

Old First Presbyterian Church



Third Sunday in Lent March 3, 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 All Through the Night Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Welcome and Church Life

Introit Sanctus from Messe Solennelle en l'honneur de Sainte-Cécile
Charles Gounod (1818-1893)

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus Dominus Deus Sabaoth. *Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts,*
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua. *Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.*

*Call to Worship

Leader If you ask the sky who God is,
People the sky will tell you of God's reach.
Leader If you ask the day who God is,
People the sun will tell you of God's warmth.
Leader If you ask the night who God is,
People the moon will tell you of God's comfort.

Nina Berg

Leader “The heavens are telling the glory of God”
Are you listening?

People We are listening!
We will sing of God’s glory.

Leader Let us worship God.

Inspired by Psalm 19

***Hymn 267 Come, Christians, Join to Sing**

- 1 **Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!**
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
Praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!
- 2 **Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!**
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he’ll condescend;
His love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!
- 3 **Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!**
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven’s blissful shore his goodness we’ll adore,
Singing forevermore: Alleluia! Amen!

**Prayer of
Confession**

Nina Berg

**Holy God, some days,
we are quick to declare your goodness.
Like Peter, we see you in our midst
and we are confident in our faith.
Other days, we are distracted and uncertain, desperate for answers.
Forgive us for losing sight of you.
Some days we are quick to trust your blessings—
trusting that we are called, that we can make a difference.
Other days, our praise falls silent and doubt creeps in.
Forgive us for losing sight of ourselves.**

Let us pray silently.

**We know that fear and doubt
are part of the journey of faith.
But for the days when we are far from you and far from ourselves,
we ask for your tender grace.
Pull us closer toward you.
Remind us of the mountaintop moments of our faith.
Amen.**

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader

Whether you speak to God
in a whisper or with clear conviction,
with questions or with answers,
with hope in your heart or with doubt in your throat—
God will always listen with love and mercy.

People

**So we will rest in this good news:
regardless of how loudly or quietly we live our faith—
We belong to God.
We are loved. We are claimed. We are forgiven.
We will speak that good news with confidence.**

***Sung Assurance**

Jacques Berthier (1923-1994)

**Live in charity and steadfast love.
Live in charity; God will dwell with you.**

Latin, 8th Century

English translation: Taizé Community, 1991

Offering

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



Anthem

Upon this Rock

John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

Upon this rock I will build my church;
and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it.
I will give thee the keys of the kingdom of heaven.
And whatsoever thou shalt bind on earth shall be bound in heaven.
And whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven.
Lo, the winter is past; the rain is over;
the flowers appear on the earth; the time of the singing of birds has come.
Arise and come away! Amen.

Matthew 16: 18-19, Song of Solomon 2:11-13

***Doxology**

**Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to send by grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love!**

**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

Pastor Henderson

Prayer Partners Pat Amdur, Alison Armstrong and Ken Kiplinger and Julia, Beth Arnaoot and Liny Adams, Carolyn Asbury, Erwin Barron and Coy Abellano

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

Psalm 19
Matthew 16:13-20

Sung Response

Return to You

We sing the response twice.

**I have a wond'ring heart, and a fickle faith.
Can you find me here, can I see your face?
Help me return to you, help me return to you.**

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Sermon

Pastor Henderson

Affirmation of Faith

Leader Jesus asked the disciples, "But what about you? Who do you say that I am?"
Church, what do you say?

People

**Jesus is a hand reaching out in the storm,
the voice of truth spoken over us,
and love without walls.
Jesus is justice for the weary,
healing for the hurt,
and welcome for the stranger.**

Jesus is teacher, Messiah, and friend—
with me on the mountain
and beside me in the valley.

Jesus is a star in the night,
and the love that knows my name.

Leader Jesus asked, “Who do you say that I am?”

People Like Peter, we say,
“Jesus, you are the Messiah, son of the Living God.”

Worship Through Responding to God’s Word

***Hymn Hear at the Peak**

Sung to the tune HAMBURG, Hymn 223

- 1 Here at the peak I clearly see
All of the pieces you’ve laid out
And in this brief though timeless peace
Such clarity occludes my doubts
- 2 Here I proclaim the truths I know
Beyond the knowledge of this world
Truths planted deep within my bones
Brought to the light as gold unearthed
- 3 Here my Creator stands enfleshed
Infinite glory here contained
Humble and rugged, simply dressed
Savior of all on earth to reign
- 4 Here at the peak you clearly name
Who you created me to be
Identified not by my shame
But by the gifts you gave to me

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***Charge and
Benediction**

Choir

Swhee Hong Lim (born 1963)

May the love of the Lord rest upon your soul.
May God’s love dwell in you, throughout every day.
May God’s countenance shine upon you and be gracious to you.
May God’s spirit be upon you as you leave this place.

Maria Ling (born 1961)

Postlude Festival Celebration

Eugene Butler (born 1935)

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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415-776-5552

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Lent 2024

Wandering Heart: Figuring Out Faith with Peter

The graphic designs here and on the cover are by the Reverend Lauren Wright Pittman; the background painting and photography are by the Reverend Lisle Gwynn Garrity; and today’s liturgy is adapted from Rev. Sarah A. Speed, all of A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

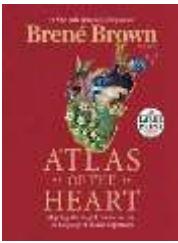
Devotional Cards for Lent

You can pick up your *Wandering Heart* devotional cards for Lent in the narthex.

Today’s Coffee Hour

Linda Reyder has given today’s coffee hour in memory of Jessie McFadyen.

Next Book Discussion Session, Today and Tomorrow



The second sessions of our new book discussion will take place in-person today after coffee hour (with lunch provided!), and via Zoom tomorrow, Monday, March 4, at 7:00 pm. At these sessions we’re covering Chapter 2 of Brené Brown’s *Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connections and Language of the Human Heart*.

Please let Maggi, know if you plan to attend one of these sessions.

Below is the link to the Monday night sessions via Zoom; it can also be found in Maggi’s weekly E-mail on Saturdays:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81744087981?pwd=TVVOUVptVldlMll1T2VFQ2ZMMWl0QT09>

Old First Staffs the Interfaith Food Pantry, March 16

Members of Old First and St Luke’s combine to staff the Interfaith Food Pantry on Saturday, March 16. Mark your calendars now. To sign up simply use the QR-Code to the right.



This Week at Old First

Sunday March 3

- After coffee hour Book Discussion: *Atlas of the Heart*, Chapter 2, Library
4:00 pm O1C: Chopin Birthday Party with Robert Schwartz, piano
Birthday cake and champagne reception follows the concert!
7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Monday March 4

- 7:00 pm Book Discussion: *Atlas of the Heart*, Chapter 2, On-Line

Tuesday March 5

Election Day: Old First Presbyterian Church's fellowship hall houses the polling station for Precinct 7319.

Saturday March 9

- 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry: Simply use the QR-code to the right to sign up!



Sunday March 10

- 11:00 am Worship with Installation of New Deacons and Elders
2:00 pm Board of Deacons Meeting, On-Line
4:00 pm O1C: Wooden Fish Ensemble, Violin, Cello and Piano, Music by Women Composers for International Women's Day
7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall