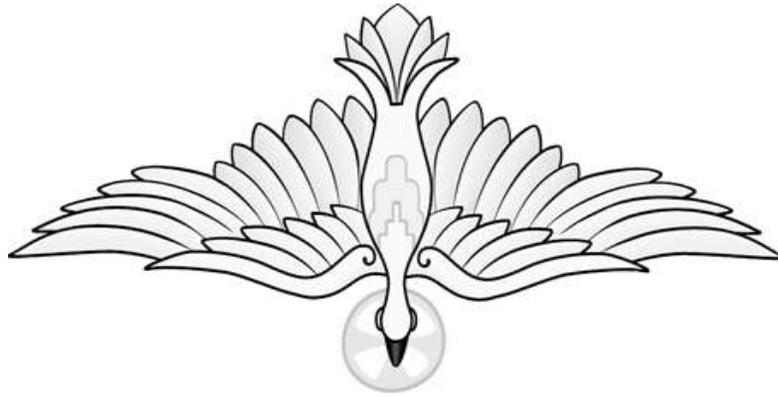


# Old First Presbyterian Church



## Eastertide May 18, 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 Choral Preludes on LET US BREAK BREAD TOGETHER  
Charles Callahan (1951-1923)

#### Welcome and Church Life

**Introit** Donald Moore (born 1938)  
Michael Desnoyers, tenor

Sing praises to God with thanksgiving.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**\*Call to Worship** Sandra Keyes

Leader The community has gathered

**People We have come to hear the good news.**

Leader Hear the good news that Christ has risen

**People We have come to worship the risen Christ**

Leader Now is the time for worship.

**People Hallelujah! We will worship together now!**

- \*Hymn 244 This Joyful Eastertide**
- 1 This joyful Eastertide, away with sin and sorrow.  
My love, the Crucified, has sprung to life this morrow.  
Had Christ, who once was slain,  
not burst his three-day prison,  
our faith had been in vain.  
But now has Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen.
  - 2 My flesh in hope shall rest and for a season slumber  
Till trump from east to west shall wake the dead in number.  
Had Christ, who once was slain...
  - 3 Death's flood has lost its chill since Jesus crossed the river.  
Lover of souls, from ill my passing soul deliver.  
Had Christ, who once was slain...

Prayer of Confession

Sandra Keyes

We sing loud songs to you, Morning Joy,  
trusting they will drown out  
our mean-spirited murmurs about those around us.  
We hope you will turn a blind eye to our behaviors,  
while we imprison our families and friends  
with impossible expectations.  
We pull a muscle stretching to pat ourselves on the back,  
but our attitudes and actions  
towards the poor and outcast of the world  
reveal we are not worthy to be called your children.

*Silence is kept.*

You never give up on us,  
Healing God.  
You are quick to forgive us,  
and quicker to offer us  
ways to share your name with everyone we meet.  
As you continue to be loving and affirming towards us,  
let us go to share the good news of the life, death, and resurrection  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

**\*Assurance of  
Forgiveness**

Leader

Do not worry!  
The Lamb of God has come to lead us into the kingdom,  
where we may praise our God and serve our sisters and brothers.

People

Songs of blessing, glad shouts of joy,  
hearts for others, hands for service:  
All these we offer, and more,  
to the One who forgives us and makes us whole.  
Thanks be to God, 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.*

**Solo**

African American Spiritual  
Arranged by Moses Hogan (1957-2003)  
Michael Desnoyers, tenor

Let us break bread together on our knees;  
let us break bread together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us drink wine together on our knees;  
let us drink wine together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

Let us praise God together on our knees;  
let us praise God together on our knees.  
When I fall on my knees, with my face to the rising sun,  
O Lord, have mercy on me.

**\*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**

**Scripture**      Acts 9:1-20 (pages 119-120)

Leader      The Word of God in scripture.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**      Pastor Henderson

## Worship Through Holy Communion

### Invitation to the Lord's Table

#### The Great Thanksgiving

Leader May the God who turns our mourning into dancing be with you!

People **May God teach you new dance steps as well!**

Leader May the God who hears our hearts listen to yours!

People **In those depths, we speak of that for which we long –  
hope and grace.**

Leader May the God who loves us fill your with abundant blessings.

People **We sing glad songs of joy to the One who comes to us. ...**

Leader We lift our songs of praise to you this morning:

People **Holy, holy, holy, God who restores us to life,  
all creation falls down to worship you with praise.**

**Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who tells of your faithfulness.**

**Hosanna in the highest! ...**

Leader We proclaim the mystery we know as faith:

People **Christ died, to turn death into life.**

**Christ is risen, to turn mourning into laughter.**

**Christ will come, to teach us resurrection's dance. ...**

#### 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.**

#### The Words of Institution

#### The Bread and the Cup

*All are invited to come forward to share in the Lord's Supper.*

*Receive the bread from the pastor, then dip it in the wine or grape juice.*

***There is wine in the chalice and grape juice in the cup.***

***Gluten-free bread is available from the pastor upon request.***

**Worship Through Responding to God's Word**

**\*Hymn 726      The Summons "Will You Come and Follow Me"**

- 1 "Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?  
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?  
Will you let my love be shown; will you let my name be known;  
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?"
- 2 "Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?  
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?  
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?  
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?"
- 3 "Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?  
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?  
Will you kiss the leper clean, and do such as this unseen,  
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?"
- 4 "Will you leave the 'you' you hide if I but call your name?  
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?  
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,  
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?"
- 5 Lord, your summons echoes true when you but call my name.  
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.  
In your company I'll go where your love and footsteps show.  
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

**Postlude**      Psalm XIX      Benedetto Marcello (1686-1739)

*During the postlude, you may either depart or take a 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  
[www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org) • 415-776-5552  
Find Us on Facebook and YouTube



**Today’s Liturgy**

Today’s liturgy is based on the work of the Reverend Thom Shuman.

**Today’s Coffee Hour**

Chuck and Emily Olson have given today’s coffee hour in gratitude for all their friends at Old First.

**4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinner, May 24**

This month’s 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinner with our neighbors and friends falls on May 24. 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; E-mail: [4thsaturdaydinner@oldfirst.org](mailto:4thsaturdaydinner@oldfirst.org)

**Old First’s Musical History, May 25**

As Old First winds up our 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, please join Chris Burt, longtime volunteer and board member of Old First Concerts as well as Old First choir member, in the sanctuary after worship for a presentation on Old First’s musical history. Learn about the choir and Old First Concerts, including some of the outstanding musicians who have led, performed, and contributed to Old First’s rich musical history. You might even hear some excerpts of the outstanding recordings Chris has made over the years.

**Maggi and the Last AIDS/LifeCycle, June 1-7**

Pastor Maggi will again be a roadie supporting what will be the last AIDS/LifeCycle, the seven-day bike ride to raise funds for the life-saving work of the San Francisco AIDS Foundation and the Los Angeles LGBT Center. (Going forward these two institutions will engage in separate fund-raising programs.)



To contribute to Maggi’s fund-raising, visit her personal fund-raising page using either the QR-code to right or this address: <https://giving.aidslifecycle.org/participants/pastormaggi2025>

The Reverend Bruce Reyes-Chow will preach and lead worship on June 1, when Maggi’s away.

**Old First Staffs the Food Pantry, June 7**

Mark your calendars and sign up to volunteer on **Saturday, June 7**, when Old First staffs the Interfaith Food Pantry. To visit the sign-up webpage, simply use the QR-code to the right or click on the link below... or just show up!



<https://signup.com/client/invitation2/secure/667004851505698018/false#/invitation>

**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

### Guest Preacher June 1: Bruce Reyes-Chow



The Reverend Bruce Reyes-Chow will preach for us on June 1. Bruce is a former moderator of the PC(USA), a local church pastor and an author.

His newest book *Everything Good about God is True: Choosing Faith* has received great reviews and read by one of our own small groups. Why don't you read it before he comes and you can talk with him following coffee hour. We have a few copies available in the narthex on Sundays and the church office on other days. They are \$14.00 per copy. You can put a check or cash in the envelope with the books or you can pay on line using Old First's donation page (<https://new.oldfirst.org/donations/>) and selecting "Study Book Fund" as the giving opportunity.

#### ***Does choosing to believe in God change how I live?***

*God stirs my soul,*

*in the morning, life-giving first breath fills my lungs.*

*God stills my spirit,*

*in the evening, the calm of the night flows through my body.*

*God moves me,*

*the Holy One beckons me forth, through bands of light,*

*into coves of darkness, woven into rainbows, and amid the in-between and unknown.*

–Bruce Reyes-Chow in his book *Everything Good about God is True*

### 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. **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 May 18: Fifth Sunday of Easter**  
After Worship Coffee Hour  
4:00 pm O1C: *LIEDER ALIVE!* presents Esther Rayo, soprano, and Peter Grünberg, piano, performing Schubert and Classical Spanish repertoire  
7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
- Tuesday May 20**  
7:00 pm Worship Committee, On Line
- Saturday May 24**  
9:00 am Interfaith Food Pantry  
5:15 pm 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinner
- Sunday May 25: Sixth Sunday of Easter**  
9:30 am Choir Rehearsal  
11:00 am Worship, Sanctuary  
After Worship Old First's Musical History and Coffee Hour, Sanctuary  
7:15 pm AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall