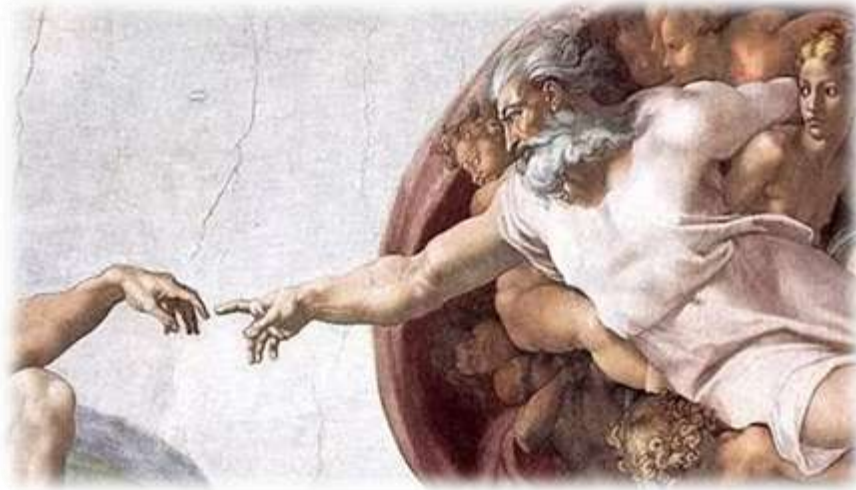


# Old First Presbyterian Church



*Detail from Michelangelo's ceiling fresco in the Sistine Chapel of the Vatican Palace, Rome*

**Sunday, July 19, 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 hand it to an usher.*

*Silence is requested as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

*\* At the asterisk, please rise in body or spirit.*

**Prelude** Variations on an American Hymntune (NETTLETON)  
Gordon Young (1919-1998)

**Welcome and  
Church Life** The Reverend Erwin Barron

**Introit** Ghanaian Melody  
Arranged by Alfred V. Fedak (born 1953)

Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise!  
Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise:  
God's love is great and endures forever.  
Praise God, all you nations. People of God, sing praise!

Psalm 117

**\*Call to Worship**

Kurt Schwartzmann

Leader We come today to worship God.

But who is this God we worship?

**People God is with us in this place.**

Leader We worship God, Lord of lords and King of kings.

**People God, our lord and king, is in this place.**

Leader We worship the strong protective God.

**People God, our mighty fortress, is in this place.**

Leader We worship a compassionate God of love.

**People God of steadfast love, God of the sparrow is in this place.**

Leader We worship the immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
multi-faceted, known and unknown.

**People Let us worship the expansive God of the universe.**

**\*Hymn 12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee

**Prayer of  
Confession**

Kurt Schwartzmann

We call on you, O God, in love of you, in fear and in awe,  
but ashamed.

We are not always sure who and what you are,  
but we know we need you,  
and we need your forgiveness.

We think of you as our Lord and our King and our Judge,  
but forget you are loving and compassionate.

We think of you as a wise and stern father,  
but forget you are also our life-giving mother.

We know you are a God who brings miracles and healing,  
but are dismayed when you let death and terrible things  
happen in our world.

We are ashamed that we cannot figure you out,  
and we get angry at you.

O mysterious God,  
forgive us for trying to fully understand you.

*Time for silence meditation on who God is for us*

When we get frustrated with you, O God,  
when we are confused by you, O God,  
when we cannot understand who you are, O God,  
forgive us for wanting certainty.

Help us know you in love despite your mystery.

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader

Let us remember  
that we are a part of God and God is a part of us, always.  
We don't have to fully understand God, and we cannot.

People

Even if we can never know fully know God,  
God loves and supports us, stands with us,  
and we are forgiven!  
Hallelujah. Amen.

**\*Hymn 447**

G Am D7 Gsus G C

We are for - giv - en. We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to

G Am7 Dsus D G Am

God. Thanks be to God. We are for - giv - en.

D7 Gsus G C G Am7 D G

We are for - giv - en. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

**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.olderfirst.org/ donations/](https://new.olderfirst.org/donations/)*



**Solo**

The 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm (Dedicated to My Mother)

Bobby McFerrin (born 1950)

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 dwell in Her house, forever 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.

**\*Doxology**

Genevan Psalter, 1551

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
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**

Sebastian Dueñas

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

|                                           |
|-------------------------------------------|
| <b>Worship Through Hearing God's Word</b> |
|-------------------------------------------|

**Scripture** Hosea 11:1-9 (page 794)  
Psalm 18:1-3 (page 470)  
Acts 17:22-29 (page 129)

**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** "In the Beginning God..." The Reverend Erwin Barron

|                                       |
|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Worship Through Holy Communion</b> |
|---------------------------------------|

**Invitation to the  
Lord's Table**

**The Great Prayer  
of Thanksgiving**

**Leader** The Lord be with you.  
**People** **And with your spirit.**

**Leader** Lift up your hearts.

**People** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

**Leader** Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

**People** **It is good and right so to do.**

|                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Leader                      | <p>We do indeed lift our hearts to you, O Lord,<br/> but sometimes we are not quite sure what that means.<br/> Eternal Spirit, Wholly Love, we come to this table<br/> mindful of your endless expressions.<br/> You are the Divine Mystery<br/> known by many names and felt in every culture.<br/> We pause to recognize your presence<br/> in the vastness of the universe and<br/> in the intimate, everyday moments of our lives.</p> <p><i>The leader continues the prayer.</i></p> |
| Leader                      | <p>Transform us from the inside out.<br/> As we partake, make us one with you,<br/> one with each other, and one with the whole of creation.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| People                      | <p><b>Empower us to be your hands and feet,<br/> promoting equity, compassion, and peace in a hurting world.<br/> May we leave this table refreshed,<br/> carrying your sacred love into all the world. AMEN.</b></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Leader                      | <p>Using the words Jesus used<br/> to address the God of the universe,<br/> let us continue the prayer as Jesus taught us:</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Lord's<br>Prayer        | <p><b>Our Father, who art in heaven,<br/> hallowed be thy name,<br/> thy kingdom come,<br/> thy will be done,<br/> on earth as it is in heaven.<br/> Give us this day our daily bread.<br/> And forgive us our debts,<br/> as we forgive our debtors.<br/> And lead us not into temptation,<br/> but deliver us from evil.<br/> For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory,<br/> forever. Amen.</b></p>                                                                         |
| The Words of<br>Institution |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The Bread<br>and the Cup    | <p><i>All are invited to come forward to share in the Lord's Supper.<br/> Receive the bread from the pastor, then dip it in the wine or grape juice.<br/> There is wine in the chalice and grape juice in the cup.<br/> Gluten-free bread is available from the pastor upon request.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                          |
|------------------------------------------|
| Worship Through Responding to God's Word |
|------------------------------------------|

**\*Hymn 760      Bring Many Names**

- 1    Bring many names, beautiful and good,  
     celebrate, in parable and story,  
     holiness in glory, living, loving God.  
     Hail and Hosanna! Bring many names!
- 2    Strong mother God, working night and day,  
     planning all the wonders of creation,  
     setting each equation, genius at play:  
     Hail and Hosanna, strong mother God!
- 3    Warm father God, hugging every child,  
     feeling all the strains of human living,  
     caring and forgiving till we're reconciled:  
     Hail and Hosanna, warm father God!
- 4    Old, aching God, grey with endless care,  
     calmly piercing evil's new disguises,  
     glad of good surprises, wiser than despair:  
     Hail and Hosanna, old, aching God!
- 5    Young, growing God, eager, on the move,  
     saying no to falsehood and unkindness,  
     crying out for justice, giving all you have:  
     Hail and Hosanna, young, growing God!
- 6    Great, living God, never fully known,  
     joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
     closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:  
     Hail and Hosanna, great, living God!

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

**Postlude**      Hallelujah from *Messiah*      G.F. Handel (1685-1759)  
                                                                                         Arranged by Robert Gower (born 1952)

*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, PC(USA)

Sharing God's Love, Welcome, and Justice  
On our Corner, in Our City, and in the World  
[www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org) • 415-776-5552  
Find Us on Facebook and YouTube



### Today's Coffee Hour

Kristi Hoerauf has given today's coffee hour in memory of Anna Rosenberg (July 19, 1899–May 9, 1983), a U.S. public official and presidential adviser. Among other national posts, she served as an Assistant Secretary of Defense in the 1950s, leading creation of the GI Bill and desegregation of U.S. armed forces.

### 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinner, This Saturday, July 25

This month's 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinner with our neighbors and friends falls on July 25, this coming Saturday. Can you help serve the meal and feast with our guests at the dinner? **Volunteers are welcomed from 4:45 pm on.** Food service begins at 5:15 pm. Let us know that you can help. E-mail this address:

[4thsaturdaydinner@oldfirst.org](mailto:4thsaturdaydinner@oldfirst.org)

### Next Sunday's Guest Preacher: Nancy Martin Vincent

Next Sunday our preacher will be the Reverend Nancy Martin Vincent, synod executive of the Synod of the Pacific, the regional body of the PC(USA) to which Old First belongs. With headquarters in Petaluma, the Synod of the Pacific includes the presbyteries covering northern California, the Central Valley, all of Nevada and Oregon, most of southern Idaho, and a bit of Washington state. For more information on our synod, visit the synod's website: <https://synodpacific.org/>



### Next Week's Moment for Mission: Veronica Rodríguez, ALAS

Veronica Rodríguez from Ayudando Latinos a Soñar (ALAS) will offer a Moment for Mission next Sunday, July 26. ALAS is a nationally-recognized nonprofit that works with and serves the Latino community on the coast south of San Francisco. It is one of the organizations that Old First supports with our mission giving. Veronica will meet with us following worship to share more about ALAS and its work. To read up on ALAS, visit its website: <https://www.alasdreams.com/>



### 227<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the PC(USA)

The 227<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church (USA) met in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, from June 22 through July 2. The General Assembly is the deliberative body for the whole PC(USA), of which Old First is an integral part. See the insert in this bulletin for information about the work and decisions of the General Assembly.

### Old First Staffs the Food Pantry, August 1



Old First and St. Luke's volunteers will staff the Food Pantry this coming **Saturday, August 1**. So mark your calendars and sign up early!

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



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

### Venezuela Earthquake Disaster Relief

We have all seen pictures of and heard reports about the horrible devastation caused by the two major earthquakes in Venezuela. So many people are suffering, grieving, and in need of help. Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, a program of the Presbyterian Church (USA), is coordinating an emergency response with local partners and the Latin America and Caribbean forum of ACT Alliance. Emergency response includes shelter, food, medicines, WASH (water, sanitation and hygiene) and more. Thousands of people need our help. Please donate to help with this relief effort through PDA. Use the QR-code to right or this link:



<https://pcusa.org/disaster-assistance/active-responses/international-disaster/venezuela-earthquakes>

### This Week at Old First

#### **Sunday July 19**

After Worship Coffee Hour

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

#### **Saturday July 25**

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry

5:15 pm 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Meal, Fellowship Hall

#### **Sunday July 26**

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

Brad Peterson Church Office Administrator