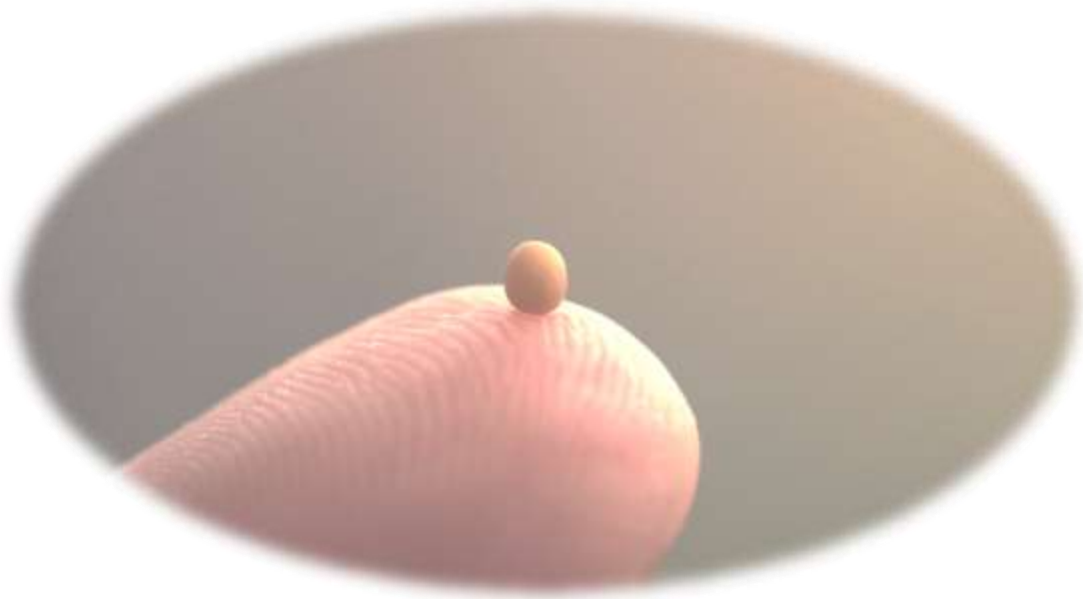


Old First Presbyterian Church



Sunday, October 22, 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	Largo	George Frideric Handel (1685-1759) Arranged by C.A.A. Düring
	Solemn Melody	Walford Davies (1869-1941) Arranged by John E. West (1863-1929)

**Welcome and
Church Life**

Introit	Martin Shaw (1875-1958)
With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard. Alleluia!	

Isaiah 48:20

***Call to
Worship**

Betty Voris

Leader O God, you call your people to prayer and praise in many ways.
This day, bring us together just as you called the people of Israel
to gather manna in the desert to eat and sustain life.

People God of unity, give us this day our daily bread.

Leader Offer us the nutrients we need to remain connected to you.
As spiritual beings, we desire to receive food that endures—
faith, hope, and love.

People God of grace, give us this day our daily bread.

Leader All life is created and nourished by you!
May we grow into new circles of understanding and being,
reflecting the ways in which we have been touched by your holy manna.

People Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.

***Hymn 649 Amazing Grace**

- 1 **Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,
that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
was blind, but now I see.**
- 2 **'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
and grace my fears relieved.
How precious did that grace appear
the hour I first believed!**
- 3 **Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come.
'Tis grace has brought me save thus far,
and grace will lead me home.**
- 4 **The Lord has promised good to me;
his word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be
as long as life endures.**
- 5 **When we've been there ten thousand years,
bright shining as the sun,
we've no less days to sing God's praise
than when we'd first begun.**

**Prayer of
Confession**

Betty Voris

**Lord Jesus Christ, we remember with gratitude
those people who generously sowed
the seeds of faith in our lives.**

We pause for a time of reflection.

**Above all, we recognize how you have blessed our lives
with the gift of the Holy Spirit
so that our faith has miraculously and mysteriously grown.**

**We confess the times we fail to involve ourselves
in planting any seeds of faith in the lives of others;
the times when our personal agendas
become more important than yours;
the times when we have denied others
the opportunity to expand their faith
through our lack of interest or involvement;
the times when our lives become
so entangled with the values of the world
that we forget what you have said and done and promised.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
we know that when we become disconnected from you,
our lives becomes parched and unfruitful
and our faith becomes stunted and dry.**

**Bless and renew our lives, we pray,
so we remain connected to you at all times and in all places
for you to do amazing things
out of small starts and humble beginnings.**

**Strengthen our faith to expand and, grow strong and vigorous,
to bear the fruit of your mercy, of your love,
of your undying life. Amen.**

Inspired by Mark 4:26-34 and Matthew 13:31-32

***Assurance of
Forgiveness**

Leader The one who began a good work in us will be faithful to complete it.
In the name of Jesus Christ we are redeemed and transformed.

People **May we live
confident that this is true!**

***Hymn 587 Celtic Alleluia**

**Alleluia! Alleluia!
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

Offering *Ushers will now receive the offering. You may also make your offering electronically using the kiosk in the narthex or this QR-code:*



Anthem

Composer Unknown
Edited by George Lynn (1916-1989)

O magnify our God with me,
and let us exalt God's name together.
Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

From the Bay State Collection, 1850

***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**

Sarah Taber

Prayer Partners

Chris and Cindy Burt, Carol Carter, Mary Carter, Waldo Carter, Andy and Yvonne Cheng, Samuel, Joshua and Annie, Ted and Betsy Chiao

**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 Psalm 78:23-32, 38-39 (OT pp. 509-510)
Matthew 13:31-34 (NT p. 14)

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 714** **God of the Fertile Fields**

1 **God of the fertile fields,
shaper of earth that yields
our daily bread:
forth from your bounteous hands
come gifts your love has planned,
that all in every land
be clothed and fed.**

2 **We would be stewards true,
holding in trust from you
all that you give;
help us in love to share,
teach us like you to care
for people everywhere,
that all may live.**

3 **As grows the hidden seed
to fruit that serves our need,
so your reign grows.
Let all our toil be used,
no gift of yours abused,
no humble task refused
your love bestows.**

4 **God of the countryside,
dear to the Christ who died
to make us one:
we pledge our lives a new
in faithful love to you.
Guide all we say and do.
Your will be done.**

***Charge and
Benediction**

Choir

Grant us thy blessing, O Creator,
And abide with us now and forever.

Postlude CWM RHONDDA

Setting by Paul Manz (1919-2009)

Old First Presbyterian Church

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



www.oudfirst.org

415-776-5552

Find Us on Meta/Facebook and YouTube

Today’s Liturgy

Today’s call to worship was written by the Reverend Moria, a minister of the United Church of Christ.

Today’s Coffee Hour

Linda Reyder has given the coffee hour today in joyful celebration of the music of the Old First Choir and the Old First Concerts.

Old First Cooks and Serves October’s 4th Saturday Community Dinner

Old First is cooking and serving the meal for October’s 4th Saturday Community Dinner, this coming Saturday. It could be a scary task for just one person – but not if we work together.

We doing some of the meal preparation **today after worship**. Check in with Pastor Maggi if you can help.

Then plan to volunteer at **the dinner this Saturday, October 28**. Volunteers needed from 4:30 pm through clean-up.

Remembering the Saints

Next Sunday, the Sunday before All Saints’ Day, we will remember the saints who have died since last All Saints’ Day a year ago.

Please let Brad in the church office know **by noon tomorrow, October 23**, if you have names of saints who have died this past year. Give him **their names, the dates of their death, and your relationship to them**. You can send Brad an E-mail (brad@oudfirst.org), call him at the church office, or fill out the form below and put it in the offering plate.

----- *fold and tear here, place in offering plate* -----

Remembering the Saints Who’ve Died since Last All Saints’ Day

My Name			
Name(s) to be Remembered	1	2	3
Date(s) of Death			
Relationship: They were my ...			

This Week at Old First

Sunday October 22

- 12:30 pm Kitchen Prep for 4th Saturday Community Dinner
- 4:00 pm O1C: Cornelius Boots and the Wood Prophets, bass shakuhachi quartet
- 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday October 24

- 7:00 pm Session Meeting, On-Line

Saturday October 28

- 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry: Volunteer today! Simply use the QR-code to the right.
- 5:15 pm 4th Saturday Community Dinner Staffed by Old First Presbyterian Church



Sunday October 29

- 11:00 am Worship
- 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