

# Old First Presbyterian Church



## Growing Season: Exploring Our Roots Sunday, July 16, 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** Offertory from Messe Solonnelle a Ste. Cecelia

Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

Aria

Charles Callahan (born 1951)

### Welcome and Church Life

#### \*Call to Worship

Betty Packard Voris

Leader As people, as a group, as a community of faith –  
**People we gather in this place:**

Leader to listen,

**People to speak,**

Leader to worship,

**People** to pray,

Leader to be with God,  
because we know

**People** it is out of God's authority,  
it is out of God's love,  
that we live. Alleluia!

**\*Hymn 37** Let All Things Now Living

- 1 Let all things living a song of thanksgiving  
to God our Creator triumphantly raise;  
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,  
by guiding us on to the end of our days.  
God's banners are o'er us; pure light goes before us,  
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:  
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,  
as forward we travel from light into light.
- 2 By law God enforces, the stars in their courses,  
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;  
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,  
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.  
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;  
with glad adoration, a song let us raise,  
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving;  
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

**Prayer of  
Confession**

Betty Packard Voris

Too often, Lord God, we are hesitant in our proclamation;  
seeking safe and suitable opportunities to speak of our faith.

*Silence*

Too often, Lord God, we are half-hearted in our service;  
reluctant to stand out from the crowd or to attract criticism.

*Silence*

Too often, Lord God, we live as if dependent  
wholly on our own resources;  
relying on our perceived skills and modest insights.

*Silence*

Too often, Lord God, we look to the clouds for our inspiration,  
in the vain hope of finding you there.

*Silence*

**Forgive the poverty of our efforts and the frailty of our faith  
and open wide our hearts and minds to the immanent presence  
of our Risen, Living and Ascended Lord, Jesus Christ.**

**Amen.**

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader In Christ, we are given new life.  
People **The old is gone away. The new life is before us.**  
Leader We are freed to live in the present  
People **That is good news that sets us free to love!**

**\*Hymn 583** 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 now receive the offering. You may also make your offering electronically  
using the kiosk in the narthex.*

**Solo** Thanks Be to Thee (Largo) George Frederic Handel (1685-1759)  
Kirsten Fleischmann, mezzo-soprano

**\*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.**

<b>Worship Through Hearing God's Word</b>
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**Scripture** Genesis 24:34-38, 42-49, 58-57

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

<b>Worship Through Holy Communion</b>
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**Invitation to the  
Lord's Table**

**The Great  
Thanksgiving**

Leader The Lord who provides be with you!

**People And also with you.**

Leader Lift your hearts to the One who frees us from sin.

**People We rejoice in God, who delivers us from death's power.**

Leader Offer songs of joy and wonder to the One who welcomes you to this Table.

**People We will sing to God, whose bounty fills our lives, our hearts, our souls.**

*The leader continues the prayer...*

Leader So, we lift our voices, filled with joy,  
joining them to the glad songs of every place and generation,  
all creation praising your name:

***Sung response***

**People Holy, holy, holy are you, God who does not forget us.**

**All creation trusts in your steadfast love.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who gives a cup of living water to the thirsty.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

*The leader continues the prayer...*

**The Lord's Our Father, who art in heaven,**

**Prayer 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.**

**The Words of  
Institution**

**The Bread and** *All are invited to share in the Lord's Supper.*

**the Cup** *Simply follow the directions of the leaders.*

*The communion trays have wine and grape juice.*

*The inner clear cups hold wine.*

*The outer purple cups hold grape juice.*

<b>Worship Through Responding to God's Word</b>
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**\*Hymn 488 I Was there to Hear Your Borning Cry**

**1 I was there to hear your borning cry;  
I'll be there when you are old.**

I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child  
with a faith to suit you well;  
in a blaze of light you wandered off  
to find where demons dwell.

2 When you heard the wonder of the Word,  
I was there to cheer you on.  
You were raised to praise the living Lord  
to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time  
and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme  
from dusk till rising sun.

3 In the middle ages of your life,  
not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night,  
complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in  
and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been  
with just one more surprise.

4 I was there to hear your borning cry;  
I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized  
to see your life unfold.

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

**Postlude** Postlude in A Major

Louis James Alfred Lafébure-Wely (1817-1869)

## 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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### Today's Confession

Today's confession was written by the Reverend Malcolm Macdougall of the Church of Scotland.

### I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry, Hymn 488

Both the words and music of today's closing hymn, "I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry," were composed by Minnesota-based John Carl Ylvisaker (1937-2017) for a 1985 video series about baptism by a predecessor denomination of today's Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, an ecumenical partner of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

Though this hymn is now included in songbooks and hymnals around the world, Ylvisaker's use of popular music styles was not always well received in church circles. Old First's office administrator, Brad Peterson, remembers the older generation's debate around "Mr. Ylvisaker," who was his junior high school choral teacher, and how thrilled his classmates were to sing – what was in the 70s – new music.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinner, July 22

This month's 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinner falls on Saturday, July 22. Can you help serve the meal and feast with our guests at the dinner? Volunteers are welcomed from 4:30 pm on. Let us know you can help: [4thsaturdaydinners@oldfirst.org](mailto:4thsaturdaydinners@oldfirst.org)

### Old First Staffs the Interfaith Food Pantry, July 29

It's not too early to sign up to staff the Interfaith Food Pantry Saturday, July 29, when Old First and St Luke's staff the pantry. You can sign up easily by visiting Old First's website – [www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org) – and then clicking on the link in the sidebar column. Or go directly to the sign-up page: <https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/667004851505698018/false#/invitation> The pantry coordinators will thank you! For more information, speak with Pastor Maggi.

### The Rev. C. George Fitzgerald, former Parish Associate

The Rev. C. George Fitzgerald, a former parish associate at Old First presbyterian, died last week. George's ministry focused on Pastoral Care and Clinical Pastoral Education in hospitals. His last role was as the Director of Spiritual Care Services at Stanford Hospital. Please keep his wife Susan and his family and friends in your prayers. A memorial service is being planned on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

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### New Banners by Josie Iselin

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As we move through ordinary time and summer, we celebrate God's gift of life and growth with new banners by San Francisco artist Josie Iselin, which depict a kelp forest.

Josie Iselin is a photographer, author, and designer of many books. Her last few have focused on the world of seaweeds and kelp. Her most recent book, *The Curious World of Seaweed* (Heyday Books, 2019) is the basis for a traveling exhibition of prints by the same name.

Iselin is the co-director of a collaborative known as Above/Below, working to bring the recognition afforded the forests on land to the kelp forests below the ocean's surface.

Above/Below will be releasing a web-based, comprehensive, story compendium about bull kelp this fall.

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### Giants Baseball Game

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Would you like to go to a Giants baseball game? Our sister church, St. John's pPresbyterian, has invited us to join them on September 10 at 1:00. Tickets are \$27.00. You need to purchase the tickets by **August 11!**

Go to <http://fevogm.com/event/stjohns5>, or St. John's website [stjohnssf.org](http://stjohnssf.org). Your pastor is sure to preach a short sermon that day because she is going to the game!

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### This Week at Old First

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**Sunday July 16**

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

**Saturday July 22**

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry: Volunteer today!

Visit Old First's website for a link to the sign-up page: [www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org)

5:15 pm 4th Saturday Community Meal, Fellowship Hall

**Sunday July 23**

11:00 am Worship

1:00 pm Session Meeting, Munro Room

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

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### 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
Jarron Carlson	Composer in Residence
Brad Peterson	Office Administrator
Kristi Hoerauf	Wedding Coordinator