

# Old First Presbyterian Church



## Eastertide May 4, 2025

### 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>	Gammal fäbodpsalm (från Dalarna)	Oskar Lindberg (1887-1955)
<b>Welcome and Church Life</b>		
<b>Introit</b>	Charles Yannerella (born 1949)	
	Sing to God in this holy temple.	
	Sing to God in the firmament above.	
	Praise to God with the resounding trumpet.	
	Praise to God with the timbrel and the dance.	
	Sing God's praises.	
	Praise God in the highest.	

**\*Call to Worship**

Betty Voris

Leader Brothers and sisters, if you lift your net and it is empty,  
come here!

**People We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.**

Leader If you open your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One,  
come here!

**People We'll find the Risen Christ here among us.**

Leader If your life is filled with mourning,  
come here!

**People Christ is leading a dance of joy.**

Leader Come here, sisters and brothers,

**People to give thanks to God and hope to the people.**

**\*Hymn 244 This Joyful Eastertide**

- 1 This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow.  
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.  
Had Christ, who once was slain,  
not burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain.  
But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.
- 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber  
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.  
Had Christ, who once was slain...
- 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.  
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.  
Had Christ, who once was slain...

**Prayer of  
Confession**

Betty Voris

Now that Easter Day is done and gone, Holy One,  
we no longer hear the special music,  
but listen to temptation's familiar refrains.  
We no longer walk those straight paths of joy and wonder,  
but wander the crooked streets to our old haunts.  
Rather than living in the newness you bring,  
we do things the way they have always been done.  
Fortunately, God of seaside breakfasts,  
you know the way out of our messy lives,  
so take us by the hand to lead us.  
You wipe our busy schedules off our calendars  
so we may spend more time  
with those who need our love and attention.

*Silence is kept.*

**You challenge us to fish from the other side of our worries,  
so we may pull in all the grace, wonder, and mercy  
offered to us by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.  
Amen.**

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader

Why should we weep?

Joy comes to us this morning, and every moment of our lives.  
The Lamb of God has come, to share mercy and hope with us,  
so we can praise our God with joyous hearts.

People

**We will lift glad songs of joy,  
for all the blessings God has given to us.  
We will offer our hearts and hands  
in love and service to others  
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven!**

**\*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!**

**Offering**

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



**Anthem**

Shaker Text and Tune, New Lebanon, NY (1847)

Arranged by Philip R. Dietterich (born 1931)

O brethren, aren't you happy, ye followers of the Lamb.

Sing on, dance on, followers of Emmanuel,

sing on and dance on, ye followers of the Lamb.

O sisters, aren't you happy, ye followers of the Lamb.

Sing on...

O, I'm glad I am a Christian, ye followers of the Lamb.

Sing on...

O, I mean to be obedient, ye followers of the Lamb.

Sing on...

**\*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!**

**Time with Our  
Children**

**\*The Peace**

Leader	Peace be with you.
People	<b>And also with you.</b>

<b>Worship Through Hearing God's Word</b>
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**Prayers of the  
People**

Erwin Barron

Prayer Partners

Pat Amdur, Alison Armstrong and Julia, Beth Arnaoot and Liny  
Adams, Carolyn Asbury, Erwin Barron and Coy Abellano, Gabriele  
Beck-Engeser

**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**

John 21:1-19 (page 109)

Leader	The Word of God in scripture.
People	<b>Thanks be to God.</b>

**Anthem**

Music and Text: Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)

Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, over all a vigil keep;  
 In my name lead them forth gently as a shepherd.

When they wander, when they stray, their protector be.  
 As you do unto my flock, thus ye do to me.

Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, over all a vigil keep;  
 In my name lead them forth gently as a shepherd.

Unto all who lose the way, hope and comfort be.  
 As ye do unto my flock, thus ye do to me.

Feed my lambs, tend my sheep, over all a vigil keep;  
 In my name, lead them forth gently,  
 gently as a loving shepherd of the Lord.

**Sermon**

The Reverend John Anderson

**Worship Through Responding to God's Word****\*Hymn 751      We Will Rise Up and Follow**

**1      From the nets of our labors, through the noise and confusion,  
 from city or seashore, Jesus summons us all.**

**Refrain      We will rise up and follow, Christ before and beside us,  
 loving pattern to guide us, as we answer the call.**

**2      When we faint and grow weary from the bearing of burdens,  
 with a message of comfort, Jesus summons us all.**

**3      In the eyes of the stranger— tearful, joyous, or frightened—  
 in the face of each neighbor, Jesus summons us all.**

**4      When we hear words of hatred spreading fear or false witness,  
 words that cry to be challenged, Jesus summons us all.**

**5      In each moment of courage, steadfast even through trembling;  
 in the yearning for justice; Jesus summons us all.**

**6      Like disciples before us, from the city or seashore,  
 risking selfless compassion: Jesus summons us all.**

**\*Charge and  
Benediction****Postlude      March in F Major**

James Francis Cooke (1875-1960)

*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

[www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org) • 415-776-5552

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### The Art on the Cover

The art on the bulletin cover is by Dr. He Qi. For further information visit this website:  
<https://www.heqiart.com/>

### Today's Liturgy

Today's call to worship is taken from *Feed My Lambs* by the Reverend Quentin Chin. The confession is written by the Reverend Thom Shuman

### Today's Guest Preacher: John Anderson

The Reverend John Anderson was raised in Minneapolis, where he was ordained and served two churches. In Scotland, John served as a chaplain of a boarding school and then, in San Francisco, as pastor and co-pastor at St John's for twenty-eight years. He and his wife Nancy have three sons, two daughters-in-law, and two granddaughters. They are now retired and enjoy traveling to Italy.

### Today's Coffee Hour

Carolyn Asbury has given today's coffee hour in gratitude for Old First's organ and in honor of Larry Marietta.

### Good Friday Offering: MECA/Seraj Library Project

If you were not able to participate in the worship on Good Friday, you can still contribute to the Good Friday offering by using Old First's on-line donations page (<https://new.oldfirst.org/donations/>) or by using the QR-code at right. Simply choose "**MECA/Seraj Library Project**" as the giving opportunity. This offering will be divided between two recipients: The Middle East Children's Alliance and the Seraj Library Project.



The **Middle East Children's Alliance** (MECA) works to protect the rights and improve the lives of children in the Middle East through aid, empowerment and education. In the Middle East, MECA provides humanitarian aid, partners with community organizations to run projects for children, and supports income-generation projects. In the US and internationally, MECA raises awareness about the lives of children in the region and encourages meaningful action. Our offering tonight will be directed to serve children in Gaza. For more information, visit <https://www.mecaforpeace.org/>

The **Seraj Library Project's** purpose is to assist in the education of Palestinian villagers of all ages and faiths through the development of high quality and accessible library programs. The project's vision is access to a community library for every Palestinian child and family. For more information, visit <https://www.serajlibraries.org/>

### One Great Hour of Sharing

You can still make your One Great Hour of Sharing offering for Easter.

**One Great Hour of Sharing** supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance.



You can also make your One Great Hour of Sharing offering by using Old First's on-line donations page (<https://new.oldfirst.org/donations/>) or by using the QR-code at right.

### Guest Preacher June 1: Bruce Reyes-Chow

The Reverend Bruce Reyes-Chow will be preaching for us on June 1. Bruce is a former moderator of the PC(USA), a local church pastor and an author.



His newest book *Everything Good about God is True: Choosing Faith* has received great reviews and read by one of our own small groups. Why don't you read it before he comes and you can talk with him following coffee hour. We have a few copies available in the narthex on Sundays and the church office on other days. They are \$14.00 per copy. You can put a check or cash in the envelope with the books or you can pay on line using Old First's donation page (<https://new.oldfirst.org/donations/>) and selecting **"Study Book Fund"** as the giving opportunity.

### Red Cards: Know Your Rights

Old First Presbyterian is investing in "Red Cards," small wallet size cards to share the people who fear ICE coming into their homes and lives. These cards have five simple statements that affirm that all people in the United States, regardless of immigration status, have certain rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution. These cards are created by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center (<https://www.ilrc.org>) out of an increasingly complex legal and social challenges faced by immigrants, which created a growing need for expert assistance and training in immigration law and policy

**You can pick up cards to share with the community in the narthex or by contacting the church office.**

<b>This Week at Old First</b>
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<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 4: Third Sunday of Easter</b>
After Worship	Coffee Hour
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>May 10</b>
9:00 am	Interfaith Food Pantry
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 11: Fourth Sunday of Easter</b>
9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am	Worship
After Worship	Coffee Hour
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

<b>Old First Presbyterian Church</b>
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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