

Old First Presbyterian Church



Sunday, October 16, 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	What a Friend We Have in Jesus	Charles Converse (1832-1918) Arranged by Dale Wood (1934-2003)
	Blessed Assurance	Phoebe Knapp (1839-1908) Arranged by Robert Hebble (1934-2020)

Welcome and Church Life

Linda Reyder

Introit South African Sotho Spiritual

Halleluya! Pelo tsa rona, di Thabile kaofela.
Halleluya! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.

***Call to
Worship** Betty Voris

Leader No matter how far from God we seem to be,
we do not lose heart:

People For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.

Leader No matter how many obstacles we face in life, in the church,
we do not lose heart

People For the days are surely coming, says the Lord.

Leader No matter how hard it is to continually pray and work for justice,
we do not lose heart:

People **For the days are surely coming, says the Lord,
when I will forgive and restore my people;
when I will equip them for every good work;
and when I will grant justice,
for I hear their cries day and night.**

***Hymn 465 What a Friend We Have in Jesus**

- 1 **What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit; o what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer!**
- 2 **Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!**
- 3 **Are we weak and heavy laden, cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge; take it to the Lord in prayer?
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield thee; thou wilt find a solace there.**

**Prayer of
Confession**

Betty Voris

**Gracious God, we confess that we do not meditate on your commands
and teachings all day long.
We do not keep your word before us always and in all things.
Instead, we turn away from your demanding truth
and wander toward easier options.**

Silence for Private Confession

**Forgive us, we pray, for pursuing our own desires rather than yours.
Forgive us for growing weary in following you;
for failing to pray and work tirelessly for justice;
for losing hope in your power to transform the powers of this world.
Tune our ears to the sound of your justice.
Turn our hearts to your commandments and word of grace.
Do not remember our sin, but remember your mercy forever.
We pray in Christ's name. Amen.**

***Assurance of
Forgiveness**

Leader The Scriptures are given to correct our ways,
to train us in righteousness,
and to equip us for every good work.
In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus,
who is the only judge of the living and the dead,
we give thanks for the gift of forgiveness.

People By the grace of Christ,
we will be persistent in the life of faith, to which we are called.
Amen.

***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 Kinley Lange (born 1950)
Chelsea Hollow, soprano

Esto les digo:	<i>This I tell you,</i>
Si dos de ustedes se ponen de acuerdo	<i>if two of you come to agreement</i>
aquí en la tierra	<i>here on earth</i>
para pedir algo en oración,	<i>to ask for anything in prayer,</i>
mi Padre que está en el cielo se lo dará.	<i>my Father who is in heaven will grant it.</i>
Porque donde dos o tres	<i>For where two or three</i>
se reúnen en mi nombre,	<i>gather in my name,</i>
allí estoy yo en medio de ellos.	<i>I will be there in the midst of them.</i>

Matthew 18:19-20

***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.**

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Prayers of the People Sarah Taber

Prayer Partners Roseanne Hoo, Cynthia Kang, Saundra Keyes, Jeanne Kirkwood, Levi Knippel, John and Riley Kramar, Nina Krietzman, Marne Krozek, Bobby Lane

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 Luke 18:1-8
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 Sitting With the Questions... The Reverend Sarah Reyes Gibbs

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 839 Blessed Assurance**

**1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!
 O what a foretaste of glory divine!
 Heir of salvation, purchase of God,
 born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.**

**Refrain This is my story; this my song,
 praising my Savior all the day long;
 this is my story; this is my song,
 praising my Savior all the day long.**

**2 Perfect submission, perfect delight,
 visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
 angels descending bring from above
 echoes of mercy, whispers of love.**

**3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;
 I in my Savior am happy and blest,
 watching and waiting, looking above,
 filled with his goodness, lost in his love.**

***Charge and
 Benediction**

Choir Hallelujah! Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

Postlude Blessed Assurance Herbert Colvin (1924-2011)

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.

Ballot Review with Betty Voris, Today

Betty Packard Voris, chair of San Francisco's Ballot Simplification Committee, and member of Old First, will review the November ballot propositions (San Francisco and California) with us today, October 16, from 2:00 to 4:00 pm via Zoom.

Among the important City proposition topics are these: two conflicting affordable housing measures, two conflicting measures on vehicles on JFK Drive in Golden Gate Park and the Great Highway, continuing the Sales tax for Transportation projects, an additional parcel tax for City College, tax on keeping residential units vacant, and changing some City elections to be held in even-numbered years.

The invitation (link) to the Zoom meeting has been sent in this morning's E-mails from Old First.

Guest Preacher Today and Next Sunday: Sarah Reyes Gibbs

Today and next Sunday our guest preacher will be the Reverend Sarah Reyes-Gibbs, DMin. Dr. Reyes-Gibbs has just finished a three-year transitional/interim position with New Bridges, Hayward, after retiring in 2017 from her first call lasting nineteen years with Bethel Community Church, San Leandro. Not embracing retirement well, she continues to serve as a consultant with churches focused on transformation and with other presbyteries addressing ethnic concerns.

Before ordained ministry, Sarah served the Stockton Unified School District as an elementary and high school teacher for eight years, as a coordinator for a Drug Free School Zone at Edison High School, Stockton, and before that as a legislative assistant with the California legislature twenty years.

In addition to raising four children, Sarah also earned a bachelor at the age of 40, received her Masters of Arts in Education with an emphasis on administration, received her Master of Divinity at age 50, and received her Doctor of Ministry with an emphasis on parish redevelopment at age 60. Pastor Sarah's perspective on life and faith is shaped by her trust in God and her experience as a Filipina-American, pastor, wife, mother of four, *lola* (Filipino for grandmother) of fifteen, and much more!

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 if you have names of saints to remember this year. Give him their **names, dates of death, and relationship** to you. You can put a note in the offering plate, mail a note to the church, call the church office, or send Brad an E-mail: brad@oldfirst.org

This Week at Old First

Sunday October 16

- 2:00 pm Ballot Review with Betty Voris, On-Line
- 4:00 pm O1C: Strobe Concert – oboe, violin, viola, cello
- 7:15 pm Friendly Circle AA Meeting, Social Hall

Monday October 17

- 7:30 pm O1C: Earplay – flutes, clarinets, strings

Friday October 21

- 8:00 pm Ensemble for These Times – voice, strings, piano

Saturday October 22

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry, Social Hall/Sacramento Sidewalk
5:15 pm Saturday Community Meal, Social Hall

Sunday October 23

11:00 am Worship
4:00 pm O1C: Stephen Porter: Beethoven and Buddhism – piano
7:15 pm Friendly Circle AA Meeting, Social Hall

Tuesday October 25

7:30 pm Jerome Kuderna and Jed Distler: Mahler's Symphony No. 9 – piano duet

Old First Presbyterian Church Staff
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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