Old First Presbyterian Church

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 Aria — Charles Callahan (1951-2023)

Benedictus — Max Reger (1873-1916)

Welcome and Church Life — The Reverend Erwin C. Barron

Introit — Roger Grant McMurrin (1939-2023)

Sing unto God a new song. Sing unto God all the earth.
Sing unto God. O bless God's Name.
Proclaim good tidings of God's salvation from day to day.
Sing unto God a new song!

Psalm 96

***Call to Worship** Jeanne Kirkwood

Leader Here in this place, in this assembly,
we come to worship the living God.

People **In you, O God, we hope;**
in you, Creator of love, we live.

Leader Here in this sacred space, in these very moments,
we are invited to know God's Word-for-Us.

People **In you, Christ of the Way, we rejoice;**
in you, dear Brother, grace is as near as your heart.

Leader Here on this day of gentleness and beauty,
we are filled with the peace of God.

People **In you, O Spirit, we find our path;**
in you, Teacher of hope, we learn to serve.

***Hymn 412** **God, Reveal Your Presence**

1 **God, reveal your presence: gladly we adore you,**
and with awe appear before you.
Holy is your temple: all within keep silence,
humbly bow with deepest reverence.
You alone now we own
as our God and Savior:
praise your name forever!

2 **In God's holy presence, hear the harps resounding;**
see the crowds the throne surrounding:
"Holy, holy, holy!" hear the hymn ascending,
angels, saints, their voices blending.
Turn your ear to us here;
hear, O Christ, the praises
that your church now raises.

3 **Fountain of all blessing, purify my spirit;**
all my trust is in your merit.
Like the holy angels on your glory gazing,
we adore, hosannas raising.
Let your will ever still
rule your church terrestrial;
as the hosts celestial.

Prayer of Confession

Jeanne Kirkwood

You would call us into life, Inviting God,
but our busy lives keep us from responding.
You remember every word we utter, every prayer we whisper,
but we forget all the little ways you care for us.
You would make your gentleness known through us,
but we lash out in anger and fear towards others.
Forgive us, God of all hope,
and remember your Servant, Jesus Christ.
In Christ, we can live in your way.
Through Christ, we can learn the dreams you have for us.
With Christ, we can open our arms
and embrace all those we meet.

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader — As we are forgiven by God, we can begin to live in all those ways in which we can live justly, act honorably, and love completely.
This is indeed Good News for us!

People — **At the Wedding Feast, we are fed with grace and nourished with joy, that we may go and bring hope and peace to everyone we meet.**
Thanks be to God! Amen.

***Hymn 447**

Offering

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

Anthem Hallelujah, Praise, and Honor Be

Johann Christian Bechler (184-1857)
Edited by Károly Köpe (1926-2002)

Hallelujah! Praise, honor be unto the gentle Lamb of God,
in whom we seek salvation, who with his precious blood us bought,
and set us free from evil's might and to himself united.
Holy, blessed is his friendship; holy, blessed is this union;
holy, blessed is the friendship and communion with the Savior.
By his grace all things we savor.
Holy, holy, sing the heavens, joined below by all creation
praising him with "Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Praise and glory!"

***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!**

***Hymn 457** **How Happy Are the Saints of God**

1 **How happy are the saints of God**
who do not heed the wicked way;
delighting in the holy Word
they seek God's wisdom night and day.

2 **Like deeply rooted trees, they stand**
beside an ever-flowing stream.
Their fruit is plentiful and good;
their leaves are always growing green.

3 **While wicked ones are whisked away**
like straw before the driving wind,
the saints are firmly planted still,
and God will keep them to the end.

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Prayers of the People

Sarah Taber

Prayer Partners

Mary Carter, Yvonne Cheng, Samuel, Joshua and Anne, Ted Chiao, Buddy Tate Choy and Jeanne Choy Tate, Hal Christiansen, Tracy Clagett

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.

Anthem

Jean Langlais (1907-1991)

Grace to you and peace from God
who is, and who was, and who is to come,
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness
and the ruler of kings on earth.

To Christ, who loves us,
and has freed us from our sins by his blood,
and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Sovereign–
to him be glory and dominion, for ever and ever. Amen.

John 1:4-6

Isaiah 25:1-9 *Praise for Deliverance from Oppression*

Leader O Lord, you are my God;
I will exalt you; I will praise your name,
for you have done wonderful things,
plans formed of old, faithful and sure.

People **For you have made the city a heap,**
the fortified city a ruin;
the palace of foreigners is a city no more;
it will never be rebuilt.

Leader Therefore strong peoples will glorify you;
cities of ruthless nations will fear you.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.

People **When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,**
the noise of foreigners like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

Leader On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

People **And he will destroy on this mountain**
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the covering that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death forever.

Leader Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the Lord has spoken.

People **It will be said on that day,**
"See, this is our God;
we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the Lord for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation."

Matthew 22:1-14 *The Parable of the Wedding Banquet*

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 John M. Brett, Chaplain
San Francisco Night Ministry

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 687** **Our God, Our Help in Ages Past**

1 **Our God, our help in ages past,**
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

2 **Beneath the shadow of thy throne**
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.

3 **Before the hills sin order stood,**
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.

4 **A thousand ages in thy sight**
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

5 **Time, like an ever rolling stream,**
bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream
dies at the opening day.

6 **Our God, our help in ages past,**
our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while life shall last,
and our eternal home.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude "Thy Pleasures, Moderation, Give," Part 3, No. 8
from *L'Allegro, il Penseroso ed il Moderato,* HWV55
G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

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 on the lower level.

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 • 415-776-5552
Find Us on Facebook and YouTube

World Communion Offering

Last Sunday was World Communion Sunday, but you can still make your special World Communion Offering using the envelope in this bulletin.

Old First Garage Mural

Yesterday, we got a good start on painting the new mural on the wall of our Old First Garage, but there will be further opportunities to help get this inspirational mural on the wall! If you can help, please let Erwin Barron know.

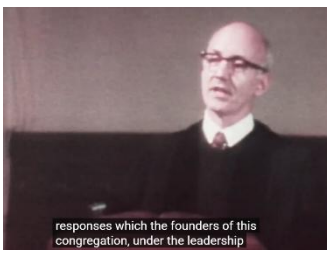
Review of Ballot Propositions & Initiatives via Zoom October 18 & October 25

Please join Betty Packard Voris, member of Old First and chairperson of the San Francisco Ballot Simplification Council, for a review of the ballot propositions and initiatives on the San Francisco and California ballots **via Zoom at 2:00 pm on Sunday, October 18, and Sunday, October 25**. Given the large number of initiatives and their complicated language, we are scheduling two sessions for Betty to explain the initiatives and their implications. (Note: Election Day is November 3.)

To join the Zoom meetings, use either the QR-code to the right or this address: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88276425382?pwd=UT7ja5bu4A3cqXzrYe58ovpBcOtvQL.1

125th Anniversary Film Discovered

Digging through Old First archives, we recently discovered a reel of 16mm film with the label "**KGO - Old First Church."** It turned out to be a special documentary film produced by a local TV station in 1974 on Old First's 125th anniversary. Since in 2024 we celebrated our 175th anniversary, we can now look back 50 years - half a century - to see how we have evolved. Yet it's amazing how the sermon of former pastor John Bodo so much reflects our views today about sharing God's love in our city and the world. Old First continues to "enlarge the place of our tent" as the film suggests at the end. Check out Old First in 1974 by using the QR-code or this link: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gF8X0W76F10



Perk Up Coffee Hour!

Can you sponsor coffee hour? For a $50 contribution, you or a group of you can sponsor this important weekly community-building ministry.

Yes, indeed, hospitality is a ministry! Use the sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Sacramento Street entrance to pick a date; then enter your name and a dedication. Your dedication will appear in that Sunday's bulletin. Alternatively, you can contact the church office to find a date and to sign up.

This Week at Old First

Sunday	**October 11**
After Worship	Coffee Hour
After Coffee	
2:00 pm	Board of Deacons, On-Line
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
Monday	**October 12**
	Church Office Closed
Friday	**October 16**
8:00 pm	O1C: Kloetzel Chapman Duo
	Jennifer Kloetzel, cello, Allegra Chapman, piano
Saturday	**October 17**
9:00 am	Interfaith Food Pantry
1:00 pm	Presbyterian Women, On-Line
Sunday	**October 18**
9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am	Worship
After Worship	Coffee Hour
2:00 pm	Review of Ballot Propositions & Initiatives
	with Betty Packard Voris, via Zoom
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday	**October 20**
7:00 pm	Worship Committee, On-Line

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