

# Old First Presbyterian Church

Sometimes,  
we believe the gifts we offer do not matter.  
But when they are combined with all the other gifts –  
of healing, of hope, of compassion, of your heart –  
they can become rivers of grace and justice  
flowing through the lives of everyone around us.  
We offer our gifts to you in this hope,  
as we pray in Jesus' name.  
Amen.

–Thom Shuman

The Reverend Maggi Henderson, Pastor  
The Presbyterian Church (USA)

Sunday, October 17, 2021

## Worship through Praising God

*Please fill out a guest card found in the pew rack and  
place it in the offering basket in the narthex when you exit the church building.*

*Ushers have hearing aids for our sound system.*

*Silence is requested as we prepare our hearts for worship.*

*\* At the asterisk, please rise in body or spirit.*

**Prelude** Meditation on a Theme by Tallis

Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)  
Arrangement Anonymous

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

William Runyan (1870-1957)  
Arranged by Dan Miller (born 1954)

**Welcome &  
Church Life**

The Reverend Erwin Barron

**Introit** The God of Love My Shepherd Is

Mode III; Thomas Tallis (c.1505-1585)

The God of love our Shepherd is,  
And He that doth us feed;  
While He is ours and we are His,  
What can we want or need?  
He leads us to the tender grass,  
Where we both feed and rest;  
Then to the streams that gently pass;  
In both we have the best.

George Herbert (1593-1633), adapted

Stephen Taber

**\*Call to  
Worship**

Leader We come this day, Precious God,  
as people in need of your steadfast love:

**People with you is the fountain of life;  
in your Light we see light.**

Leader We gather this day, Water-changing God,  
as people looking for signs:

**People with you is the fountain of life;  
in your Light we see light.**

Leader We worship this day, Gifting God,  
as people who confess Jesus as our Lord:

**People with you is the fountain of life;  
in your Light we see light.**

**\*Hymn 366 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling**

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling;  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion;  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation;  
enter every trembling heart.

2 Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
into every troubled breast;  
let us all in these inherit;  
let us find the promised rest.  
Take away the love of sinning  
Alpha and Omega be;  
end of faith as its beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

- 3 Come, Almighty, to deliver;  
 let us all thy life receive;  
 suddenly return, and never,  
 nevermore thy temples leave.  
 Thee we would be always blessing,  
 serve thee as thy hosts above,  
 pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
 glory in thy perfect love.
- 4 Finish then thy new creation;  
 Pure and spotless let us be;  
 Let us see thy great salvation  
 perfectly restored in thee:  
 changed from glory into glory,  
 till in heaven we take our place,  
 till we cast our crowns before thee,  
 lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Prayer of  
 Confession

Stephen Taber

Delight of the Ages, we cannot remain silent,  
 but must speak of the ways we misuse your gifts.  
 In our desire to have more and more,  
 we cause more damage to your good creation.  
 In our obsession with ourselves,  
 we have desolated that lives of those around us.  
 When we hoard what you have given us,  
 we cannot be a blessing to other people.

*Silence is kept.*

Forgive us, Restless God,  
 so we might be restored to life.  
 May your steadfast love save and strengthen us  
 to share our gifts with others,  
 even as you have shared the gift of Jesus Christ,  
 our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Assurance of  
 Forgiveness

Leader

God delights in you.  
 So much, that God will not rest until you are at peace.  
 God will not remain silent, but will call you by name: "My Delight."

People

God's steadfast love extends to the heavens,  
 and reaches down to touch our hearts.  
 Thanks be to God who forgives and saves us!

**Anthem** "O, Love Divine" from *Theodora*

G.F. Handel (1685-1759)

O, Love divine, thou source of fame,  
thou source of glory and all joy!  
Let equal love our souls inspire  
and equal zeal employ;  
Thy love appeared so bright below  
that we Thy glorious love may know.

Thomas Morell (1703-1784); adapt.

**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 Chloe Pollock, Spencer Pollock, Phil Pollock, Glen Potter, Charles Rambo, Dortha Reade, Linda Reyder, Lisa Robeck, Annie Scott Rogers

**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 36:5-10, John 2:1-11

Leader This is the word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon** A Generous and Gracious Response The Reverend Nancy Vincent

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

**\*Hymn 39 Great Is Thy Faithfulness**

1 **Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
there is no shadow of turning with thee.  
Thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not.  
As thou hast been thou forever wilt be.**

- 2 Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest,  
sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
join with all nature in manifold witness  
to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.
- 3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,  
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow:  
blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside!

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

*Please follow the pastor outside and greet one another in the open air.*

*Remember to fill in the contact tracing binder, if you have not already done so.*

*You can place your offering in the basket when you leave the church.*

<b>Church Staff</b>
---------------------

The Reverend Maggi Henderson	Pastor
The Reverend Erwin C. Barron	Parish Associate
The Reverend Lisa Robechek	Parish Associate
Larry Marietta	Music Director
Brad Peterson	Church Office Administrator

### **Old First On-Line**

You can find Old First on-line at [www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org), on **Facebook**, and on our **YouTube** channel. You can always make your offering on-line at <https://donations.oldfirst.org>

### **Today's Guest Preacher: Nancy Vincent**

Today Old First welcomes the Reverend Dr. Nancy Martin Vincent to the pulpit. Nancy is the synod executive for the Synod of the Pacific, our synod of Presbyterian Church (USA). She and her husband Paul reside in Petaluma, CA.

### **Today's Liturgy by Thom Shuman**

The texts of today's call to worship, confession and assurance, and cover prayer are copyright and used by permission of Thom Shuman, an Ohio pastor, poet and blogger involved in transitional (interim) ministry.

### **Old First Staffs the Interfaith Food Pantry**

Old First will be staffing the Interfaith Food Pantry on Saturday, **October 23**. Mark your calendar and plan to sign up. To sign up to staff the Food Pantry follow the link on Old First's homepage - [www.oldfirst.org](http://www.oldfirst.org) - and bring your proof of vaccination to the pantry.

### **Racial Healing Discussion Series, Sundays through November 14**

The Racial Justice Task Force for Old First continues its discussion series on racial healing, using the resource, "What Lies Between Us: Fostering First Steps Toward Racial Healing" through November 14. The series will involve an examination of our beliefs, through reflecting, rethinking and reaching beyond where we are now on race, racism, racial healing and restoration. The meetings will be held in-person in the Fellowship Hall after worship.

Depending on the level of interest, we may offer a second section during the week by Zoom. Please join us for this series. For further information, please contact Lori Yamauchi at [Lori@oldfirst.org](mailto:Lori@oldfirst.org) or after worship (outside the church building in the open air).

### **Celebrating Communion, October 31**

Old First will commemorate World Communion Sunday and celebrate communion October 31.

### **Peace & Global Witness Offering**

We will make our Peace & Global Witness Offering – one of the four annual special offerings of the PC(USA) – on Sunday, October 31. If you use a check, make it payable to OFPC but put "Peace & Global Witness" on the memo line – you may also use a white "pew envelope" for your check or cash, but please write "Peace & Global Witness" on it. You can make an offering at any time by visiting our on-line donation page: on-line at <https://donations.oldfirst.org>, simply select "Peace & Global Witness Offering" in the drop-down box.

### **Remembering the Saints**

On **October 31**, the Sunday before All Saints' Day, we will remember the saints who have died since last All Saints' Day in 2020. If there are people you'd like Old First to remember, please fill out the form included in today's bulletin or send an E-mail to Brad, our church office administrator, with the following information:

- the name of the saints you wish to remember,
- your relationship to them, and
- the date they died.

Please send your E-mail to Brad – [brad@oldfirst.org](mailto:brad@oldfirst.org) – no later than Monday, October 25.