

# Old First Presbyterian Church



## November 9, 2025 Stewardship Season: Be a Hopeful Giver

### 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.*

<b>Prelude</b>	Suite for a Musical Clock	G.F. Handel (1685-1759)
<b>Welcome and Church Life</b>		Mary Russell
<b>Introit</b>		Donald Moore (born 1946)
	O come, let us sing unto God, to God our voices raise. O come, with joyful voices praise.	
		From Psalm 95

**\*Call to Worship**

Kurt Schwartzmann

Leader Our help is in the name of the Holy One:  
**Maker of heaven and earth.**  
Leader This is the day that God has made.  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**  
Leader Cry out with joy to the Holy One, all the earth.  
**Worship God with gladness.**  
**Come into God's presence with singing.**  
**Let us worship God!**

**\*Hymn 624**

**I Greet Thee, Who My Sure Redeemer Art**

- 1 I greet thee, who my redeemer art,  
my only trust and Savior of my heart,  
who pain didst undergo for my poor sake;  
I pray thee from our hearts all cares to take.
- 2 Thou art the King of mercy and grace,  
reigning omnipotent in every place:  
so come O King and our whole being sway;  
shine on us with the light of pure day.
- 3 Thou art the life, by alone which we live,  
and all our substance and our strength receive;  
sustain us by thy faith and by thy power,  
and give us strength in every trying hour.
- 4 Thou has the true and perfect gentleness;  
No harshness hast thou and no bitterness.  
O grant to us the grace we find in three,  
that we may dwell in perfect unity.
- 5 Our hope is in no other save in thee;  
our faith is built upon thy promise free;  
Lord, give us peace, and make us calm and sure,  
that in thy strength we evermore endure.

**Prayer of  
Confession**

Kurt Schwartzmann

Holy One, you call us to proclaim the gospel,  
but we remain silent in the presence of evil.  
You call us to be reconciled to you and one another,  
but we are content to live in separation.  
You call us to seek the good of all,  
but we failed to resist the powers of oppression.  
You call us to fight, pretensions and injustice,  
but we sit idly by, endangering the lives of people far and near.

*Silence is kept.*

**Forgive us, God.**

**Reconcile us to you by the power of your Spirit,  
and give us the courage and strength to be reconciled to others;  
through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Savior. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader Do not fear, says the Lord, for I have redeemed you.

People **I have called you by name, you are mine.**

Leader God is doing a new thing:

People **Now it springs forth!**

Leader By the grace of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

People **Hallelujah! Thanks be to God.**

**\*Hymn 466 Come and Fill Our Hearts**

*To be sung three times by all.*

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.**

**You alone, O Lord, are holy.**

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.**

**Alleluia!**

**Moment of Hope:  
Stewardship 2026**

**Offering**

*Ushers will now receive the offering. You may also make your offering electronically using the QR-code to the right or this URL: <https://new.oldfirst.org/donations/>*



**Anthem**

O Love's Redeeming Sacrifice Edward Elgar (1857-1934)  
Edited by Philip Brunelle (born 1943)

O Love's redeeming Sacrifice,  
Who opens wide the gates of heav'n:  
From those who threaten us with death,  
O give us strength, grant us thine aid.  
In all danger and fear of death,  
O give us strength, grant us thine aid.

Sing to the one eternal God  
Unending praise unto thy Name,  
For we are heirs of grace through thee  
Providing us eternal life.  
Through thy love we are heirs of life,  
Providing us eternal life. Amen.

*O Salutaris Hostia*, translated by Philip Brunelle

**\*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!**

**\*The Peace**

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

**Worship Through Hearing God's Word**

**Prayers of the People**

Michael Berg

Prayer Partners

Sidney Hollar, Camryn Hollarsmith, Jordan Hollarsmith, Logan Hollarsmith, Roseanne Hoo, Connie Johnson, John and Carmen Josiah

**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.**

**Motet**

Benedicat Vobis Dominus

Henri Duparc (1848-1933)

Benedicat vobis Dominus ex Sion,  
qui fecit coelum et terram.

*May the LORD bless you out of Zion—  
the LORD, who made heaven and earth.*

Benedicat vobis Dominus ex Sion  
et mittat vobis Dominus auxilium de sancto.  
Pax super totum mundum.

*May the LORD bless you out of Zion,  
And may the LORD send you help from the holy place.  
Peace be upon the whole world.*

From the Psalms

**Scripture**

Job 19:23-27 (page 443)

Luke 20:27-38 (page 79)

Leader The Word of God in scripture.  
People **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

The Reverend Leslie Veen

**Worship Through Responding to God's Word**

**\*Hymn 546     Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing**

- 1    Lord, dismiss us with your blessing;  
fill our hearts with joy and peace;  
let us each, your love possessing,  
triumph in redeeming grace.  
O refresh us, O refresh us,  
traveling through this wilderness.
  
- 2    Thanks we give and adoration  
for your gospel's joyful sound;  
may the fruits of your salvation  
in our hearts and lives abound.  
Ever faithful, ever faithful  
to your truth may we be found.
  
- 3    Savior, when your love shall call us,  
from our struggling pilgrim way,  
let no fear of death appall us,  
glad your summons to obey.  
May we ever, may we ever  
reign with you in endless day.

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

The Reverend Leslie Veen

**Postlude**    Tuba Tune in D Major

C.S. Lang (1891-1971)

*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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**God Loves A Hopeful Giver: Stewardship 2026**

*The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a HOPEFUL giver. And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work.*

– 2 Corinthians 9:6-8 tweaked just a bit

Paul declares that “God loves a cheerful giver,” but this Stewardship Season we’re playing with the idea of God’s love for a HOPEFUL giver. Because God has blessed us in abundance, we can be hope-bearers in the world.

Today’s speaker for our Moment of Hope is Virginia Webb Pekelnicky.

**Spoken and Remembered: Banners in the Sanctuary**

The banners hung around the sanctuary and fellowship hall carry the names of 296 people who died on the streets of San Francisco in 2024. There are dozens more we don’t know.

For decades, an interfaith community in the Tenderloin has come together annually around the Winter Solstice to read the names of neighbors who have died on the streets that year. The Annual Vigil remains an intentional interfaith ceremony of mourning and memory that gives voice and name to the conditions and vulnerabilities of homelessness in San Francisco.

Since 2020, the arts collaborative Skywatchers – with help from various local community organizations – has sewn fabric banners for every loved one lost. Take a moment, look at the memorial banners, and consider the lives they represent.

**Today’s Guest Preacher: Leslie Veen**

Our guest preacher today is the Reverend Leslie Veen, D.Min. Dr. Veen is a graduate of San Francisco Theological Seminary in San Anselmo, a one-time seminary intern at Old First, and a clergy member of our Presbytery of San Francisco. She is a resident of the Lower Haight and currently working on a master’s degree in Counseling Psychology. Leslie is a frequent and welcome guest preacher at Old First. Please greet her at coffee hour.

**Today’s Coffee Hour**

Chris and Cindy Burt have given today’s coffee hour in celebration of their 50<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary.

**Reading “Everything Good about God is True,” November 20**



This fall Old First is reading *Everything Good about God is True: Choosing Faith* by Bruce Reyes-Chow. We will meet next on Thursday, November 20, and will be reviewing Chapters 2, 3, and 4.

You needn't have come to the first meeting to enjoy this one. Please join us!

Here's Zoom link for the on-line discussion:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82503762693?pwd=dj73bJDDwFfuGDmovXiyw3OynkKV5a.1>

**New Member/Inquirer Classes, December**

Curious about Old First? Or the Presbyterian Church (USA)? Interested in becoming a member of the church? Send an E-mail to the church office ([brad@oldfirst.org](mailto:brad@oldfirst.org)) and Brad will pass your name along to Pastor Maggi. She will be leading New Member/Inquirer Classes this coming December. Watch the announcements page for upcoming dates and times.

**This Week at Old First**

**Sunday November 9**

- After Worship Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
- 2:00 pm Board of Deacons, On-Line
- 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

**Tuesday November 11**

- 7:00 pm Worship Committee, On Line

**Friday November 14**

- 8:00 pm O1C: Celebration! Tanya Gabrielian, piano: music of Schumann, Aminikia, Franck

**Saturday November 15**

- 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry
- 1:00 pm Presbyterian Women, On-Line

**Sunday November 16**

- 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 am Worship
- After Worship Coffee Hour
- 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

**Poinsettias for Advent and Christmas**  
**Deadline: Monday, November 24**

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 **Thirty (\$30)** 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, November 24.**

- My name: \_\_\_\_\_
- The total dollar amount of my gift(s): \$30 x \_\_\_\_ = \_\_\_\_\_
- Here is **one dedication for each Thirty (\$30) 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: If you use a check, write “Poinsettias” on the memo line. Alternatively, you can make your payment on Old First's donations page using this web address – <https://new.oldfirst.org/donations/> - or the QR-code to right. Just choose “poinsettias” from the “select giving opportunity” drop-down box.

