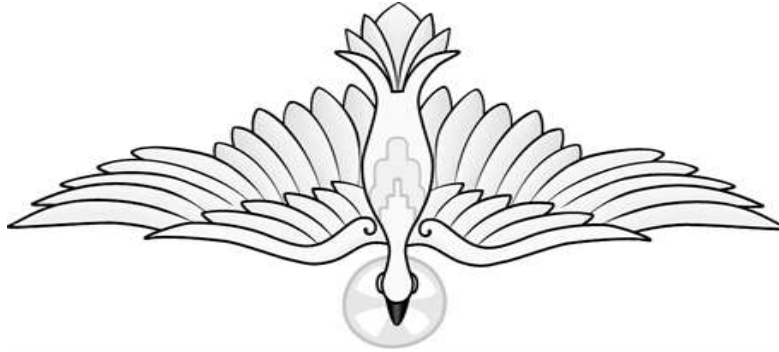


Old First Presbyterian Church



**Sunday
July 20, 2025**

Worship Through Praising God

Easy-to-use earphones to assist with hearing are available from the ushers.

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 Intermezzo, Op. 16b/2

Toivo Kuula (1883-1918)

Panis Angelicus

Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

**Welcome and
Church Life**

Pastor Henderson

Introit

Alfred Morton Smith (1879-1971)

Kirsten Fleischmann, mezzo-soprano

You are before me, God, you are behind,
and over me you have spread out your hand;
such knowledge is too wonderful for me,
too high to grasp, too great to understand.

Search me, O God; search me and know my heart;
try me, O God; my mind and spirit try;
keep me from any path that gives your pain,
and lead me in the everlasting way.

Ian Pitt-Watson (1923-1995)

From Psalm 139

Randy Smith

***Call to Worship**

Leader

We've come to worship God,
who loved us before we were yet born,

People

**Who knows us even better than we know ourselves,
whose presence never leaves us,
and whose love for us never ceases.**

Leader

This is our God.

People

Let's worship together!

***Hymn 664**

Morning Has Broken

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning;
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!
- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning,
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation; praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

**Prayer of
Confession**

Randy Smith

Search us, O God, and know our hearts.
Test us and know our anxious thoughts.
Point out anything in us that offends You,
and guide us on the road to life.

Pray in silence.

O Lord, You have examined our hearts
and know everything about us.
You know when we sit down or stand up.
You know our thoughts from afar.
You see when we walk or lie down,
You know every detail of our conduct.
You even know what we are going to say before we say it.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for us,
too great for us to understand.

Cleanse us from hidden faults.
 Keep us from deliberate sins.
 Don't let them control us.
 Let us turn to you and seek you time and time again.
 For you long for us to be a new creation
 through your love and forgiveness.
 May it be so.
 Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader In sorrow so deep we cannot find our way out,
 God cradles us in comfort;
 People **In moments so dark, we stumble over ourselves,
 God lights the way;**
 Leader in joy which cascades into our souls,
 God fills us with healing.
 People

***Hymn 466 Come and Fill Our Hearts** *sung three times*
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia!

Offering *Ushers will now receive the offering. You may also make your offering electronically using the QR-code at the right.*



Solo Alma Bezel Androzso (1912-2001)
 Kirsten Fleischmann, mezzo-soprano

If I can help somebody as I pass along,
 If I can help somebody with a word or song,
 If I can show somebody they are traveling wrong,
 Then my living shall not be in vain.

If I can do my duty as a Christian ought,
 If I can bring back beauty to a word up-wrought
 If I can spread love's message that the Master taught,
 Then my living shall not be in vain.

***Doxology**

DUKE STREET: *For tune, see Hymn 265.*
 Arranged by Hal H. 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!**

Time with
Our Children

***The Peace**

Leader Peace be with you.
People **And also with you.**

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Scripture	Psalm 139
Leader	Lord, you have searched me and known me. You know when I sit down and when I rise up' You discern my thoughts from far away. vs 1-2
People	You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. vs 3
Leader	Even before a word is on my tongue, O Lord, you know it completely. vs 4
People	You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. vs 5
Leader	Such knowledge is too wonderful for me: it is so high that I cannot attain it. vs 6
People	Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? vs 7
Leader	If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. vs 8
People	If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. vs 9-10
Leader	If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. vs 11-12
People	For it was you who formed my inward parts; You knit me together in my mother's womb. vs 13
Leader	I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. vs 14

People **My frame was not hidden from you,
when I was being made in secret,
intricately woven in the depths of the earth. vs 15**

Leader Your eyes beheld my unformed substance.
In your book were written
all the days that were formed for me,
when none of them as yet existed. vs 16

People **How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God!
How vast is the sum of them! vs 17**

Leader I try to count them—they are more than the sand;
I come to the end—I am still with You. vs 18

People **O that you would kill the wicked, O God,
and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me— vs 19**

Leader Those who speak of you maliciously,
and left themselves up against you for evil! Vs 20

People **Do I not hate those who hate you, O Lord?
And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? vs 21**

Leader I hate them with perfect hatred;
I count them my enemies. vs 22

ALL **Teach me, O God, and know my heart;
test me and know my thoughts.
See if there is any wicket way in me,
and lead me in the way everlasting. vs 23-24**

Sermon

Pastor Henderson

Worship Through Holy Communion

**Invitation to the
Lord's Table**

**The Great
Prayer of
Thanksgiving**

Leader May the God who created us be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Leader Open your heart to the One who writes grace on them;

People **May God's words of hope and wonder guide our lives.**

Leader Sing praises to your God, children of the Creator of the universe

People **Glad songs are lifted to the one who gives us new life.**

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.
 Gluten-free bread is available from the pastor upon request.

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 543 God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me**

- 1 God, be the love to search and keep me;
 God, be the prayer to move my voice;
 God, be the strength to now uphold me:
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.
- 2 Bind to myself the Name of Holy,
 great cloud of witnesses enfold;
 prophets, apostles, angels witness:
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.
- 3 Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,
 flashing of lightning, strength of wind,
 depth of the sea to soil of planet:
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.
- 4 Walking behind to hem my journey,
 going ahead to light my way,
 and from beneath, above , and all ways:
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.
- 5 Christ in the eyes of all who see me,
 Christ in the ears that hear my voice,
 Christ in the hearts of all who know me:
 O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude Fanfare Imperiale

Antonio Soler (1729-1783)

During the postlude, you may either depart or take a seat to listen, as you wish.
However, do please join us in the fellowship hall downstairs for coffee hour.

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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Psalm 139 Reflection Questions

VS 1-6 Are these verses familiar to you? If yes, when and how did you learn them? Note all the active ways God works, searches, knows...

VS 7-12 Have you ever been lost? Have you ever felt lost to God or Wanted to run from God? What was it like to be found?

VS 13-18 What do you praise God for? When you hear that "you are created by God, that all your thoughts and days are known to God" how do you feel? Comforted or claustrophobic? Thankful or overloaded?

VS 19-22 Have you ever felt overwhelmed by enemies, by hate?

VS 23-24 Could you imagine using these two verses as an outline for prayer every day?

Would you be willing to try this for a week? Read vs 23, then sit in silence; read vs 24 and then sit in silence. Observe what arises.

Today's Coffee Hour

Suyang and Jingying have given today's coffee hour to celebrate their marriage on July 14.

4th Saturday Community Dinner, July 26

This month's 4th Saturday Community Dinner with our neighbors and friends falls on July 26. 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! E-mail us using this address:

4thsaturdaydinners@oldfirst.org

Old First Staffs the Food Pantry, August 2



Mark your calendars and sign up to volunteer on **Saturday, August 2**, when volunteers from Old First and St. Luke's staff the Interfaith Food Pantry.

To visit the sign-up webpage, simply use the QR-code to the right or click on the link below... or just show up!



<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/667004851505698018/false#/invitation>

August 3rd will be a hymn sing Sunday. We will use the whole hymnal; look for hymns that bring you joy or refresh your spirit.

Mark your calendars now for **August 10th** when **Dr. Brad Peterson** will lead a class following coffee hour on the “Painted” glass windows which surround the sanctuary. Did you know they represent many reformed creeds and confessions from around the world?

As If We Were Dreaming

Pastor Maggi will be volunteering at the Presbyterian Youth Triennium **As If We Were Dreaming** in Louisville, Kentucky starting July 25th. The Presbyterian Youth Triennium (PYT) is an ecumenical event hosted by the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and the Cumberland Presbyterian Church that gathers high school age young people every three years. It is a well-planned and thoughtfully led event focused on worship, disciple making, Christian compassion, justice and biblical/theological education. It is also a catalyst for many young people to take the next steps in their faith. The theme is Dreams play an important role in the biblical narrative. It is often through dreams that God speaks to God’s beloved. Sometimes it is a promise. Sometimes it is a warning. Always, it is a reminder that we are not alone; God sees us and is with us. There is a passage in the Psalms where God’s exiled people were all but without hope, wondering if God had forgotten them. But God restored their hope and brought them back home. The only way they could describe their experience was that it was **“as if we were dreaming.”**

When God restores our hope and brings us back to ourselves (physically, spiritually, metaphorically) it can seem as if it is a dream; a dream come true. The thought of bringing young people together in this post-pandemic, complex, and sometimes frightening world feels “as if we are dreaming. We can only imagine that following the isolation of the past few years, the experience of joining with thousands of young people from across the country and world will be rather unreal and dream-like for young people (and adults!) at the 2025 Presbyterian Youth Triennium. Hence, the theme **As If We Were Dreaming.**

This Week at Old First

Sunday July 20

After Worship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Saturday July 26

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry

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

Sunday July 27

SF Marathon – Check the route for street closures

11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary Guest preacher, Dr. Megan Rohrer

After Worship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Old First Presbyterian Church

The Reverend Maggi Henderson Pastor

The Reverend Erwin C. Barron Parish Associate

Larry Marietta Music Director

Jarron Carlson Composer-in-Residence

Brad Peterson Church Office Administrator