

Old First Presbyterian Church



Sunday, July 31, 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 Trio in g minor, Op. 49 No. 1
Andante espressivo from *Fantasie-Sonate*, Op. 65
Josef Rheinberger (1839-1901)

Welcome and Church Life Michael Berg

***Call to Worship** Samuel Cheng

Leader Light, my light,
the world-filling light, the eye-kissing light,
heart-sweetening light!

People **Let the mystery and the immeasurable overwhelm.
Let everything that can dance, sway and turn.**

Leader The light dances. The sky opens. The wind runs wild.
Laughter passes over the earth.

People **Let the butterflies spread on a sea of light.
Let lilies and jasmines surge on a fragrant wave.**

Leader Mirth spreads from flower to flower,
Gladness without measure.

People **Let heaven's river drown its banks.
Let Love water the land.**

Leader Because love is the Fellow of the Resurrection
Scooping up the Dust and chanting:

People **Live!**

Creatively culled from the poems by Rabindranath Tagore and Emily Dickinson by
the Rev. Harold Sutherland and the Rev. Anne Hoffmann

***Hymn 610 O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing**

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing my dear Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King, the triumphs of God's grace.
- 2 The name of Jesus charms our fears, and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears, brings life, and health, and peace.
- 3 Christ speaks, and listening to his voice new life the dead receive;
the mournful waken to rejoice; the poor in heart believe.
- 4 My gracious Master and my God, assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad the honors of thy name.
- 5 To God all glory, praise, and love be now and ever given
by saints below and saints above, the church in earth and heaven.

Prayer of
Confession

Samuel Cheng

Creator God,

even though we gather to celebrate your goodness in creation,
we humbly acknowledge our complicity in harming it.

We confess our blindness to your presence in creation.

Our human hearts are set on personal gain and material wealth.
Our drive for more has caused great damage to those we do not see –
outside our door, in our land or in lands far away.

We put on our fine clothes
and compose boastful words for social media
to make us feel justified.

But in reality, these are falsehoods made-up to justify
ignoring those lost in exile to economic injustice and
harm from the climate change we create.

In our personal lives,
we disregard others and focus only on ourselves.

We neglect a sibling, a parent, or a child
when our patience is confronted with earthly selfishness.

Silence is kept.

Forgive our sins against your beloved creation –
when we fail to walk humbly with you and one another.

We confess our need for new hearts
to bear Christ's love to all inhabitants of the earth.

**We hunger to be advocates
for the protection and well-being of your creation.
Allow us to unite with you and join all people
as citizens of your kingdom.
Amen.**

**Assurance of
Forgiveness**

Leader

Gracious Holy Spirit,
you are the eternal immigrant from God's kingdom among us.
You speak all languages, live in all countries, and reunite all races.
We become your communion of saints
when we embrace all people in all our diversity.

People

**We are forgiven and we are re-connected with the web of creation.
Joyously we follow you to the community envisioned for us,
the creatures of your beloved planet Earth.
Amen.**

Offering

Ushers will receive the offering at this time.

Solo

I Walked Today Where Jesus Walked

Geoffrey O'Hara (1882-1967)

Jordan Amann, soprano

I walked today where Jesus walked, / In days of long ago.
I wandered down each path He knew, / With reverent step and slow.
They have not changed, / A sweet peace fills the air.
I walked today where Jesus walked, / And felt His presence there.

My pathway led through Bethlehem, / Ah! Mem'ries ever sweet,
The little hills of Galilee, / That knew His childish feet,
The Mount of Olives hallowed scenes, / That Jesus knew before,
I saw the mighty Jordan roll, / As in the days of yore.

I knelt today where Jesus knelt, / Where all alone he prayed.
The Garden of Gethsemane, / My heart felt un-afraid.
I picked my heavy burden up, / And with Him by my side,
I climbed the Hill of Calvary, / Where on the Cross He died!

Daniel S. Twohig (1883-1961)

The Peace

Leader

Please remain seated for the Peace.

People

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

**Prayers of the
People**

Andy Cheng

Prayer Partners

Stephen and Betty Voris, Jian Wang, Virginia Webb-Pekelnicky and Bob
Pekelnicky, Teddy and Eden, Rick and Mary Wiebe, Kim Williams, Josephine
Yee

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**

John Kramar

Postlude Recessional

Eugene Hill (1909-1976)

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.

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

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Sabbatical 2022: July to October

From July through October, Old First Presbyterian Church and our pastor, Maggi Henderson, are on sabbatical. Until Pastor Maggi returns to us at the beginning of November, please keep her and all our Old First community in your prayers. In case of the need for pastoral care, please contact your assigned deacon, the Board of Deacons moderator, Randy Smith, or the church office.

Today's Guest Preacher: John Kramar

Our guest preacher today is John Kramar. Mr. Kramar has been a member of Old First Presbyterian Church since 2014, when he and his husband Riley Kramar transferred to San Francisco.

John has served as an elder for session and is currently Old First's treasurer. He has dedicated his vocation to sojourners and migrants, and has worked in the federal civil service for over thirty years. John thanks his long-time immigration colleague and now clergy, the Reverend Harold Sutherland, for his assistance in preparing today's message.

Today's Guest Soloist: Jordan Amann

We welcome Jordan Amann as our guest soloist for this morning's worship service. Ms. Amann is the wife of our bass section leader, Sergey Khalikulov, and works for the San Francisco Opera as the General Director's Associate.

A native of Winter Park, Florida, Jordan earned her master's degree in voice at the San Francisco Conservatory of Music. She has sung many leading roles in opera and musical productions throughout the US.

Next Sunday's Guest Preacher: Leslie Veen

Next Sunday our guest preacher will be the Reverend Leslie Veen, DMin. Dr. Veen is the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs for Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, an ordained teaching elder (minister of word and sacrament) in the Presbyterian Church (USA), a member of the Committee on Ministry for the Presbytery of San Francisco, and a parish associate for Seventh Avenue Presbyterian Church in the Inner Sunset. Her doctor of ministry dissertation examined the Holy Trinity, *perichoresis* and the church as community.

Leslie has a deep desire to help people discern and follow God's calling for their lives and to deepen their connection with the Divine as they do so. Leslie has been a resident of San Francisco for over 25 years and loves finding new ways to appreciate the beauty and creativity of the area every day.