

Old First Presbyterian Church



Eastertide Sunday, May 3, 2026

Worship Through Praising God

Easy-to-use headphones 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 Sarabande, Gavotte I, and Gavotte II
from English Suite No. 3 in G Minor, BWV 808

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

**Welcome and
Church Life**

The Reverend Erwin C. Barron

Introit Sanctus from *Missa de Angelis* 12th century Gregorian Chant, Mode VI

Sanctus, sanctus, sanctus *Holy, holy, holy*

Dominus Deus Sabaoth: *Lord God of Hosts:*

Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. *Heaven and earth are full of your glory.*

Hosanna in excelsis. *Hosanna in the highest.*

Benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini. *Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.*

Hosanna in excelsis. *Hosanna in the highest.*

***Call to Worship**

Kurt Schwartzmann

Leader We live in God's world.
People **Holy, Holy, Holy: God is in this place.**
Leader We come to this special place to know God's presence.
People **Holy, Holy, Holy: God is in this place.**
Leader The Lord God Almighty meets us here and everywhere in God's world.
People **Holy, Holy, Holy: God is in this place.**
All **Let us worship God!**

***Hymn 1 Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!**
1 **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
2 **Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,**
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.
3 **Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,**
though the eye of sinfulness thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee,
perfect in power, in love and purity.
4 **Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!**
All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

**Prayer of
Confession**

Kurt Schwartzmann

Holy Lord, we are at war again!
We threaten to annihilate entire cultures of people in this war.
Angry people are shooting at government officials!
We are divided into groups of despised political enemies.
We hate and ridicule each other much more than we love.
Our hope dwindles in the constant barrage
of vitriol and bad news.
We find ourselves too often looking for a quick,
end-time salvation from you.
Save us, Almighty God.

Silent Meditation

But we must walk forward,
following a voice we cannot always hear,
into a future we cannot control.

We entrust our lives to you.

Have mercy on us, O God of the ages! Amen.

***Assurance of
Forgiveness**

Leader

Christ demonstrated God's amazing grace in times like this
with crucifixion and resurrection and ascension.

That gives us a certainty about where events we care about
fit into the ultimate plan,

and despite our lack of hope and our fear,

we can know with certainty that God is with us!

People

Christ is risen! God Reigns! God loves!

We are forgiven!

***Response**

In God's Sight

Luscombe/Gaine

We sing the phrase three times.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in treble clef with a common time signature. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the response: "In God's sight we are made whole- we are". The second staff contains the melody for the second line: "full of God's love- Al- le- lu- ia, A- men! (In God's)". Chord symbols are placed above and below the notes: F, em, am, dm, C/E, dm, G7, C.

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

And I Saw a New Heaven

Edgar L. Bainton (1880-1956)

And I saw a new heaven and a new earth:

for the first heaven and the first earth were passed away;
and there was no more sea.

And I, John, saw the holy city, new Jerusalem,
coming down from God out of heaven,
prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a great voice out of heaven saying,

Behold, the tabernacle of God is with men,
and he will dwell with them, and they shall be his people,
and God himself shall be with them, and be their God.

And God shall wipe away all tears from their eyes;

and there shall be no more death, neither sorrow, nor crying,
neither shall there be any more pain:

for the former things are passed away.

Revelation 21:1-4

***Doxology** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Genevan Psalter, 1551
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen. Thomas Ken (1637-1711)

Time with
Our Children

***The Peace**

Leader The peace of the Lord be always with you!
People And also with you!

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

**Prayers of the
People**

Rick Wiebe

Prayer Partners Rose Marie Springer, Stephen and Sarah Taber, Horngsheng Tu
and Hsiaochien Chuang, Stephen and Betty Voris

**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.**

Scripture

1 Thessalonians 4:16-18
Revelation to John 4:1-11 with selections from 20:7-21:8

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

“Will Iran Bring the Rapture?” The Reverend Erwin C. Barron

**Confession of
Faith**

**In a broken and fearful world the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,
to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and
to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, “Come, Lord Jesus!”**

With believers in every time and place,
we rejoice that nothing in life or in death
can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 357 The Days Are Surely Coming**

- 1 The days are surely coming, says God to all the earth,
when you will see my promise: salvation come to birth.
My righteousness and justice will spread thorough the land
and you will be delivered by my almighty hand.
- 2 The days are surely coming, says Christ, the promised one,
when you will read my warning in moon and stars and sun.
Though earth and heaven tremble, stand up and do not fear,
for I am your redeemer, and I am drawing near.
- 3 The days are surely coming when we will know at last
the fullness of God's presence, God's promise, come to pass.
Then righteousness and justice will spread through the land
and we will be delivered by God's almighty hand.

***Charge and
Benediction**

Postlude Étude, Op. 10, No. 3, in E major Frédéric Chopin (1810-1849)

During the postlude, you may either depart or take a seat to listen, as you wish.

Please join us for coffee hour in the Fellowship Hall.

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 Musicians

Old First thanks Michael Desnoyers, conductor, and Sam Cheng, piano and organ, for leading music in our worship during Larry Marietta’s time away.

Today’s Preacher

Our parish associate, the Reverend Erwin Barron, will leads worship and preaches for us today, as Pastor Maggi is away for continuing education in Georgia and North Carolina.

Today’s Liturgy

Today’s confession and assurance of forgiveness are loosely based on an article in *Christianity Today* written by Russell Moore.

Today’s Coffee Hour

Kristi Hoerauf has given today’s coffee hour.

Ballot Proposition Review, Today, Online

Please join us this afternoon at 2:00 pm via Zoom for a review of the San Francisco ballot propositions on the ballot for June 2. The review will be led by Betty Packard Voris, chair of the San Francisco Ballot Simplification Committee. To join the Zoom meeting, use this link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86730500621?pwd=MdiZasya4jElag7l8nGdgH4NT19eEi.1>

This link can also be found at www.oldfirst.org.

This Week at Old First

- Sunday May 3, 5th Sunday of Eastertide**
- After Worship Coffee Hour
- 2:00 pm Ballot Proposition Review, Online
- 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
- Saturday May 9**
- 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry
- Sunday May 10, 6th Sunday of Eastertide**
- 9:30 am Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 am Worship
- After Worship Coffee Hour
- 2:00 pm Board of Deacons, Online
- 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
Brad Peterson Church Office Administrator