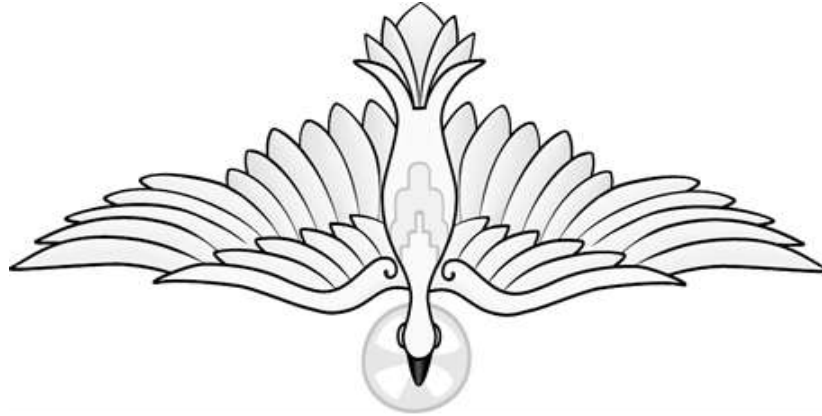


# Old First Presbyterian Church



**May 11, 2025**  
**Mothering Sunday**

## 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** Ego flos campi (I am the flower of the field)  
Caterina Assandra (1590-1618)

Alma Redemptoris Mater (Mother, Soul of the Redeemer)  
Isabella Leonarda (1620-1704)

### Welcome and Church Life

**Introit** Charles R. Cronham (1896-1969)  
We will praise Thee, O God, with our whole hearts;  
We will speak of all Thy marvelous works,  
and be glad and rejoice in Thee, O Thou most high. Psalm 9:1-2

**\*Call to Worship**

Pastor Henderson

We will begin, not with a Call to Worship,  
but with a Calling to Mind...

**\*Hymn 649    Amazing Grace**

- 1    Amazing grace, how sweet the sound,  
      that saved a wretch like me!  
      I once was lost, but now am found,  
      was blind, but now I see.
- 2    'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
      and grace my fears relieved.  
      How precious did that grace appear  
      the hour I first believed!
- 3    Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
      I have already come.  
      'Tis grace has brought me save thus far,  
      and grace will lead me home.
- 4    The Lord has promised good to me;  
      his word my hope secures.  
      He will my shield and portion be  
      as long as life endures.
- 5    When we've been there ten thousand years,  
      bright shining as the sun,  
      we've no less days to sing God's praise  
      than when we'd first begun.

**Prayer of  
Confession**

Pastor Henderson

Loving God, forgive us,  
  how we have got you wrong!  
Lazily we have settled for pictures of you in our minds  
  which tell a terrible tale.  
We have painted you stern and unbending,  
  the eternal judge with no mercy, no compassion.  
We have summoned you onto our side in battle  
  in our families, in boardrooms, and in war,  
  giving you a uniform to wear of our own making.  
Too often we have been responsible  
  for turning others away from you, and, in the end,  
  from turning away from you ourselves.  
Forgive us when we forget you are a loving parent –  
  mother, father – to everyone you have made.

*Let us reflect in silence.*

**Forgive us and lead us into the truth of your full nature  
as shown in Jesus. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader

Come, Mother God:  
come as an enfolding, nurturing presence,  
come as steadfast love to hold us.  
Come, Father God:  
come as an empowering, strengthening force,  
come as tough love to let us go.  
Come, Parent God:  
come as friend and comforter,  
forgiving us, healing our wounds, walking our way.

People

**We will live in your encouraging and transforming love this day  
and forever more. Amen.**

**\*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**

William Mathias (1934-1992)

As truly as God is our Father,  
so just as truly is he our Mother.  
In our Father, God Almighty, we have our being;  
in our merciful Mother we are remade and restored.  
Our fragmented lives are knit together,  
and by giving and yielding ourselves, through grace, to the Holy Spirit,  
we are made whole.

It is I, the strength and goodness of Fatherhood.  
It is I, the wisdom of Motherhood.  
It is I, the light and grace of holy love.  
It is I, the Trinity, it is I, the unity.

I am the sovereign goodness in all things.  
It is I who teach you how to love.  
It is I who teach you to desire.  
It is I who am the reward of all true desiring.

All shall be well, and all shall be well,  
and all manner of thing shall be well. Amen.

Julian of Norwich (1342-c.1416)

**\*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

**And also with you.**

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

Mary Russell

Prayer Partners

George Becker and Christo Bresnahan, Michael and Nina Berg, Lisa Bigley, Courtney Blake, Chris and Cindy Burt, Carol Carter, Mary Carter

**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.**

*Today Old First installs new officers.*

*Deacons: Cindy Burt, Randy Smith, Sarah Taber (Class of 2028)*

*Elders: Michael Berg, Tom Culp (Class of 2028)*

*The constitutional questions are asked of those to be installed.*

*Then these questions are asked of the people.*

An Elder     Do we, the members of the church,  
                  accept Michael and Tom as ruling elders  
                  and Cindy, Randy and Sarah as deacons  
                  chosen by God through the voice of this congregation  
                  to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ?

**People     We do.**

An Elder     Do we agree to pray for them, to encourage them,  
                  to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us,  
                  serving Jesus Christ, who alone is Head of the Church?

**People     We do.**

**Prayer of  
Installation**

**Statement**     You are now deacons and ruling elders  
                          in the Church of Jesus Christ and for this congregation.  
                          Whatever you do, in word or deed,  
                          do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus,  
                          giving thanks to God the Father through him.

**People     Amen.**

**Scripture** Isaiah 42:14, 49:14-15, 66:13

**Psalm 131** *We read the psalm together.*

**O Lord, my heart is not lifted up;  
my eyes are not raised too high.  
I do not occupy myself with things  
too great and too marvelous for me.  
But I have calmed and quieted my soul,  
like a weaned child with its mother.  
My soul is like the weaned child that is with me.  
O Israel, hope in the Lord**

**Scripture** Luke 13:34

**Leader** The Word of God in scripture.

**People** Thanks be to God.

**Sermon**

Pastor Henderson

<b>Worship Through Responding to God's Word</b>
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**\*Hymn 541** God be With You Till We Meet Again

- 1 God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.
- 2 God be with you till we meet again;  
unseen wings protecting hide you,  
daily manna still provide you:  
God be with you till we meet again.
- 3 God be with you till we meet again;  
when life's perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you:  
God be with you till we meet again.
- 4 God be with you till we meet again;  
keep love's banner floating o'er you;  
smite death's threatening wave before you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

**Postlude** Wedding March

Fanny Hensel Mendelssohn-Bartholdy (1805-1847)

*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

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Find Us on Facebook and YouTube



## Today's Liturgy

Today's liturgy is based on resources from Wild Goose Publications of the Iona Community: *Eggs and Ashes* by Ruth Burgess and Chris Polhil, and *Mothering God* by Sally Foster-Fultoncom.

## Thank You for "Notable Women"

Many thanks to all those who worked on the Notable Women of Old First booklet, especially Parish Associate Erwin Barron. Why not take an extra copy and give it to those not in worship today or send it to former members who have moved away from San Francisco.

## "All Hands" Staff Food Pantry, May 24

"All Hands" – members of all the participating congregations – will staff the Interfaith Food Pantry, this coming **Saturday, May 24**. So join us!

To volunteer, simply visit the sign-up webpage by clicking this link:

<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/667004851505698018/false#/invitation> or by using the QR-code to the right... or just show up!



## Old First's Musical History, May 25

As Old First winds up our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, please join Chris Burt, longtime volunteer and board member of Old First Concerts as well as Old First choir member, in the sanctuary after worship for a presentation on Old First's musical history. Learn about the choir and Old First Concerts, including some of the outstanding musicians who have led, performed, and contributed to Old First's rich musical history. You might even hear some excerpts of the outstanding recordings Chris has made over the years.

## 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.**

## 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.

### ***Does choosing to believe in God change how I live?***

*God stirs my soul,*

*in the morning, life—giving first breath fills my lungs.*

*God stills my spirit,*

*in the evening, the calm of the night flows through my body.*

*God moves me,*

*the Holy One beckons me forth, through bands of light,*

*into coves of darkness, woven into rainbows, and amid the in-between and unknown.*

—Bruce Reyes-Chow in his book *Everything Good about God is True*

## This Week at Old First

### **Sunday May 11: Fourth Sunday of Easter**

After Worship Coffee Hour  
 2:00 pm Board of Deacons, On Line  
 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

### **Saturday May 17**

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry  
 1:00 pm Presbyterian Women, On Line

### **Sunday May 18: Fifth Sunday of Easter**

9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
 11:00 am Worship  
 4:00 pm O1C: *LIEDER ALIVE!* presents Esther Rayo, soprano, and Peter Grünberg, piano, performing Schubert and Classical Spanish repertoire  
 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  
 Jarron Carlson Composer-in-Residence  
 Brad Peterson Church Office Administrator