

Old First Presbyterian Church



Sunday, September 10, 2023

Worship Through Praising God

Please fill out a guest card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate or give it to an usher.

Silence is requested as we prepare our hearts for worship.

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

Prelude From the Water Music Suite George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)
Overture
Air

Welcome and Church Life

Introit Glorious Is Thy Name B.B. McKinney (1886-1952)
God, Creator, we adore Thee, we Thy love and grace proclaim.
Thou art mighty, Thou art holy, glorious is Thy matchless name.
Glorious is Thy name, O God.

***Call to
Worship**

Leader We come to worship today
longing to hear the Voice of God.

People **When we hear it, we may want to run away,
but the Voice will still speak –**

Leader the Voice calling long ago,
the Voice calling today,

People **the Voice compelling Jonah to go,
the Voice compelling us to go,**

Leader the Voice calling Jonah
to share the good news of God's redemptive love

People **with those who would be enemies,**
Leader with the people of Nineveh, beloved of God,
People **with the people of Iraq, beloved of God.**

Leader The Voice called long ago, the Voice calls today.

People **Today may we listen to God's Voice.**

***Hymn 22**

God of the Sparrow

- 1 **God of the sparrow
God of the whale
God of the swirling stars
How does the creature say Awe
How does the creature say Praise**
- 2 **God of the earthquake
God of the storm
God of the trumpet blast
How does the creature say Woe
How does the creature say Save**
- 3 **God of the rainbow
God of the cross
God of the empty grave
How does the creature say Grace
How does the creature say Thanks**
- 4 **God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How does the creature say Care
How does the creature say Life**

5 God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How does the creature say Love
How does the creature say Peace

6 God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

Prayer of
Confession

Sandra Keyes

Holy One, what blessing and privilege we share
here, in this sacred space, and among this loving community.
Yet, like Jonah, we are sometimes jealous
of what we share here.
We know that others are longing and thirsting
for what we know and experience.
Forgive us our reluctance to open our doors,
To open our hearts to others – some like us, some not.
We repent of our hesitations and unwillingness
to witness to those we have considered
strangers and even enemies
for fear they just might become friends.

Silent Confession

Help us to listen, to follow, and to love.
Amen.

*Assurance of
Forgiveness

Leader

The one who calls us to this place
calls us to reconciliation through grace.
God will not deny a repentant heart or an open spirit.

All

May we know God's forgiveness,
and walk in the new way
that is made known to us in God's love

*Hymn 184

Calm to the Waves

We sing the text twice.

**Calm to the waves. Calm to the wind.
Jesus whispers, "Peace, be still."
Balm to our hearts. Fears at an end.
In stillness, hear his voice.**

Offering *Ushers will now receive the offering. You may also make your offering electronically using the kiosk in the narthex.*

Anthem Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Norman Gilbert (1912-1975)

Praise ye the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near;
 join me in glad adoration!

Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things o wondrously reigneth,
shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Has thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
 granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
 gladly for aye we adore him.

Joachim Neander (1650-1680)

Translated by Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt.

***Hymn 609**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Time with
Our Children**

***The Peace**

Leader Peace be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

**Prayers of the
People**

Jan Hammock

Prayer Partners Mark Spicer and Sam, Rose Marie Springer, Stephen and Sarah Taber, Hugh Thacher, Horngsheng Tu and Hsiaochien Chuang, Stephen and Betty Voris

**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.

Scripture Jonah, Chapters 1-2: "The Big Fish"

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

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 643** Now Thank We All Our God

- 1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
 who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
 who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.
- 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
- 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,
 to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:
 the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,
 the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

***Charge and
 Benediction**

Choir

South African, arranged from *Freedom Is Coming*, 1984

Hallelujah! We sing your praises;
 all our hearts are filled with gladness.

South African, translated by Gracia Grindal (born 1943)

Postlude

From the Water Music Suite G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
 Hornpipe and The Rejoicing

Old First Presbyterian Church

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

www.oldfirst.org · 415-776-5552 · Find Us on Facebook and YouTube

Today's Coffee Hour

Join us for coffee hour after worship today. Then stop by the bulletin board in the Sacramento Street entry and sign up to sponsor coffee hour one Sunday. Your donation of \$50 supports Old First's ministry of hospitality and offers you an opportunity to honor or remember someone you love: your dedication will appear in the bulletin.

Continuing Preaching Series

Continuing through September 24, Pastor Maggi is preaching a series of sermons focusing on how bodies of water were the place of biblical stories and of Jesus' teachings – and how these stories still offer us a place of learning today.

**For next Sunday's continuation of the Jonah story,
read Jonah Chapters 3 and 4.**

Old First Town Hall, September 17

Mark your calendars for a town hall/church hall meeting next Sunday, September 17. This will be the first of many conversations as we begin to explore and dream about where and how God is calling us to share God's love, to be faithful disciples of Jesus, and to offer welcome and justice on our corner, in our city, and in the world. Our whole community of members and friends is encouraged to attend in person, but plans for on-line participation are in the works.

We'll move to the Fellowship Hall immediately following worship and we'll start our discussion with two simple questions: What are your fears for Old First? What are your hopes for Old First?

Light snacks will be served. Feel free to bring some to share.

This Week at Old First

Sunday September 10

- 1:30 pm Board of Deacons, On-Line
- 3:00 pm O1C Board Fundraiser: Concert and Reception, Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall
- 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Saturday September 16

- 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry: Volunteer today!
Visit Old First's website for a link to the sign-up page: www.oldfirst.org
- 1:00 pm Presbyterian Women, On-Line

Sunday September 17

- 11:00 am Worship
- 12:30 pm Old First Town Hall, Fellowship Hall
- 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Old First Presbyterian Church Staff

- The Reverend Maggi Henderson Pastor
- The Reverend Erwin C. Barron Parish Associate
- The Reverend Lisa Robeck Parish Associate
- Larry Marietta Music Director
- Jarron Carlson Composer in Residence
- Brad Peterson Office Admin
- Kristi Hoerauf Wedding Coordinator