

# Old First Presbyterian Church



**Sunday, October 30, 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** Chorale Preludes on EIN FESTE BURG

Johann Gottfried Walther (1684-1748)

Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

**Welcome and  
Church Life**

**Introit**

LLANFAIR by Robert Williams (1782-1818)

Harmonized by David Evans (1874-1948)

Praise the Lord, whose glories show, Alleluia!

Saints within God's courts below, Alleluia!

Angels round God's throne above, Alleluia!

All that see and share God's love, Alleluia! Henry Francis Lyte (1793-1847)

**\*Call to  
Worship**

Mary Russell

Leader

We come here today from our varied lives:

some happy, some tragic, some busy and rushed,

some quiet and lonely, some rich, some poor.

**People**

**We come here today to find unity in God.**

Leader We see so much that is wrong around us in our everyday lives.  
 Things in our world often seem so wrong  
 and do not seem to be in God's plan.

People **We come here today to find the justice and peace and love of God.**

Leader In our world, we often groan under the burdens, pain and fear.

People **We come here today to find a new Creation in Christ.**

All **We come here today to worship the Lord God Almighty,  
 essential and all-powerful force for love and goodness in the universe.**

**\*Hymn 305**

**Come Sing, O Church, in Joy!**

- 1 **Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!  
 For Christ the Lord has led us through the ages long!  
 In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!**
- 2 **Long years have come and gone, and still God reigns supreme,  
 empowering us to catch the vision, dream the dream!  
 In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!**
- 3 **Let courage be our friend; let wisdom be our guide,  
 as we in mission magnify the Crucified!  
 In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!**
- 4 **Come sing, O church, in joy! Come join, O church, in song!  
 For Christ the Lord has triumphed o'er the ages long!  
 In bold accord, come celebrate the journey now and praise the Lord!**

**Prayer of  
 Confession**

Mary Russell

**Can you believe it, God! It's just not right!  
 The world is a mess! San Francisco is a mess!  
 This church is a mess! My family is a mess.  
 And sometimes, even I am a mess!  
 Forgive us, O God, for the mess we have made of things.  
 But, more importantly, forgive us for our constant  
 grumbling and complaining.**

*Silence to contemplate our own individual messes.*

**Too often, O God, we see the wars and divisions in the world,  
 the homeless on the street, the decline in church membership,  
 and our own inability to get things done,  
 and all we do is complain about them.  
 Forgive us, O God, for our lack of vision.  
 Forgive us for our lack of action.  
 Forgive us for our griping, grouching, and grumbling.  
 We know that you promise us a new world of goodness;  
 you bring a new creation!  
 Keep us focused on your promise and your good, new order.  
 Help us have the enthusiasm and energy to be part of its coming.  
 And forgive our groaning. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader

We are always confident of you, O God!  
Despite the messes we make of things, the problems in the world,  
and our constant complaining, you never abandon us.  
You always hear us, and you always forgive us.  
In Christ, there is a new creation!

**People**

**In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Thanks be to God!**

**\*Gloria**

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
Glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Offering**

*Ushers will receive the offering during the anthem.*

**Anthem**

K. Lee Scott (born 1950)

Christ the Way of life possess me,  
lift my heart to love and praise;  
guide and keep, sustain and bless me, all my days.

Well of life, forever flowing,  
make my barren soul and bare  
like a watered garden growing fresh and fair.

May the Tree of life in splendor  
from its leafy boughs impart  
grace divine and healing tender, strength of heart.

Path of life before me shining,  
let me come when earth is past,  
sorrow, self and sin resigning, home at last.

Timothy Dudley Smith (born 1926)

**\*Doxology**

DUKE STREET by John Hatton (1710-1793)

Arranged Hal Hopson (born 1933)

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God, all creatures here below,  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

**\*The Peace**

Leader

Peace be with you.

**People**

**And also with you.**

**\*Hymn 761**

**Called as Partners in Christ's Service**

1 **Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,  
we respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.  
May we learn the art of sharing side by side and friend with friend,  
equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.**

- 2 Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,  
let us follow, never faltering reconciling folk on earth.  
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,  
blending human skills together gracious gifts from God unfold.
- 3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission, in a small or global sense,  
help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.  
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,  
bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.
- 4 So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life  
that surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.  
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,  
messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

<b>Worship Through Hearing God's Word</b>
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<b>Prayers of the People</b>		John Kramar
Prayer Partners	Diane Lewis, Heather Losee, Betsy Lutz, Alfred Martin and Harriet MacLean, Larry Marietta, Maryam, Dianne Middleton and Logan Donaldson, Cheryl Min	
<b>The Lord's Prayer</b>	<b>Our Father, who art in heaven,</b> 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.	
<b>Scripture</b>	Numbers 21:4-9, 2 Corinthians 5:1-10, 17-19	
Leader	For the Word of God in scripture, For the Word of God within us, For the Word of God among us,	
<b>People</b>	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>	
<b>Sermon</b>	Griping, Grouching, Grumbling, and Groaning	The Reverend Erwin Barron

<b>Worship Through Responding to God's Word</b>
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- \*Hymn 767 Together We Serve**
- 1 Together we serve, united by love,  
inviting God's world to the glorious feast.  
We work and we pray through sorrow and joy,  
extending God's love to the last and the least.
  - 2 We seek to become a beacon of hope,  
a lamp for the heart and a light for the feet.  
We learn, year by year, to let love shine through  
until we see Christ in each person we meet.

- 3 We welcome the scarred, the wealthy, the poor,  
the busy, the lonely, and all who need care.  
We offer a home to those who will come,  
our hands quick to help, our hearts ready to dare.
- 3 Together, by grace, we witness and work,  
remembering Jesus, in whom we grow strong.  
Together we serve in Spirit and truth,  
remembering love is the strength of our song.

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

**Choir**

Edward Hopkins (1818-1901)

Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise  
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;  
We stand to bless Thee e'er our worship cease;  
Then, lowly kneeling, wait Thy word of peace.

John Ellerton (1826-1893)

**Postlude** Chorale Fantasia on EIN FESTE BURG

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

*You may 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](http://www.oldfirst.org).*

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

**Old First Presbyterian Church**

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

[www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org) · 415-776-5552 · Find Us on Facebook and YouTube

**Brahms Concert by SF City Chorus, November 5**

The San Francisco City Chorus, under the direction of Larry Marietta, will present a concert at Old First featuring two choral cycles by Johannes Brahms on Saturday, November 5, at 7:30 pm: Zigeunerlieder (Gypsy Songs) and Liebeslieder Waltzes. All members and friends of Old First can have as many complimentary (free!) tickets as desired. Please see Larry today or next Sunday, or E-mail him at [larrymarietta@gmail.com](mailto:larrymarietta@gmail.com) to let him know how many tickets you want.

**Maggi Returns from Sabbatical, November 6**

From July through October, Old First Presbyterian Church and our pastor, Maggi Henderson, have been on sabbatical. Pastor Maggi returns to us this coming Sunday, November 6.

**Remembering the Saints, November 6**

On November 6, the Sunday after All Saints' Day, we will remember the saints who have died since last All Saints' Day in 2021.

Please let Brad in the church office know – by tomorrow, October 31 – if you have names of saints to remember this year. Give him their **names, dates of death, and relationship** to you. You can call Brad – 415-776-5552 – or send Brad an E-mail: [brad@oldfirst.org](mailto:brad@oldfirst.org)

<b>This Week at Old First</b>
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**Sunday October 30**

7:15 pm Friendly Circle AA Meeting, Social Hall

**Friday November 4**

8:00 pm O1C: Conspiracy of Venus - women's vocal ensemble

**Saturday November 5**

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry, Social Hall/Sacramento Sidewalk

7:30 pm SF City Chorus Brahms Concert, Sanctuary

**Sunday November 6**

11:00 am Worship

7:15 pm Friendly Circle AA Meeting, Social Hall

<b>Old First Presbyterian Church Staff</b>
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The Reverend Maggi Henderson	Pastor
The Reverend Erwin C. Barron	Parish Associate
The Reverend Lisa Robecheck	Parish Associate
Larry Marietta	Music Director
Brad Peterson	Office Admin
Kristi Hoerauf	Wedding Coordinator