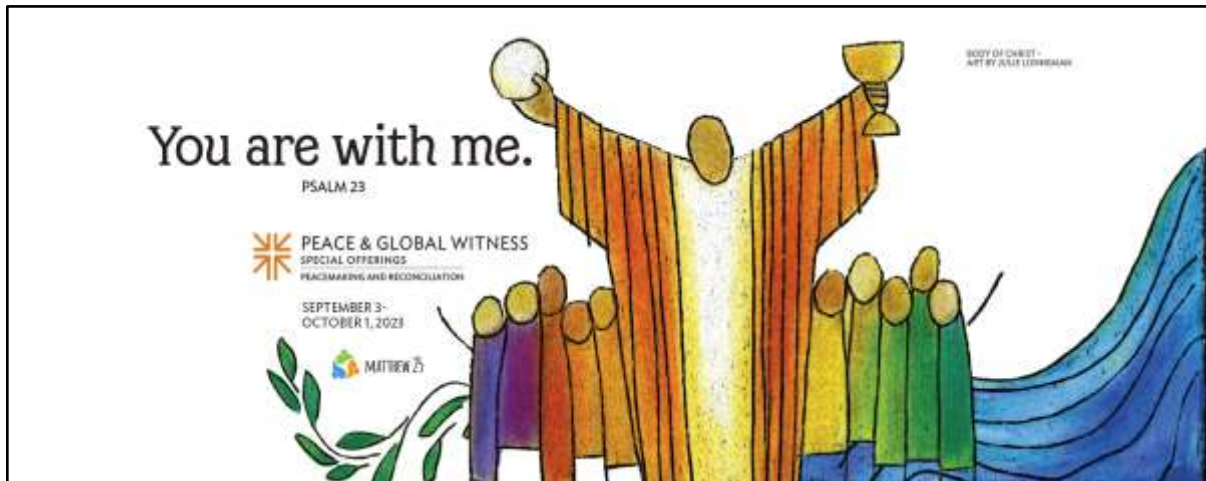


Old First Presbyterian Church



World Communion Sunday October 1, 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 Prelude on TOKYO (Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather)

Phillip Jones (1928-2000)

Welcome and Church Life

Introit

Scottish Melody; arr. John L. Bell (born 1949)

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shone; will you let my name be known;
Will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

John L. Bell (born 1949) and Graham Maule (born 1958)

***Call to
Worship**

Michael Berg

Leader We gather from the west to the east,
from the south to the north,
People **to celebrate the God of peace,
who accompanies us in our acts of peace.**

Leader This God of peace accompanies us
in each and every circumstance around us.

People **We praise God's name! Amen!**

***Hymn 388** **Come All You People** *We sing the verse three times.*

**Come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come all you people, come and praise your Maker;
come now and worship the Lord.**

**Prayer of
Confession**

Michael Berg

Gracious Lord, creator of this universe, in your generosity
you have given us a world of abundance and diversity,
yet we live guided by greed and selfishness.
We confess that we have defaced your creation
and poisoned our environment
through our consumerist behavior and for personal gain.
In Christ, you made us brothers and sisters
and intended for us to be united,
and yet we have built walls to separate us
from those who are different from us.
You gave us wisdom and creativity
and we have used those to trick each other
and to develop weapons of destruction and death.
You gave us laws to order our lives and we have abused them
to take revenge and punish our enemies.
We love war rather than strive for peace.
We ignore the poor and the weak
and honor the rich and powerful.
In all this we have not lived according to your will.
Forgive us, Lord,
for daring to boast in our human achievements and
for failing to recognize that you alone are worthy of praise.
In your mercy, forgive us our sins.

*Arabic, Jameel Maher Khadir, Near East School of Theology student
Episcopal Church in Jerusalem and the Holy Land*

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader “God accepted us simply because of our faith in Christ,”
through whom our sins were forgiven.

People **May God help us to continue
to “preach peace to those who are near and far.” Amen.**

*Armenian, Shant Agoushian, Near East School of Theology student
Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East*

***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.*

Anthem The 23rd Psalm (dedicated to my mother)
Bobby McFerrin (born 1950); trans. Dan Stolper (1935-2020)

The Lord is my Shepherd, I have all I need,
She makes me lie down in green meadows,
Beside the still waters, She will lead.
She restores my soul, She rights my wrongs,
She leads me in a path of good things,
And fills my heart with songs.
Even though I walk through a dark and dreary land,
There is nothing that can shake me, She has said, She won't forsake me,
I'm in her hand.
She sets a table before me, in the presence of my foes,
She anoints my head with oil,
And my cup overflows.
Surely, surely goodness and kindness will follow me,
All the days of my life,
And I will live in Her house,
For ever and ever.
Glory be to our Mother, and Daughter,
And to the Holy of Holies,
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World, without end. Amen.

***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

Scripture Psalm 23 (Old Testament, pp.474-475)
Luke 1:76-79 (New Testament, p. 54)

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

**The Apostles'
Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead and buried;
he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand
of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost;
the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body;
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Worship Through Holy Communion

**Invitation to
the Lord's Table**

**The Great
Thanksgiving**

Leader Peace be with you.

People And also with you.

Leader Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader Let us give thanks to the God of Peace.

People It is right for us to do.

The Iona Community, Scotland

The leader continues the prayer...

**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.**

**The Words of
Institution**

**The Bread and
the Cup**

All are invited to come forward to share in the Lord's Supper.

Receive the bread from the pastor, then dip it in the wine or grape juice.

There is wine in the chalice and grape juice in the cup.

Worship Through Responding to God's Word
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***Hymn 340 This is My Song**

- 1 This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.
- 2 My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
So hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.
- 3 This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one.
So hear my prayer, O God of all the nations,
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

***Charge and
Benediction**

Choir From *The Servant Song*
Richard Gillard (born 1953); arr. Betty Pulkingham (1928-2019)
When we sing to God in heaven,
We shall find such harmony,
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony.

Postlude Tuba Tune in D Major, Op. 15 Craig Sellar Lang (1891-1971)

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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Communion with Intinction, Today

Today is World Communion Sunday, and, after a long hiatus that started with the pandemic, we resume receiving communion by intinction – that is, by dipping the bread in the wine or grape juice. There is wine in the chalice and grape juice in the cup. If you would rather not receive the communion elements by intinction, you may opt for the pre-packaged communion elements on the lectern.

Peace & Global Witness Offering, Today

Today we receive the Peace and Global Witness Offering, one of the PC(USA)'s four annual special offerings, which helps our neighbors next door, down the street and across the globe. 25% stays with Old First to support our ministry with our local neighbors, 25% goes the Presbytery of San Francisco to be used in the Bay Area, and 50% supports Presbyterian work around the globe. You can give by...

- using the envelope included in this bulletin,
- using the kiosk in the narthex,
- visiting Old First's donations page:
<https://dev.oldfirst.org/donations//>,
- visiting the PC(USA)'s special offerings page:
<https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/peace-global-witness/>,
- texting PCUSAPEACE to 41444, or
- scanning the QR-code printed here.



Today's Coffee Hour

Betty and Steve Voris have given today's coffee hour in gratitude for their "48 years of bliss."

Old First Staffs the 4th Saturday Community Dinner October 28

Old First is cooking for the 4th Saturday Community Dinner on October 28. We need a volunteer chef/cook and other helpers. Will you volunteer? Tell Pastor Maggi.

Sing to the Lord a New Song

Do you like to sing? Why not give our marvelous small-but-mighty Choir a try? The attendance policy is easy: Come when you can! Rehearsals are on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am in the Sanctuary. If you have any questions, please see Larry at the organ console following the service, or E-mail him: larrymarietta@gmail.com

Old First's Little Free Library

Our Little Free Library has arrived! What images, pictures, words or colors do you think should inspire the painting wonders our very own artist Kurt Schwartzmann? Share your ideas on the easel found in the Fellowship Hall during coffee hour or E-mail ideas to Pastor Maggi: maggi@oldfirst.org.

You can find these Little Free Libraries all over the city. People take a book and bring a book. It is our gift to the thriving Polk Street community. We members and friends of Old First will stock the library, so start setting aside the books you'd like to pass along! We also need a group of Little Free Library supporters to care for the library. If you're interested, let Maggi know.



This Week at Old First

Sunday October 1 World Communion Sunday

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Friday October 6

8:00 pm O1C: Utsav Lal, raga pianist

Saturday October 7

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry: Volunteer today!

Visit Old First's website for a link to the sign-up page: www.oldfirst.org

Sunday October 8

11:00 am Worship

2:00 pm Board of Deacons, on line

4:00 pm O1C: Zachary Donaldson, lute

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