

Old First Presbyterian Church



Sunday, November 19, 2023 A Season of Stewardship Rooted in Relationship, Grateful in Giving

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 Three Chorale Preludes on NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

Wilbur Held (1914-2015)

Justin Heinrich Knecht (1752-1817)

Georg Friedrich Kauffmann (1679-1735)

**Welcome and
Church Life**

Introit

South African (Shona) Traditional Song

Halleluya! We sing your praises.

All our hearts are filled with gladness!

***Call to Worship**

Stephen Taber

Leader This is the Lord's Day, the day of wonder and grace.

People This is the day to worship the One who calls us here.

Leader This is the Lord's Day, the day we are given joy and peace.

People This is the day promised to us, the day of healing and renewal.

Leader This is the Lord's Day, and it has come just in time!

People This is the day we gather with hope, with faith, with love!

***Hymn 643 Now Thank We All Our God**

During the hymn, please bring your pledge cards or your commitment cards to the front of the church.

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is our today.

2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills in this world and the next.

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.

**Dedication of
Pledges**

**Prayer of
Confession**

Stephen Taber

Again we must confess, Master of the Universe,
our struggles to be faithful disciples.

Entrusted with all your gifts,
we become fearful once again of misusing them,
missing the chance to be a blessing to others.

Invited to dance in the light of your love,
we stand against the wall once again,
keeping company with our old friend, sin.

Called to be emptied for those who struggle in life,
we fill ourselves once again,
with scorn for the poor choices they and we make.

Silence is kept.

Have mercy, Journeying God, have mercy on us.
Once again, open our eyes to your kingdom in our midst,
so we might discover that your day of hope and grace
has already come in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader This is the good news: God intends for us to find life, to embrace hope, to receive forgiveness through Jesus Christ, our Servant.

People **The end of our journey is not rejection and emptiness, but the fullness of grace and hope in our God. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

***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 From *The Creation* Franz Josef Haydn (1732-1809)
Chelsea Hollow, soprano
Michael Desnoyers, tenor
Sergey Khalikulov, bass

The heavens are telling the glory of God,
The wonder of his work displays the firmament:
Today that is coming speaks it the day,
The night that is gone to following night.
In all the lands resounds the word,
Never unperceived, ever understood. Gottfried van Swieten (1733-1803)

***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!**

Reflections **Rooted in Relationships, Grateful in Giving** Mary Russell

Time with Our Children

***The Peace**

Leader Peace be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Scripture Psalm 146, Acts 4:32-37

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.**

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| Worship Through Holy Communion |
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**Invitation to the
Lord's Table**

**The Great
Thanksgiving**

Leader May the God of promises be with you!

People And also with you!

Leader Rejoice in the One who surprises us, people of God.

People We lift our hearts to God who brings us salvation.

Leader Children of God, join in glad song to the Giver of mercy.

People Our voices join in praise to the God of love and hope.

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.

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| Worship Through Responding to God's Word |
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***Hymn525 Let Us Break Bread Together**

- 1 Let us break bread together on our knees;
let us break bread together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.
- 2 Let us drink wine together on our knees;
let us drink wine together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

3 Let us praise God together on our knees;
let us praise God together on our knees.
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me.

***Charge and
Benediction**

Choir

Genevan Psalter, 1551

God of all good, our gifts we bring to you;
Use them your holy purpose to fulfill,
Tokens of love and pledges brought anew,
That our whole life is offered to your will.

Albert F. Bayly (1901-1984)

Postlude Nun danket alle Gott (Marche triumphale), Op. 65, No. 59
Sigfried Karg-Elert (1877-1933)

Old First Presbyterian Church

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



www.oldfirst.org

415-776-5552

Find Us on Meta/Facebook and YouTube

Today's Coffee Hour

Kristi Hoerauf has given today's coffee hour in memory of her parents Roger and Norma Hoerauf, and to honor what would have been their 69th wedding anniversary, November 20.

Your Pledge for 2024

Though we gather and dedicate our pledges today you can still submit a pledge for 2024. Old First is grateful for everyone's participation in the life and mission of our church. Simply ask an usher for a pledge card today or E-mail Old First's office admin for a copy:

brad@oldfirst.org

Thanksgiving Day, This Thursday

The church office will be closed both on Thanksgiving Day, this Thursday, and on this Friday.

Calvary Presbyterian Church: Deacons' Thanksgiving Day Feast

Calvary Presbyterian Church, 2515 Fillmore Street at Jackson, invites you to their Deacons' Annual Thanksgiving Day Feast on Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 23, 12:00 noon to 2:00 pm. You can eat the traditional meal in person in Calvary's Calvin Hall, or reserve a to-go meal to take home.

The suggested donation is \$5 minimum per meal. For more information and to register for the meal, simply visit Calvary's website - <https://www.calvarypresbyterian.org/> - and scroll down to the poster for the Deacons' Thanksgiving Day Feast. Then click on the poster to access the registration page for the feast.

4th Saturday Community Dinner, This Saturday

This month's 4th Saturday Community Dinner falls this Saturday, November 25. 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

Food Barrel, Next Sunday

We have emptied our food barrel in the narthex and have delivered the food to the SF/Marin Food Bank. Now let's start filling up that barrel again! Next Sunday bring a can of soup or chili for the barrel as part of your Thanksgiving.

Old First (That's Us) Staffs the Interfaith Food Pantry, December 2

Sign up now to pitch in when members of Old First and St Luke's combine to staff the Interfaith Food Pantry on December 2.

Of course, you can sign up for any or for every Saturday: Simply visit the sign up page by using the QR-code to the right or by visiting Old First's homepage: www.oldfirst.org and following the link in the sidebar column.



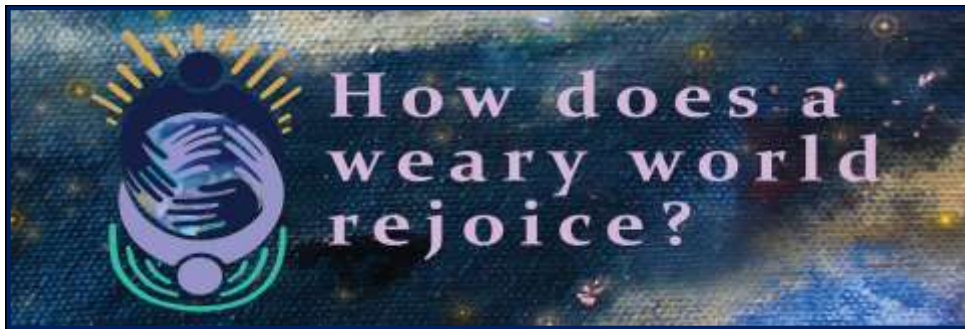
Advent and Christmas at Old First

At Old First Advent will begin next week, so we will have four full Sundays of Advent before Christmas Eve, December 24, also a Sunday. There will be no morning service that day, but we will celebrate Christmas that evening:

Sunday, December 24
Christmas Eve Concert of Choir and Organ at 6:30 pm
Christmas Eve Worship at 7:00pm.

The New Church Year: Advent

Our theme for this Advent this year is “How Does a Weary World Rejoice?”



Advent devotionals based on this theme will be available beginning next Sunday, November 26. We have three opportunities for you to deepen your Advent experience this year:

- A daily devotional calendar with activities for children and families.
- A daily devotional calendar for busy, but thoughtful adults.
- A devotional booklet for adults – *How Does a Weary World Rejoice?* – which uses art, poetry and reflections for Advent found in Luke’s Gospel.
- And for those that would like a bit more substance, we have limited copies of *Celebrating Abundance* by Walter Brueggeman, Professor Emeritus of Columbia Theological Seminary, Decatur, Georgia. This book costs \$10.00 per copy.

If you are worshipping with us via YouTube or if you’ve moved from San Francisco, please contact the church office to have a copy sent to you.

Little Free Library, Coming Soon

Old First’s new Little Free Library will be opening soon, and we’re beginning to collect books. Please drop off your contributions to the Little Free Library in the baskets in the church library on the ground floor.

Want to Learn More About Old First?

If you’re interested in getting to know and to learn more about the community of Old First Presbyterian Church, please talk with Pastor Maggi. She’s passionate about the people of Old First, our Christian faith, our Presbyterian heritage, and our mission “on our corner, in our city, and in the world.”

This Week at Old First

- Sunday November 19**
7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
- Monday November 20**
7:00 pm O1C: Special Workshop! Sarah Cahill's Backstage Pass with Lisa Mezzacappa, Bass
- Tuesday November 21**
7:00 pm Worship Committee, On-Line
- Thursday November 23 Thanksgiving Day**
Church Office Closed
- Friday November 24**
Church Office Closed
- Saturday November 25**
9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry: Volunteer today!
Simply use the QR-code to the right.
- 5:15 pm 4th Saturday Community Dinner: To volunteer for this meal, E-mail 4thsaturdaydinners@oldfirst.org
- Sunday November 26, Advent 1**
11:00 am Worship
7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall



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Poinsettias for Advent and Christmas

Once again, a garden of poinsettias will beautify Old First’s sanctuary for Advent and Christmas, and you can contribute to this garden by using the form below.

Each of your contributions of **Twenty-Five (\$25)** for these plants will be acknowledged by a dedication in the bulletin on the Sunday before Christmas.

Please return the information requested below with your payment by placing them in the offering plate or delivering them to the church **no later than Monday, December 4.**

- My name: _____
- The total dollar amount of my gift(s): \$25 x ____ = _____
- Here is **one dedication for each Twenty-Five (\$25) contribution** I’m making – please indicate “in honor of” the living, or “in memory of” the dead, or “in gratitude for” some blessing.
 1. _____
 2. _____
 3. _____
 4. _____
- NOTE: Write “Poinsettias” on the memo line of your check or envelope.