

Old First Presbyterian Church



Eastertide
April 14, 2024

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 Fanfara Imperiale Antonio Soler (1729-1783)
Arranged by Maurizio Muchella (born 1960)

**Welcome and
Church Life**

Introit Henry G. Ley (1887-1962)
Melody by Melchior Vulpius (ca 1570-1615)

The strife is o'er, the battle done;
Now is the Victor's triumph won;
O let the song of praise be sung.
Hallelujah!

On the third morn he rose again
Glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain.
Hallelujah!

Anonymous Words (18th Century?)
Translation by Francis Pott (1832-1909)

***Call to Worship**

Harriet MacLean

Leader Jesus said,
People “Follow me.”
Leader Jesus said,
People “Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.”
Leader Jesus said,
People “Forgive seventy times seven.”
Leader Jesus said,
People “Feed my sheep.”
Leader In response, we say:
People “Here’s my heart. Take and seal it.
Seal it for thy courts above.”
Leader Let us worship God with all our hearts.

***Hymn 233 The Day of Resurrection!**

- 1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad,
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from sin’s dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.
- 2 Let hearts be purged of evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and listening to his accents, may hear, so calm and plain,
his own “All hail!” and hearing, may raise the victor strain.
- 3 Now let the heavens be joyful; let earth its song begin;
the round world keep high triumph and all that is therein.
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen, our joy that has no end.

**Prayer of
Confession**

Harriet MacLean

Gracious God, like Peter, we crawl out of the boat only to sink.
You tell us your truth and we push it away.
We ask about forgiveness and are surprised by abundance.
We profess our faith and deny it three times.
We run to the empty tomb and leave in silence.
Over and over again,
we find ourselves wandering along the journey of faith.

Let us pray silently.

Tether us to your heart.
Forgive our surprise, our denial, and our limited imagination.
Call us out of the boat once more.
We are eager to return to you.
With humble hearts, we pray. Amen.

***Assurance of Forgiveness**

Leader Friends, the first time that Peter saw Jesus after the crucifixion,
Jesus asked him three times, "Do you love me?"
This repetition was not because Jesus doubted Peter's word.
This repetition was Jesus offering Peter grace.
You see, the last time Jesus and Peter were together,
Peter said three times, "I do not know that man."
So when Jesus returned, he asked Peter, "Do you love me?"
And in that moment, he allowed Peter to turn his denials into love.
And Jesus offers us his love and grace to us today.

People **The grace of our God knows no end.**
When we stumble, when we fall, when we deny God or cause harm,
Jesus meets us where we are and offers us a second chance.
So we rest in this good news.

Leader Does God love you? Yes, yes, yes. God loves you.
People **We are forgiven.**
Thanks be to God for a love that never ends.

***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

Melody from Cologne, 1623
Arranged by Peter Hurford (1930-2019)

Magdalen, cease from sobs and sighs:
Wipe the tear drops from off thine eyes:
Simon the leper's feast is o'er:
Christ today needs they nard no more.
Now thousand times may'st thou rejoice:
Now thousand times uplift thy voice. Alleluia.
Magdalen, bind upon thee now
Garland of gladness o'er thy brow:
Banish'd afar is grief and pain:
Welcome is sunshine after rain.
For Jesus Christ the world hath freed,
Triumphing over Death indeed. Alleluia.

Pone luctum, Magdalena, translated by G.R. Woodward (1848-1934)

***Doxology** Come, thou Fount of every blessing;
tune my heart to sing thy 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**

Claudia Garrison

Prayer Partners Bill Feister and Judith Ross, Bob Fleming, Ed Frauenheim and Rowena Richie, Skyla and Julius, Amberle Gallup, Fernando González

**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 21:1-19 (pp. 109-110)

Sung Response

Return to You

We sing the response once.

**I have a wand'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.**

Sermon

Pastor Henderson

**Affirmation
of Faith**

**We believe in a God who shows up in our lives—
surprising and catching us off-guard in the best of ways.
We believe in a God who cares for God's people—
a shepherd who longs for her sheep to be fed and tended.
We believe in a God who took on flesh—
a savior whose love changed the world as we know it.**

We believe that this here-and-now God invites us out of the boat,
calling ordinary people like Peter, like us,
into a life of service and community.

And so we give our hearts.

We give our whole hearts and nothing less. Amen.

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn 751 We Will Rise Up and Follow**

1 From the nets of our labors,
through the noise and confusion,
from city or seashore,
Jesus summons us all.

Refrain We will rise up and follow,
Christ before and beside us,
loving pattern to guide us,
as we answer the call.

2 When we faint and grow weary
from the bearing of burdens,
with a message of comfort,
Jesus summons us all.

3 In the eyes of the stranger—
tearful, joyous, or frightened—
in the face of each neighbor,
Jesus summons us all.

4 When we hear words of hatred
spreading fear or false witness,
words that cry to be challenged,
Jesus summons us all.

5 In each moment of courage,
steadfast even through trembling;
in the yearning for justice;
Jesus summons us all.

6 Like disciples before us,
from the city or seashore,
risking selfless compassion:
Jesus summons us all.

***Charge and
Benediction**

Choir

Amy Beach (1867-1944)

Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you.

Not as the world giveth give I unto you.

Let not your heart be troubled.

From John 14 and 15

Postlude

Hornpipe

John Cook (1918-1984)

You are invited to leave or to stay for the postlude as you desire.

Please join us for coffee hour in the fellowship hall downstairs.

Old First Presbyterian Church

**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

Easter 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; today’s liturgy is adapted from the Reverend Sarah A. Speed, all of A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Old First Staffs the Interfaith Food Pantry, April 20

Members of Old First and St Luke’s combine to staff the Interfaith Food Pantry on Saturday, **April 20**. Mark your calendars now. To sign up simply use the QR-Code to the right.



Old First Town Hall Meeting, Next Sunday, April 21

During coffee hour next Sunday, April 21, Old First will hold a Town Hall Meeting, at which we will share the results of what the elders and deacons have been on working in response to our fall Town Hall, when we shared our concerns and hopes for Old First. We have two projects we would like to tell you about! And we are looking forward to your in-p-ut and support.

4th Saturday Community Dinner, April 27

This month’s 4th Saturday Community Dinner falls on Saturday, April 27. Can you help serve the meal and feast with our guests at the dinner? Volunteers are welcomed from 4:30 pm on. Let us know you can help: 4thsaturdaydinner@oldfirst.org

This Week at Old First

- Sunday April 14**
- 2:00 pm Board of Deacons Meeting, On-Line
- 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
- Monday April 15**
- 4:00 pm Finance Committee, On-Line
- Tuesday April 16**
- 7:00 pm Worship Committee, On-Line
- Saturday April 20**
- 9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry, Fellowship Hall
- 1:00 pm Presbyterian Women, On-Line
- Sunday April 21**
- 11:00 am Worship
- 7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall