

Old First Presbyterian Church



Fourth Sunday in Lent March 30, 2025

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 Two Preludes on a Theme by Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

Gerald Near (born 1942)

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

**Welcome and
Church Life**

Pastor Henderson

Introit

William Mundy (ca 1529-ca 1591)

A new commandment give I unto you, saith the Lord:

that ye love together as I have loved you, that e'en so ye love one another.

John 13:34

***Call to Worship**

Erwin Barron

Leader Our God is a shepherding God.

People Our God knows us by name.

Leader Our God will never stop searching for us.

So if you feel lost,

People then know that God is seeking you.

Leader If you feel found,

People then know that God will never leave.

Leader This is the promise of scripture.

People This is the promise of God's love.

***Hymn 215 What Wondrous Love Is This**

- 1 What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul,
 what wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 what wondrous love is this
 that caused the Lord of bliss
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul!
- 2 When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,
 when I was sinking down, sinking down,
 when I was sinking down
 beneath God's righteous frown,
 Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,
 Christ laid aside his crown for my soul!
- 3 To God and to the Lamb, I will sing, I will sing,
 to God and to the Lamb, I will sing;
 to God and to the Lamb
 who is the great "I AM,"
 while millions join the theme, I will sing, I will sing;
 while millions join the theme, I will sing!
- 4 And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
 and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
 and when from death I'm free,
 I'll sing and joyful be,
 and through eternity, I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
 and through eternity I'll sing on.

**Prayer of
Confession**

Erwin Barron

Searching God, you come for us
 like a shepherd searching for lost sheep.
We hide and we run,
 sometimes knowing we have strayed,
other times completely unaware
 that we are on the wrong path.
Regardless, you come after us.
 With love and compassion and mercy you come after us.
So we make our confession with hope
 that you might find us again,
and wipe away our sin,
 and return us to your fold.

Let us confess silently.

**We pray in the name of the Good Shepherd, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

***Assurance of
Forgiveness**

Leader Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation.
The old life has gone; the new life has begun.
We were lost and now we are found.

People **Friends, believe the gospel.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.**

***Hymn 466 Come and Fill Our Hearts**

To be sung three times by all.

**Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
You alone, O Lord, are holy.
Come and fill our hearts with your peace.
Alleluia!**

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



Anthem

Virgil Thomson (1896-1989)

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want;
He maketh me to lie down in green pastures;
He leadeth me beside the still waters;
He restoreth my soul.
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; for thou art with me;
Thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.
Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies;
Thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;
And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

From Psalm 23 King James Version

***Doxology**

DUKE STREET: *For tune, see Hymn 265.*
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!**

**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**

Jeanne Kirkwood

Prayer Partners Maryam, Dianne Middleton, Cheryl Min, Pierre Moyé, Lois Nason,
Bryan Nichols and Robin Currier, Chuck and Emily Olson, Karyn
Payne

**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.**

Anthem

Thomas Tallis (1505-1585)

The God of love my Shepherd is,
And he that doth me feed;
While he is mine and I am his,
What can I want or need?

He leads me to the tender grass,
Where I both feed and rest;
Then to the streams that gently pass;
In both I have the best.

Or if I stray, he doth convert,
And bring my mind in frame;
And all this not for my desert,
But for his holy name.

Yea, in death's shady black abode
Well may I walk, not fear;
For thou art with me; and thy rod
To guide, thy staff to bear.

Nay, thou dost make me sit and dine,
Ev'n in my enemies' sight:
My head with oil, my cup with wine
Runs over day and night.

Surely thy sweet and wondrous love
Shall measure all my days;
And as it never shall remove,
So neither shall my praise.

Psalm 23 set metrically by George Herbert (1593-1633)

Psalm 23
read in unison

THE LORD is my shepherd,
I shall not want.
God makes me lie down in green pastures;
he leads me beside still waters;
he restores my soul.
God leads me in right paths
for his name's sake.
Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil; for you are with me;
your rod and your staff— they comfort me.
You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
Surely goodness and mercy
shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
my whole life long.

Scripture Luke 15:1-7 (page 73)

Leader The Word of God in scripture.

People Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Pastor Henderson

**Affirmation of
Faith**

We believe in a seeking God,
a with-us and before-us God,
a chasing-after-us God.
We believe that no matter where we wander
or what darkness we enter, this God—
the God who walked the streets of Jerusalem,
shook hands with lepers,
honored children,
and told stories of love—
is always close at hand.
So on the good days and the hard days,
on the majestic mountains and in the dark valleys,
we believe that we are always being found.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.

Worship Through Responding to God's Word

***Hymn** **Once a Sheep Was in a Pasture**
Sung to the tune of Hymn 611 "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"

- 1 **Once a sheep was in a pasture
with the other ninety-nine.
Their good shepherd loved those hundred,
and he told them, "You are mine!"
As the hundred grazed together,
for some reason yet untold,
one found she was separated
from the shepherd, from the fold.**
- 2 **Shepherd, sometimes we face trouble,
far from others, far from you.
There are different ways we struggle,
different things that we can do.
There are times we're prone to wander;
there are times we're pushed away.
Shepherd, by your love you find us—
then in joy you celebrate!**
- 3 **Like a shepherd, Lord, you know us
and the songs our spirits sing.
You accept us and you love us—
and you know the gifts we bring.
With our signing, with our voices,
with our hearts, may we express:
Shepherd, by your love you find us—
we are yours, and we are blessed!**
- 4 **Shepherd, by your love you find us,
then you send us out in turn
to seek out all your beloved
and to bring the wounded home.
As we lead and help each other,
as we advocate and pray,
may we shepherd one another
on your faithful, loving Way.**

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***Charge and
Benediction**

Postlude Tallis Theme

Thomas Tallis (1515-1585)
Arranged for organ by Martin Shaw (1875-1958)
and Geoffrey Shaw (1879-1943)

*During the postlude, you may either depart or take your seat to listen, as you wish.
However, do please join us in the fellowship hall downstairs for coffee hour.*

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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Lent 2025: Everything (in) Between

This year's series for Lent is "Everything (in) Between." The theme of this series are an invitation to navigate the polarities in our lives with more faith, intention, and openness to be transformed.

Today's liturgy is adapted from prayers by Rev. Sarah A. Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org.

Today's Coffee Hour

Jeanne Kirkwood in remembrance of her father's birth date. He would have been 118 years old today. On his 40th birthday, daughter Jeanne was born, so she is pleased to celebrate her 78th birthday with you all!

History Lives at Old First!

Take a look at the "Gallery Window" by the Sacramento Street entrance for a new display.

Devotional Books for Lent

A limited number of ***Good Enough: 40ish Devotionals For A Life of Imperfection*** by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie are available for \$10.00. You can pay with cash on Sundays by putting your money or check into the envelope found with the books in the narthex, or you can use the QR code at the right: remember to select "study book fund."



They will be in the narthex on Sundays, pick on up at church during the week, or you can contact the church office and one can be sent to you.

New Members/Inquirers Class, Today

Would you like to know about what it means to be a Presbyterian and about membership in Old First? Pastor Maggi will lead a class for new members and inquirers will be held **today after coffee hour**. We will meet in **the library** and a light lunch will be served for those taking part.

Learn About Old First's Organ, April 13

Continuing in our 175th anniversary celebration year, please join Dr. George Becker, organist (and psychiatrist/orthopedic surgeon/Old First elder), for a demonstration and talk about Old First's wonderful organ and its history after worship on Sunday, April 13. Coffee hour treats will be served in the Children's Chapel, so please get coffee and a treat before joining George in the choir loft.

One Great Hour of Sharing, Palm Sunday, April 20

We will receive our annual One Great Hour of Sharing special offering on Easter Day, April 20. One Great Hour of Sharing supports efforts to relieve hunger through the Presbyterian Hunger Program, promote development through the Presbyterian Committee on the Self-Development of People, and assist in areas of disaster through Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. Bring your fish-boxes and your generosity.

Easter Extravaganza Coffee Hour, April 20



For Easter Sunday – this coming Sunday – we will plan for an Easter Extravaganza Coffee Hour. **Please bring your favorite treats to share!** Whether home-made or store-bought your contribution to the abundance will be welcome. On Easter morning leave your contribution on the tables in the Fellowship Hall.

Visitor Cards

If you see a visitor, please say “hello” and invite them to fill out a visitor card. The cards can then be placed in the offering plate or given to an usher.



Holy Week and Easter: Invite Someone!

Holy Week and Easter are wonderful times to invited folks to church. Why don't you think about the family, friends and people in the community whom you could tell about our worship services?

Red Cards: Know Your Rights

Old First Presbyterian is investing in “Red Cards,” small wallet size cards to share the people who fear ICE coming into their homes and lives. These cards have five simple statements that affirm that all people in the United States, regardless of immigration status, have certain rights and protections under the U.S. Constitution.

These cards are created by the Immigrant Legal Resource Center (<https://www.ilrc.org>) out of an increasingly complex legal and social challenges faced by immigrants, which created a growing need for expert assistance and training in immigration law and policy. Bill Ong Hing, a well-known immigrant rights attorney, recognized this need and founded the Golden Gate Immigration Clinic in 1979, which later became the ILRC. The center seeks to improve immigration law and policy, expand the capacity of legal service providers, and advance immigrant rights. The ILRC trains attorneys, paralegals, and community-based advocates who work with immigrants around the country. We inform the media, elected officials, and public to shape effective and just immigration policy and law. Our staff works with grassroots immigrant organizations to promote civic engagement and social change.

You can pick up cards to share with the community in the narthex or by contacting the church office.

This Week at Old First

Sunday	March 30: Fourth Sunday in Lent
After Worship	Coffee Hour
After Coffee Hour	New Members/Inquirers Class, Library
4:00 pm	O1C: "Daydream" - Naama Liany, mezzo-soprano, and Christopher Koelzer, piano, perform works by Barber, Bernstein, and more
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
Saturday	April 5
9:00 am	Interfaith Food Pantry
Sunday	April 6: Fifth Sunday in Lent
9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am	Worship
After Worship	Coffee Hour
2:00 pm	Board of Deacons, On-Line
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

Holy Week and Easter 2025

PALM SUNDAY, APRIL 13

11:00 am Worship

Bring your fish-boxes and your generosity.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 17

6:00 pm Worship

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 18

7:00 pm Worship

EASTER DAY, APRIL 20

10:30 am Choral Prelude

11:00 am Worship

We will receive the **One Great Hour of Sharing** special offering this Sunday.
We will close worship by singing the **Hallelujah chorus** from G.F. Handel's *Messiah*.

An **Easter Extravaganza Coffee Hour** will follow worship.

Please bring treats to share!

SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER, APRIL 27

11:00 am Worship with Hymn-Sing

Old First Presbyterian Church

The Reverend Maggi Henderson	Pastor
The Reverend Erwin C. Barron	Parish Associate
Larry Marietta	Music Director
Jarron Carlson	Composer-in-Residence
Brad Peterson	Church Office Administrator
Kristi Hoerauf	Wedding Coordinator