate Student. Please email youth@oslc.net for the Zoom link!

A Million Lives Memorial

Through June 30th, you are invited to pause and reflect on the overwhelming number of lives lost to this pandemic and/or to honor someone you may have lost over the past years. Following our "live" event, a self-guided experience is now available through June 30th. Bring a phone and ear buds / headphones, access the 10 minute guided meditation and handout using the QR codes on the Labyrinth sign and take your own reflective walk through the labyrinth.

In case you missed it, please check out the [Million Lives Memorial reflection](#) (see the link in the This Week newsletter) held in the labyrinth on May 26.

A Creekside Commons Event: Summer Solstice

Tuesday, June 21 at 5:30 - 8:00 pm

Celebrate the longest day of the year! Together we pause to honor the warmth of the sun. A solar flaring forth that initiates the food chain, moderates our temperature, and brings light to us all. Join us on the courtyard as we pause with gratitude for our intimate connection to the life-giving star that births each new day. Donations and drink vouchers at the door or [online](#).

Highlights Include:

- Classic taco food truck onsite with outdoor seating
- Music of the sun with Dougie Free
- Flower petal mandala & sunlight labyrinth walk
- Moments of poetic insight
- Craft project, summertime balloon hats, and tattoos for kids
- Delicato Family margaritas
- Local farm, orchard and fishery tables (CSA this summer?)
- Yoga “Sun Salutation” workshop
- And... a moment to celebrate the sun

For Your Grocery List: The June Food Bank Drive is ON!

Please remember the Food Bank of Contra Costa & Solano as you shop.

Throughout June, we will be filling food barrels with our donations. Children are now out of school and kid-friendly food is welcome (as are infant and toddler items).

Some ideas for children:

- Trail mix, dried fruit, granola bars, Cheerios, Rice Krispies
- Baby cereal, fruits, vegetables (single ingredients preferred)
- Baby meats (no meat sticks)
- Whole milk (shelf-stable for 1-year-olds)
- Lowfat or skim milk (shelf-stable for 2-year-olds and up)

Also needed for adults:

- Canned vegetables (low sodium); canned meats and fish
- Meals in a can, such as beef stew, canned soup (reduced sodium)
- Peanut butter

No opened or expired items or glass containers, please. Thank you for your donations!

Mission Outreach Team

Worship Insert

Our current Covid-19 guidelines make masking optional, but still highly recommended. Please distance your seating 6-10 feet from other individuals/family pods.

Leading Worship Today

Pastor: Dan Senter

Dir. of Worship & Music: Martin Morley

Liturgist: Laura Burbidge

Scripture: Luke 16:19-26

Poem for Reflection

Guide Me into an Unclenched Moment

by Ted Loder

Gentle me,
Holy One,
into an unclenched moment,
a deep breath,
 a letting go
 of heavy expectancies,
 of shriveling anxieties,
 of dead certainties,
that, softened by the silence,
surrounded by the light,
 and open to the mystery,
I may be found by wholeness,
upheld by the unfathomable,
 entranced by the simple,
 and filled with the joy
 that is you.

(Second) Poetry from a Hymn (bulletin p. 3)

God, You Wrap Your Love Around Us

by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

God, you wrap your love around us,
Like a blanket, soft and warm,

**You give rest when we are weary,
You protect us from the storm.**

May each person who finds shelter
In these blankets that we share

**Also feel the joy and comfort
Of your love's protecting care.**

Jesus, you were once a baby,
Sought by those who would destroy.

**Into Egypt you were carried –
Far from home, a little boy.**

Were you wrapped up warm to travel,
Safe from terror, free from harm?

**Did you feel God's strong protection,
Snuggled there in Mary's arm?**

May the women, men, and children
Fleeing danger every day

**Know through us, your living presence;
You walk with them on their way.**

Spirit, as you give them comfort,
Teach us here to freely give;

**May we blanket this world over
With your love, so all may live.**