

# Old First Presbyterian Church



## Eastertide April 30, 2023

### Worship Through Praising God

*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>	Andante cantabile	Émile Paladilke (1844-1926)
	Andante	Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911)
<b>Welcome and Church Life</b>		
<b>Introit</b>		Gordon Young (1919-1998)
	Now let us all praise God and sing our great Redeemer's praise; that we may all with one accord, our joyful voices raise. Sing "Alleluia!"	

**\*Call to  
Worship**

Stephen Taber

Leader Alleluia! Christ is risen!  
**People Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**  
Leader We have not seen the risen Christ,  
**People but we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.**  
Leader We have not seen Jesus face-to-face,  
**People but we have seen him in the faces  
of everyone whose love encourages us.**  
Leader We have not touched the wounds from the cross,  
**People but we have been called  
to bring healing to the scarred of the world.**

**\*Hymn 230 Joyful Is the Dark**

- 1 Joyful is the dark, holy, hidden God,  
rolling cloud of night beyond all naming:  
majesty in darkness, energy of love,  
Word in flesh, the mystery proclaiming.
- 2 Joyful is the dark Spirit of the deep,  
winging wildly o'er the world's creation,  
silken sheen of midnight plumage black and bright,  
swooping with the beauty of a raven.
- 3 Joy full is the dark, shadowed stable floor;  
waiting for the wonder of the morning;  
as with exultation, Mary, giving birth,  
hails the infant cry of need and blessing.
- 4 Joyful is the dark coolness of the tomb,  
waiting for the wonder of the morning;  
never was that midnight touched by dread and gloom:  
darkness was the cradle of the dawning.
- 5 Joyful is the dark depth of love divine,  
roaring, looming thundercloud of glory,  
holy, haunting beauty, living, loving God.  
Hallelujah! Sing and tell the story!

**Prayer of  
Confession**

Stephen Taber

We use a lot of words, Gracious God,  
but do little to turn them into deeds.  
Instead of being of one heart and soul,  
we choose sides and form groups of folks just like us.  
Blessed with great grace, we have trouble sharing it  
with those who need it the most.

*Silent prayers may be offered.*

Forgive us, God of love.

Forgive us, as we step out of our shadows into your light.

Restore us, as we reveal our brokenness.

Hear us, as we proclaim Jesus Christ as our Lord and our God. Amen.

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader This is the good news we have declare:

God leads us out of the shadows to walk in the light of Christ.

People **This is the word we have heard:**

**Our faithful God forgives our sins and raises us to new life.**

All **Thanks be to God!**

**\*Hymn 583**

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

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

**Glory to God , glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!**

**Offering**

*Ushers will now receive the offering. You may also make your offering electronically using the kiosk in the narthex.*

**Anthem**

Edward C. Bairstow (1874-1946)

Jesu, the very thought of thee  
With sweetness fills my breast;  
But sweeter far they face to see  
And in thy presence rest.

Attributed to Bernard of Clairvaux

Translated by Edward Caswall (1814–1878)

**\*Hymn 609**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,**

**Praise God, all creatures high and low. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Praise God in Jesus fully known:**

**Creator, Word, and Spirit one. Alleluia, alleluia!**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!**

**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**

Roseanne Hoo

Prayer Partners

Sally Spencer, Mark Spicer and Sam, Rose Marie Springer, Stephen and Sarah Taber, Hugh Thacher, Horngsheng Tu and Hsiaochien Chuang, and PC(USA) Moderator J. Herbert Nelson

**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 20:19-31  
**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>
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**\*Hymn 256    These Things Did Thomas Count as Real**

- 1    **These things did Thomas count as real:  
       the warmth of blood, the chill of steel,  
       the grain of wood, the heft of stone,  
       the last frail twitch of blood and bone.**
  
- 2    **The vision of his skeptic mind  
       was keen enough to make him blind  
       to any unexpected act  
       too large for his small world of fact.**
  
- 3    **His reasoned certainties denied  
       that one could live when one had died,  
       until his fingers read like Braille  
       the markings of the spear and nail.**
  
- 4    **May we, O God, by grace believe  
       and thus the risen Christ receive,  
       whose raw imprinted hands reached out  
       and beckoned Thomas from his doubt.**

**\*Charge and  
 Benediction**

**Choir**

Anonymous

The Lord bless you,  
 The Lord keep you,  
 The Lord give you peace.

**Postlude**    Te Deum laudamus, BuxVW 218

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

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### Today's Liturgy and Artwork

The liturgy today was written by Presbyterian Pastor Tom Shuman.

The painting on the cover is by Nick Piliero. He says about himself: "My name is Nick Cerullo Piliero. I grew up in the Bronx and Westchester, New York. I am 74 years young. I have two boys 19 and 21 years old. I've lived in Vermont for the past 22 years. I am self-taught – through a death experience I had some years ago [1969] – I can't explain it, I don't try, I just know I am doing what I was born to do here. My boys inspire me and help me to stay in the moment. I see, I feel, I paint."

### Today's Coffee Hour

Mary Russell has given today's coffee hour in honor of all who come to our table of fellowship.

### Distributing New Key-Cards, Today

Thank you for your long patience! The new system of key-cards for the Sacramento Street door and the door to the inside stairwell will finally come on-line on this coming Wednesday, May 3.

Your current key-card will continue to open these doors today and tomorrow. The new system will be installed on Tuesday, and **new key-cards will be needed beginning this Wednesday, May 3.**

In anticipation of this change, new key-cards have been prepared. The new key-cards will be available at coffee hour today and next Sunday: In an envelope with your name on it, you will find your new key-card and a key-holder agreement to fill out and hand back.

Thank you to Linda Reyder and Mary Russell for passing out the envelopes and collecting the key-holder agreements. Look for them at coffee hour.

### Inquirer and Membership Classes

Want to know more about Old First? Curious about the Presbyterian Church (USA)? Wondering about joining the church? If so, Pastor Maggi would like to talk with you: She's thinking about holding Inquirer and Membership Classes for folks interested in life and membership at Old First Presbyterian Church. Speak with her at coffee hour, call her at the church office, or send her an E-mail: [maggi@oldfirst.org](mailto:maggi@oldfirst.org)

**This Week at Old First**

**Sunday April 30, Fourth Sunday of Easter**

4:00 pm O1C: Quinteto Latino, flute, oboe, clarinet, French horn, bassoon:  
Works by Orlando Jacinto García

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

**Friday May**

8:00 pm O1C: Friction Quartet, strings and voice: World premieres of Nicolas Benavides' Canto Caló and of Melinda Martinez Becker's arrangements of works by Gilberto Parra and Raymundo Perez y Soto

**Saturday May 6**

9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry

**Sunday May 7, Fifth Sunday of Easter**

11:00 am Worship

7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship 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