

# Old First Presbyterian Church



## Season of Epiphany Sunday, February 12, 2023

### Worship Through Praising God

*Please fill out a guest card found in the pew rack and  
place it in the offering basket in the narthex when you exit the church building.*

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

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

<b>Prelude</b>	Prelude, Fugue and Chaconne	Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)
<b>Welcome and Church Life</b>		
<b>  Introit</b>		Arrangement from <i>Freedom Is Coming</i> , 1984
	Haleluya! Pelo tsa rona, di thabile kaofela. Hallelujah! We sing your praises, all our hearts are filled with gladness.	Shona text translated by Gracia Grindal (born 1943)
<b>*Call to Worship</b>		Chris Burt
Leader	Called to be light,	
<b>People</b>	<b>we would carry God's hope into the shadows of the world.</b>	
Leader	Called to be salt,	
<b>People</b>	<b>we would enhance the lives of those around us, with joy.</b>	
Leader	Called to live in God's reality,	
<b>People</b>	<b>we would welcome everyone as sisters and brothers in faith.</b>	

**\*Hymn 401 Here in This Place**

**1 Here in this place the new light is streaming;  
now is the darkness vanished away;  
see in this space our fears and our dreamings  
brought here to you in the light of this day.**

**Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;  
gather us in, the blind and the lame;  
call to us now, and we shall a waken;  
we shall arise at the sound of our name.**

**2 We are the young; our lives are a mystery.  
We are the old who yearn for your face.  
We have been sung throughout all of history,  
called to be light to the whole human race.**

**Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;  
gather us in, the proud and the strong;  
give us a heart, so meek and so lowly;  
give us the courage to enter the song.**

**3 Here we will take the wine and the water;  
here we will take the bread of new birth.  
Here you shall call your sons and your daughters,  
call us anew to be salt for the earth.**

**Give us to drink the wine of compassion;  
give us to eat the bread that is you;  
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion  
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.**

**4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,  
not in some heaven, light years away:  
here in this place the new light is shining;  
now is the kingdom, and now is the day.**

**Gather us in and hold us forever;  
gather us in and make us your own;  
gather us in, all peoples together,  
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.**

**Prayer of  
Confession**

Chris Burt

**Merciful God, you call us to be salt of the earth and light of the world.**

**We confess that our witness is often bland and gloomy.  
Forgive us when we fail to be an influence for good,  
and when we condone or do what is wrong in your sight.**

*Silence is kept.*

**Help us to flavour the earth with righteousness  
and to reflect the light of your love in a dark world;  
through Jesus Christ, the Way, the Truth, and the Light. Amen.**

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader God will show us the way to God's realm.  
Gracious, merciful, and righteous is our God of salvation!

People **God rebuilds our lives, repairs our mistakes,  
fills our emptiness with hope and joy.  
Thanks be to God, we are forgiven.**

**\*Gloria** Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

**Glory to God, glory to God,  
Glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Offering** *Usbers will receive the offering during the anthem. You may also make your offering electronically using the kiosk in the narthex.*

**Anthem** Martin Shaw (1875 -1958)  
Edited by Douglas J. Walczak

With a voice of singing, declare ye this,  
and let it be heard, Alleluia.  
Utter it even unto the ends of the earth.  
The Lord hath delivered God's people. Alleluia.  
O be joyful in God, all ye lands,  
O sing praises to the honor of God's name,  
Make God's praise to be glorious. Alleluia.

**\*Doxology** DUKE STREET  
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. Amen.**

**Time with Our  
Children**

**Reaffirmation of Marriage Vows** Angela Mayor Gutiérrez and Eder Dueñas Alfonso

Leader Will all of you – by God’s grace – uphold  
and care for Angela and Eder in their life together?

**People We will.**

Eder I, Eder, continue to take you, Angela, to be my wedded wife,  
and I do promise and covenant – before God and these witnesses –  
to be your loving and faithful husband in plenty and in want,  
in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health  
as long as we both shall live.

Angela I, Angela, continue to take you, Eder, to be my wedded husband,  
and I do promise and covenant – before God and these witnesses –  
to be your loving and faithful wife in plenty and in want,  
in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health  
as long as we both shall live.

**Prayer**

**\*The Peace**

Leader Peace be with you.

**People And also with you.**

<b>Worship Through Hearing God’s Word</b>
---

**Prayers of the People**

Horngsheng Tu

Prayer Partners Jim Fagler and Lori Yamauchi, Jemma Fagler, Bill Feister and Judith Ross, Bob Fleming, Ed Frauenheim and Rowena Ritchie, Skyla and Julius, Pam and Greg Free

**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** Matthew 5:13-20  
**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**

Pastor Henderson

<b>Worship Through Responding to God's Word</b>
---

**\*Hymn 312** **Take Us as We Are, O God**

- 1 **Take us as we are, O God, and claim us as your own.  
As once you chose to tell your love in human flesh and bone,  
so let our lives be used to make your saving purpose known.**
- 2 **Bless us for your service, Lord; no power we devise  
will ever give us strength enough or make us truly wise,  
yet by your promise we can know the peace your grace supplies.**
- 3 **Break us open to disclose how brokenness can heal,  
wherever broken loaves suffice to give a crowd a meal  
and graves break open to release new life from death's dread seal.**
- 4 **Give us to the world you love as light and salt and yeast,  
that we may nourish in your name the last, the lost, the least,  
until at length you call us all to your unending feast.**

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

**Choir**

William C. Tomer (1833-1896)

God be with you till we meet again;  
Loving counsel's guide uphold you,  
With a shepherd's care enfold you:  
God be with you till we meet again.

Jeremiah Eames Rankin (1828-1904)

**Postlude** Toccata in F Major

Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

## 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 · Find Us on Facebook and YouTube

### Today's Liturgy

Today's prayer of confession is by the Reverend Iona MacLean of First Presbyterian Church, Pictou, Nova Scotia.

### ♥ Cards for St Valentine's Day at Coffee Hour ♥

At Old First we have a tradition of sending valentines to our members who can't join us in person, to our children and youth, and to other folks we care about. Take time at coffee hour today to sign the valentines. Even if you don't know the person specifically, it reminds them that they're part of our community and cared for.

### Sponsoring Coffee Hour

Coffee hour after Sunday worship is an important part of our life as a worshipping community. Would you consider sponsoring coffee hour on a given Sunday? It's only \$50 and you may dedicate the gift in honor or in memory of someone or gratitude for some blessing. Your dedication will appear in the bulletin.

### Communion, Next Sunday, February 19

Old First will celebrate communion next Sunday, February 19. Prepare your heart to join God's people in receiving the sacrament. If you join worship on-line, have bread and cup ready at hand.

### Congregational Meeting, Next Sunday, February 19

On Sunday, February 19, we will hold a congregational meeting to vote on the pastor's compensation package, to hear a report on the 2023 budget, and to elect new deacons and elders to serve on the Board of Deacons and the Session.

### Potluck Lunch, Next Sunday, February 19

Join us for a potluck lunch after the congregational meeting on Sunday, February 19. We have much to be thankful for this year: moving through COVID, support to keep up the work of the church and to serve the community, and a wonderful new class of officers! Look for the **sign-up sheet** to share what item you will bring: It's on the **bulletin board** in the Sacramento Street lobby.

### New Deacons and Elders, March 5

On Sunday, March 5, we will ordain and install the deacons and elders elected in February.

### Earthquake in Turkey and Syria: Relief in Time of Need

Amid news of a devastating earthquake in Syria and Turkey, the Presbyterian Mission Agency (PMA) has reached out to offer assistance to partners in the area, where thousands have died, and is asking Presbyterians to pray for those impacted by the quake and its aftershocks.

Through a coordinated response by Presbyterian Disaster Assistance and World Mission, PMA has contacted multiple long-term partners of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) including the National Evangelical Synod of Syria and Lebanon; the Middle East Council of Churches; the Forum for Development, Culture and Dialogue; and the Fellowship of Middle East Evangelical Churches.

“I have reached out to the four different entities to invite them to request a solidarity grant, which is our process,” said the Rev. Dr. Laurie Kraus, Director of Humanitarian and Global Ecumenical Engagement for PMA’s Compassion, Peace & Justice ministries. “PC(USA) is deeply grateful that we have such long-term and strong relationships in the region, so that we can stand in solidarity as they respond to this crisis.”

See [www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org) and Old First’s Facebook page for more information.

Give by going to [www.pcusa.org](http://www.pcusa.org) or <https://www.presbyterianmission.org/story/pcusa-offers-assistance-for-the-people-of-earthquake-ravaged-syria-and-turkey/> To give by phone, call 800-872-3283. To send a check, please designate where you want your gift to go on the memo line and mail to: Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), P.O. Box 643700, Pittsburgh, PA 15264-3700

### This Week at Old First

- Sunday February 12**
  - 1:00 pm Board of Deacons, On-Line
  - 7:15 pm Friendly Circle AA Meeting, Social Hall
- Monday February 13**
  - 6:30 pm Mission Committee, On-Line
- Saturday February 18**
  - 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry, Social Hall
  - 1:00 pm Presbyterian Women, On-Line
- Sunday February 19**
  - 11:00 am Worship with Congregational Meeting, Sanctuary
  - 12:30 pm Potluck Lunch, Social Hall
  - 7:15 pm Friendly Circle AA Meeting, Social Hall

### Old First Presbyterian Church Staff

- |                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| The Reverend Maggi Henderson | Pastor                |
| The Reverend Erwin C. Barron | Parish Associate      |
| The Reverend Lisa Robecheck  | Parish Associate      |
| Larry Marietta               | Music Director        |
| Jarron Carlson               | Composer in Residence |
| Brad Peterson                | Office Admin          |
| Kiristi Hoerauf              | Wedding Coordinator   |