

Old First Presbyterian Church



Sunday
January 14, 2024

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.*

Prelude Six Variations on We Shall Overcome

Gaël Liardon (1973-2018)

**Welcome and
Church Life**

Introit

Roger McMurrin (1939-2023)

Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life,
Grant us that way to know,
That truth to keep, that life to win,
Whose joys eternal flow.

George W. Doane (1799-1859)

***Call to Worship**

Linda Reyder

Leader Every year we celebrate Christmas.
People Every month we break bread.
Leader Every week we gather for worship.
People Every day we count our blessings.
Leader Every minute God is near.
People Yes, every minute God is near.
Leader These are the rituals of our faith.
People They are our bedrock, our foundation and open us to encounter the Holy in our everyday lives.

***Hymn 158 Born in the Night, Mary's Child**

- 1 **Born in the night, Mary's Child,
a long way from your home;
coming in need, Mary's Child,
born in a borrowed room.**
- 2 **Clear shining light, Mary's Child,
your face lights up our way;
Light of the world, Mary's Child,
dawn on our darkened day.**
- 3 **Truth of our lie, Mary's Child,
you tell us God is good;
yes, it is true, Mary's Child,
shown on your cross of wood.**
- 4 **Hope of the world Mary's Child,
you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth, Mary's Child,
walk in our streets again.**

**Prayer of
Confession**

Linda Reyder

**God of rhythms, we confess;
our faith would not be what it is without rituals.
Unlike you, we depend on bread and water.
We have to return to this space again and again
to hear old, familiar stories.
For if we stopped,
we know it would not take long before we lost our way.
Forgive us for our fragility, and thank you for giving us
ordinary rituals and rhythms to hold onto.
With grateful and humble hearts we pray.
Amen**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader Friends, it is not enough to hear once a month or once a year that you are forgiven. We need to hear it every single week. Every single week we need to be reminded that we are held in God's loving embrace. So hear this good news: no matter where you are on your journey of life, love, or faith, and no matter what you have done or left undone, you belong to God.

People **We are claimed.
We are known.
We are forgiven.
This is the good news of the gospel!
Thanks be to God!**

***Hymn 113**

Refrain Only

**Gloria in excelsis Deo!
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

Offering

Ushers will now receive the offering. You may also make your offering electronically using the kiosk in the narthex or this QR-code:



Anthem

Precious Lord, take my hand,
Bring me home through the night,
Through the dark, through the storm,
To Thy Light.
I have been to the mount, I have seen the Promised Land:
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.
Precious Lord, take my hand,
Bring Thy child home at last,
Where the strife and the pain
All are past;
I have dreamed a great dream
That Thy love shall rule our land;
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.
Precious Lord, take my hand,
Take this child unto Thee,
With my dream of a world that is free,
For that day when all flesh
Joins the glory Thou hast planned,
Precious Lord, precious Lord, take my hand.

George N. Allen (1812-1877)
Arr. Roy Ringwald (1910-1995)

***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 Peace**

Leader Peace be with you.
People And also with you.

Worship Through Hearing God's Word

**Prayers of the
People**

Stephen Taber

Prayer Partners Pierre Moyé, Lois Nason, Bryan Nichols and Robin Currier, Chuck and Emily Olson, Karyn Payne, Daniel Pearch, Donald Pender, Kim Pham

**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

Luke 2:21-38

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

Affirmation of Faith

We believe that faith is a journey
marked by rituals and rhythms.
We come to worship.
We confess our sins.
We pass the peace.
We offer grace.
We hear the Word.
We baptize children.
We break the bread.
And we tell the story
of a loving God.

And through these sacred rituals,
we are reminded:
we are not alone.
God is near,
and we have work to do.
May this belief shape the rhythm of our lives.
Amen.

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 148 Mary and Joseph Came to the Temple**

- 1 Mary and Joseph came to the temple,
brought the boy Jesus, offered him there.
People were waiting, wanting to greet him;
long had they sought him, solace for care.
- 2 Anna had prayed there, widowed, long waiting,
worshiping God by day and by night.
Now she is praising, filled with elation;
here is God's promise, Christ is her light.
- 3 Simeon sings now: God proffers blessing,
brilliantly gilding dawn of his day.
Light in the darkness, never extinguished,
Light of all nations, light up our way.

***Charge and
Benediction**

Choir

You are the Christ everlasting,
All of God's people sing praises!
For your majesty fills the heavens,
And fills the earth!

Fintan O'Carroll (1922-1981)

Christopher Walker (born 1947)

Postlude Postlude on We Shall Overcome

Adolphus Hailstock (born 1941)

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**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

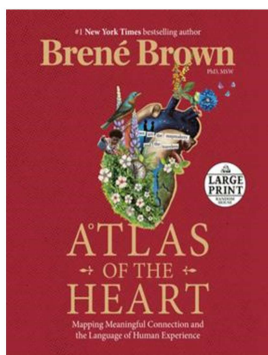
Announcement



The [San Francisco Interfaith Council](#) invites faith leaders and their congregants to join in the 2024 Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Commemorations to be held on Monday, January 15, 2024. The 2024 March will begin promptly at 11:00 am (**arrive early**) from the Caltrain Depot at 4th and Townsend. Once the March arrives at Yerba Buena Gardens Esplanade, the 14th Annual

Interfaith Commemoration Ceremony will commence.

New Book for 2024: *Atlas of the Heart*



Discussion/Book Group begins in February on **Atlas of the Heart – Mapping Meaningful Connections and Language of the Human Heart** by Brené Brown!! We will meet at the first Sunday of the month after coffee hour in the library (soup will be provided) and first Monday evening at 7 pm on Zoom. We will meet for one hour, once we begin. We do the same class at both times. The classes begin Sunday February 4th and Monday, February 5th. We will read and discuss a chapter a meeting. The first one is the introduction and the first chapter: **Places We Go When Things are Uncertain or Too Much.**



There are copies available in the church office for \$15.00 – half the retail cost! You can make payment for the book in cash or electronically using the kiosk in the narthex or by visiting Old First’s donation page: visit <https://dev.oldfirst.org/donations//> or use this QR-code. San Francisco Public Library has the book in their collection (print and ebook), but there may be a waiting list.

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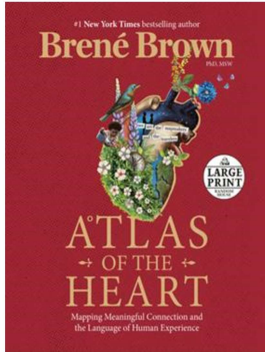
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New Book for 2024: *Atlas of the Heart*



Pastor Maggi has spoken about joy using Brené Brown’s book *Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connections and Language of the Human Heart*. In 2024 we will be offering learning opportunities using Brown’s book. Brown’s book is insightful, thoughtful, and engaging.

There are copies available in the church office for \$15.00 – half the retail cost! You can make payment for the book in cash or electronically using the kiosk in the narthex or by visiting Old First’s donation page: visit <https://dev.oldfirst.org/donations//> or use this QR-code.



This Week at Old First

- Sunday January 14**
 - 2:00 pm Board of Deacons, On-Line
 - 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
- Monday January 15**
 - MLK Jr Holiday: Church Office Closed
 - 11:00 am SF Interfaith Council MLK Jr. Day Observation
- Saturday January 20**
 - 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry: Volunteer today!
Simply use the QR-code to the right.
- Sunday January 21**
 - 11:00 am Worship
 - 1:00 pm Presbyterian Women, On-Line
 - 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
- Monday January 22**
 - 7:00 pm O1C: Sarah Cahill Backstage Pass

