

Old First Presbyterian Church



Full to the Brim: Prodigal Grace

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 27, 2022

**The Reverend Maggi Henderson, Pastor
The Presbyterian Church (USA)**

Worship Through Praising God

*Please fill out a guest card found in the pew rack and
place it in the offering basket in the narthex when you exit the church building.*

Silence is requested as we prepare our hearts for worship.

** At the asterisk, please rise in body or spirit.*

Prelude	Élévation	Théodore Dubois (1837-1924)
	Communion	Louis-James Alfred Lefébure-Wély (1817-1869)
Welcome and Church Life		
Introit		William Moore's Columbia Harmony, 1825
	All who hunger, gather gladly; holy manna is our bread. Come from wilderness and wandering, Here, in truth, we will be fed. You that yearn for days of fullness, all around us is our food. Taste and see the grace eternal. Taste and see that God is good.	
*Call to Worship		Sylvia G. Dunstan (1955-1993)
Leader	God's reach is endless.	Stephen Taber
People	God's mercy is unstoppable.	
Leader	God's grace is lavish.	
People	God's love is constant.	
Leader	God's wisdom is vast.	
People	God's hope is stubborn.	
Leader	God's presence is here—	
People	With us, among us, moving through us.	
Leader	Breathe easy. Breathe deep. We are in God's house.	
People	Let us worship the One who welcomes us home.	
*Hymn 451	Open My Eyes, That I might See	
1	Open my eyes, that I might see glimpses of truth thou hast for me. Place in my hands the wonderful key that shall unclasp and set me free. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God, they will to see. Open my eyes; illumine me, Spirit divine.	
2	Open my ears, that I may hear voices of truth thou sendest clear. And while the wave notes fall on my ear, everything false will disappear. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God thy will to see. Open my ears; illumine me, Spirit divine!	
3	Open my mouth, and let me bear gladly the warm truth everywhere. Open my heart, and let me prepare love with thy children thus to share. Silently now I wait for thee, ready, my God thy will to see. Open my heart; illumine me, Spirit divine!	

Prayer of
Confession

Stephen Taber

The prodigal son isn't given a name,
but we know his name.

It sounds like ours.
And we know his story.

It sounds like ours.
For who among us hasn't burned a bridge?

Who among us hasn't forgotten that we belong to one another?
Who among us has not ached for home?

The prodigal son isn't given a name,
but we know his name.

Let us confess silently the way we have ignored God or run away
from God's presence, from God's ways.

Silence is kept.

Forgive us God. We want to come home. Amen.

Assurance of
Forgiveness

Leader Family of faith, the word "prodigal" can be defined
as wasteful or imprudent, hence the name, "Prodigal Son."
However, "prodigal" can also be described
as extravagant and excessive.

People **We worship a prodigal God—
a God who is extravagant in mercy and excessive in grace.
For no matter how many times we run,
no matter how far we go or how lost we get...**

Leader God is standing at the end of the driveway, down at the entrance,
waiting for us.

The doors are open.

People **The feast is for us all. This grace is extravagant. Thanks be to God!**

Offertory *Ushers will receive the offering at this time.*

Śānti-Pāṭha (Peace Reading)

Myron Silberstein (born 1974)

Chelsea Hollow, soprano, Jarron Carlson, piano

Premiered by Chelsea Hollow, Old First Concerts, December 12, 2020

Om, may there be peace of sky and peace of space;

Peace of earth, peace of water, peace of plants, trees, vines;

Peace in the heavens, peace of Brahma;

May everything be at peace, even peace itself.

Come, may peace return even to me.

Om, peace, peace, peace.

Translated from the Sanskrit by Chelsea Hollow:

Used by permission.

The Peace *Please remain seated for the Peace.*

Leader Peace be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

**Time with Our
Children**

Anthem

Marc-Antoine Charpentier (1643-1704)

O sacrum convivium, in quo Christus sumitur; recolitur memoria passionis ejus; mens impletur gratia; et futurae gloriae nobis pignus datur. Alleluia.	<i>O holy feast, in which Christ is received; the memory of his passion is made fresh. the mind is filled with grace; and a pledge of future glory is given us. Alleluia.</i>
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Scripture

Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32

Leader

For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God within us,
For the Word of God among us,

People

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Henderson

**Affirmation
of Faith**

**We believe in a God who waits in the driveway, down at the entrance,
for us.
We believe in a God who leaves the porch light on, the hallway light on,
and throws a feast when we are found.
We believe in a God who doesn't stop looking for us
when we get lost.
We believe in a God of prodigal grace—
excessive, extravagant, over-the-top grace.
In response to this grace,
we hold tighter to each other.
We remember that humans are not meant to go through life alone;
so we look for ways to welcome each other in,
to live like we are family, and to lead with grace—
excessive, extravagant, over-the-top grace.
We believe that this is our call.
Let it be so.**

Worship Through Holy Communion

Leader

The Lord be with you.

People

And also with you.

Leader

Lift up your hearts.

People

We lift them to the Lord.

Leader

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The leader continues the Great Thanksgiving.

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors.
 And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever.
 Amen.

The Lord's Supper *All are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.*
 Simply follow the directions of the pastor.

Music During Communion Come to the Table of Grace
 Feel free to join the soloist as and if the Spirit moves you. If desired, you may find the text and tune at Hymn 507.

<p>Worship Through Responding to God's Word</p>
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***Hymn 771 What Is the World Like**

- 1 **What is the world like when God's will is done?
 Mustard seeds grow more than we can conceive:
 roots thread the soil; branches reach or the sun.
 This is how God moves us each to believe.**
- 2 **What is the world like when God's will is done?
 Witness the wandering child coming home;
 watch as the parent breaks into a run.
 This is how God longs for us when we roam.**
- 3 **What is the world like when God's will is done?
 No more is neighbor just ally or friend;
 peace thrives in places where once there was none.
 This is how God works when rivalries end.**
- 4 **What is the world like when God's will is done?
 Ready for feasting, we watch through the night,
 tending our lamps till the new day's begun.
 This is how God readies us for the light.**
- 5 **These are the stories what Jesus imparts,
 filled with the Spirit who joins us as one.
 Born through our voices, our hands, and our hearts,
 this is a new world where God's will is done.**

***Charge and
 Benediction**

Pastor Henderson

Postlude

You may also place your offering in the basket as you leave the church or may make it using the electronic kiosk in the narthex or Old First's on-line giving page found on the right-side of our homepage: www.oldfirst.org.

Are you visiting today? Please fill in the contact tracing binder, if you have not already done so.

Image on the Cover

The image on the cover “The Lost Son” is by Abbie Miller age 9. The picture is found on the National Association of Religious Educators website <https://www.natre.org.uk>

Book Study for Lent, Today

Our book study for Lent continues today. We meet in the Fellowship Hall thirty minutes after the end of worship. For next Sunday, April 3, please read Chapter 8.

Installation of New Deacons and Elders, April 3

Next Sunday, April 3, we will install new members of the Board of Deacons and the Session to serve God’s mission at and through Old First Presbyterian Church.

Please pray for deacons Cindy Burt, Mary Russell, and Sarah Taber and for elders George Becker, Michael Berg, Eva DeLair, and Jeanne Kirkwood.

Partnership for Immigrant Families: Donation Drive

Thank you for all who have given so extravagantly to the drive for the important programs of Catholic Charities that support immigrants in need. Your acts make welcome those who are lost by the active love we have learned from our prodigally welcoming Parent.

Podcast Study Group: Kamal Hassan



Please join the Presbytery of San Francisco to explore and discuss critical issues of life and faith as we attempt to continue our Matthew 25 work in the presbytery. The series tells us about a wealthy town in Texas where issues of structural racism, diversity, local politics, and educational reform converged to foreshadow the national struggles that are being fought today, and how these are present in our context and affect our hopes for faith-based liberation.

Who: **The Reverend Kamal Hassan**, PC(USA) Minister of Word and Sacrament of Sojourner Truth Presbyterian Church, Richmond, CA

When: **Eight consecutive Wednesdays starting April 6**, 5:00–6:30 pm Pacific Time

How: Register in Advance on Zoom: <https://tinyurl.com/2p983dpy> After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the study.

“Full to the Brim” from A Sanctified Art

Devotional, Bulletin, Website

This Lent we are following “Full to the Brim,” a devotional for Lent by the authors and artists of A Sanctified Art, LLC. Watch for the installments of the devotional in each Sunday’s E-mail from Pastor Maggi and for words and artwork in our bulletins and on our website.

Liturgy

The call to worship, confession, assurance, prayer of illumination and affirmation of faith are adapted from prayers by the Reverend Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Old First Presbyterian Church

Sharing God's Love, Welcome, and Justice
On Our Corner, in Our City, and in the World

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Church Staff

The Reverend Maggi Henderson	Pastor
The Reverend Erwin C. Barron	Parish Associate
The Reverend Lisa Robeck	Parish Associate
Larry Marietta	Music Director
Brad Peterson	Church Office Administrator