# Old First Presbyterian Church



## Sunday, June 23, 2024

#### 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** 

Sam Cheng, organist

Welcome and Church Life

Introit

As Dew Falls Gently at Dawn

Soon Sae Kim Chelsea Hollow, soprano

As dew falls gently at dawn, speak to us your beautiful word. Jesus, Lord, when you send your word, word of life and lamp to our feet, all we who wander in sin find strength and newness of life. Jesus, Lord, when you send your word morning breaks and we walk in light.

Hee Bo Kim translated by Edward Poitras, alt.

Bill Feister \*Call to Worship

> Leader Though others may forget us,

People God remembers us in every moment. Leader

Though we may seem worthless to some,

People We are precious in God's eyes.

Leader Though we may feel hollow, People God pours grace into us.

Leader Though we think our pockets are empty,

People God gives us more than we ever imagined.

#### \*Hymn 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

- Love divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven, to earth come down, fix in us thy humble dwelling; all thy faithful mercies crown. Jesus, thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love thou art; visit us with thy salvation; enter every trembling heart.
- Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast; let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest. Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be; end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.
- Come, Almighty, to deliver; let us all thy life receive; suddenly return, and never, never-more thy temples leave. Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above, pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.
- Finish then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be; let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee: changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place, till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love and praise.

# Prayer of Confession

Bill Feister

Saving God, we confess

that our faith is too small, our fear is too great.

When we are overwhelmed,

we think you do not care enough for us.

When life is uncertain and risky,

we are not sure we can trust you with our whole hearts.

Even when you move among us in powerful ways, we question who you are.

Forgive us and calm our fears, we pray.

Silence is kept.

Teach us to trust in your power

to save and guide us in every circumstance.

Grant us your peace, which is clearly beyond our understanding. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

# \*Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader

While we may believe God does not always have the time for us, there is not a moment when God is not listening, not forgiving, not restoring us to grace-filled lives.

God seeks to be reconciled to us through Christ and longs for us to seek peace and reconciliation in our worldly relationships.

People

This is indeed the acceptable time, to recognize, to accept, and to live out the reality that we are redeemed by our God. Thanks be to God. Amen.

\*Sung Assurance

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

Live in charity and steadfast love. Live in charity; God will dwell with you.

> Latin, 8<sup>th</sup> Century English translation: Taizé Community, 1991

Offering

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



**Solo** Girl-Butterfly-Girl

Tsippi Fleischer Chelsea Hollow, soprano

A girl dreamed that she was a butterfly. When she awoke, she did not know if she was a girl who had dreamed she was a butterfly, or a butterfly dreaming it was a girl.

Hundreds of years passed on.

It is evening

in the breeze I hear children, children running like they're butterflies, dreaming they are children, children dreaming they're butterflies

children dreaming they're butterflies.

All was torn apart outside: children, a butterfly.

Translation by Chelsea Hollow

OLD HUNDREDTH

\*Doxology

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.

Time with Our Children

The Reverend Erwin C. Barron

\*The Peace

Leader Peace be with you.

People And also with you.

#### Worship Through Hearing God's Word

Prayers of the

People Kurt Schwartzmann

Prayer Partners

Amir Sadeghi and Saeedeh Heidari, Kurt Schwartzmann, Pam Sebastian, Randy Smith and Andrea Segura Smith, Sally Spencer, Mark Spicer and Sam

The Lord's

Our Father, who art in heaven,

Prayer

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 Samuel 17:57-18:5, 10-16 and 2 Corinthians 6:1-13

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** The Complexity of Being Human The Reverend Leslie Veen

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

#### \*Hymn 693 Though I May Speak

- 1 Though I may speak with bravest fire, And have the gift to all inspire, And have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.
- 2 Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess, but not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.
- 3 Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control; Our spirits long to be made whole. Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship, and are freed.

\*Charge and Benediction

Solo Chelsea Hollow, soprano

Come! Open your heart! Show your mercy to all those in fear! We are called to be hope for the hopeless so hatred and violence will be no more.

We are called to act with justice; we are called to love tenderly; we are called to serve one another, to walk humbly with God.

Postlude Sam Cheng, organist

You are invited to leave or to stay for the postlude as you desire. Please join us in the fellowship hall downstairs for coffee.

#### Old First Presbyterian Church

# 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 Meta/Facebook and YouTube

#### 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, a clergy member of our Presbytery of San Francisco, the Associate Dean for Academic and Student Affairs at Pacific Lutheran Theological Seminary in Berkeley, and a resident of the Lower Haight. Leslie is a frequent and welcome guest preacher at Old First. Please greet her at coffee hour.

#### Today's Coffee Hour

Mary Russell has given today's coffee hour as a belated wish for a "Happy Fathers' Day!"

#### Mark Your Calendar: Pride Day, June 30

There is interest in walking/riding in the gay pride parade on June 30! If you're interested as well, please call or E-mail Pastor Maggi by tomorrow, Monday, June 24.



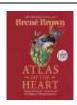
#### Food Bank Barrel Challenge, June 2024

When you go shopping this June, pick up one of these items and bring it on Sunday to our SF/Marin Food Bank barrel found in the Narthex. Make it a spiritual practice to thank God, to feed those who hunger, and to rejoice in God's abundance and your opportunity to practice hospitality. All food donated goes directly into our SF/Marin community.

For June 30, bring canned meats and tuna.

No glass containers please!

## Next Book Discussion Session, July 1



The sixth session of our new book discussion of Brené Brown's *Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connections and Language of the Human Heart* will take place via Zoom on Monday, **July 1**, at 7:00 pm. At this session we'll cover Chapter 6 "Places We Go When We're Hurting." Below is the Zoom link to the Monday night sessions. The link can also be found in Maggi's weekly E-mail on Saturdays. New-comers are welcome!

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744087981?pwd=TVVOUVptVldlMll1T2VFQ2ZMMWl0QT09

### AGO: Organist Rashaan Rori Allwood in Recital, July 2, 1:30 pm

The American Guild of Organists will host an organ recital on Tuesday, July 2, at 1:30 pm as part of its biennial national convention in San Francisco this June 30 through July 4.

The recital will feature Toronto-based organist and composer Rashaan Rori Allwood playing Old First's renowned organ by Visscher Associates, Opus VI (1995). **This recital is free and open to the public.** 



#### Old First Hosts the "deCycles"

The deCycles, a cross-country cycling youth group based in Bloomington, Indiana, will pedal their bicycles over 1500 miles in twenty-three days from Seattle to Los Angeles along the Pacific Coast. Along their route, Old First Presbyterian Church will open its Fellowship Hall for them to camp overnight from July 3 to 5.

The cornerstone of deCycles is not about a bike trip. It is a *life* trip. Anyone can grow physically, mentally, and spiritually with this type of "pilgrimage". Each participant has to reach deep into themselves to connect with Divine Spirit. This empowers them through adversity and exhaustion. Through their stories and music, they inspire all ages to "never give up, no matter how difficult the challenge," and to "listen to your heart and remember we are all wonderful children of our Creator."

The deCycles are grateful for once again being able to stay overnight at Old First.

#### **Coffee Hour**

Would you like to support our life together by sponsoring Sunday coffee hour? There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Sacramento Street lobby. Choose a date, add your name and dedication to appear in the bulletin, and then make your contribution of \$50 by check or by using the QR-code to the right.



#### This Week at Old First

Sunday June 23

After Worship Coffee Hour

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday June 25

6:00 pm Session, On-Line

Saturday June 29

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry, Fellowship Hall

Sunday June 30

11:00 am Worship

After Worship Coffee Hour

4:00 pm O1C: "From Rags to Mystics 2," Lee Alan Nolan, piano

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Monday July 1

7:00 pm Book Discussion Group, On-Line

Tuesday July 2

1:30 pm AGO: Organist Rashaan Rori Allwood in Recital

## Old First Presbyterian Church

The Reverend Maggi Henderson Pastor and Moderator

The Reverend Erwin C. Barron Parish Associate

Larry Marietta Music Director

Brad Peterson Church Office Administrator

Kristi Hoerauf Wedding Coordinator