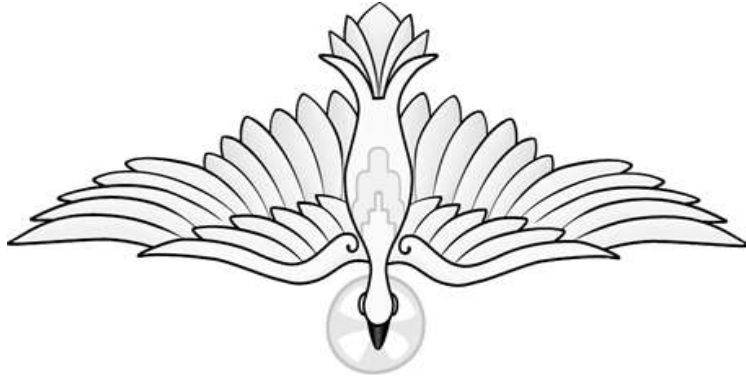


# Old First Presbyterian Church



**Eastertide  
May 25, 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**

## **Welcome and Church Life**

### **Introit**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

Bohemian Brethren's Kirchengesang, 1566

Harmonized by Maurice F. Bell (1862-1947)

Sing praise to God who reigns above, the God of all creation,  
the God of power, the God of love, the God our salvation.

With healing balm my soul is filled, and every faithless murmur stilled:  
to God all praise and glory!

What God's almighty power has made God's gracious mercy keepeth;  
by morning glow or evening shade God's watchful eye ne'er sleepeth.  
Within the kingdom of God's might, lo! all is just and all is right:  
to God all praise and glory!

The Lord is never far away, but, through all grief distressing,  
an ever present help and stay, our peace and joy and blessing,  
as with a mother's tender hand God gently leads the chosen band:  
to God all praise and glory!

Thus all my toilsome way along I sing aloud thy praises,  
that all may hear the grateful song my voice unwearied raises.  
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart; both soul and body, take your part:  
to God all praise and glory!

Johann Schütz (1640-1690)

Translated by Frances Elizabeth Cox (1812-1897)

**\*Call to Worship**

Mary Russell

Leader Come to worship, people of God,  
with praises on your lips.

**People We glorify the One who  
holds our hands when we slip.**

Leader Come into the presence of the One  
who calls us into this sacred space.

**People Where the doors to grace  
are thrown open so all may enter.**

Leader Come and hear the stories  
of the One who loves you.

**People We will tell of the joy and of the love,  
of the peace and of the hope which is ours.**

**\*Hymn 12 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

- 1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.
- 2 Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:  
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.
- 3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small.  
In all life thou livest, the true life of all.  
We blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,  
then wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.
- 4 Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light.  
Thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render; O help us to see  
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee

## Prayer of Confession

Mary Russell

We admit, Knowing God, that from credit cards to websites,  
from phones to stock options, we are surrounded  
by a variety of gods who demand our worship.  
We can all too easily believe that work,  
that busyness is our life,  
that wealth, that things are the reason for our being,  
and that success is the very air we breathe.  
If people looked at how we spend our hours,  
spend our time, use our energies,  
they might not think we are people of The Way.

*Silence is kept.*

Forgive us, God of mercy.  
You are not found in a computer chip,  
but in the child who holds our hand.  
You are not a text message,  
but the Word that can transform our very lives.  
You are not a disembodied, constantly re-calculating voice,  
but the One who calls us to life,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior.  
We need to learn when we have questions  
to call out “Lord” and not “Siri” –  
to learn to live in mystery and not by quick answers on our phones.  
Let us learn to live in your love and forgiveness once again.  
Amen.

### \*Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader

Despite everything we do, God loves us.  
This grace is why we can dare to hope.

People

We will witness to this hope in every word we speak  
to every person we meet.  
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**

Swedish Folk Melody  
Adapted by Stuart KJ. Hine (1899-1989)  
Sergey Khalikulov, bass

O Lord, my God, when I in awesome wonder  
consider all the worlds thy hands have made,  
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,  
thy power thorough the universe displayed:  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee:  
How great thou art! How great, thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander  
and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,  
when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur  
and hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:  
Then Sings my soul...

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing,  
sent him to die, I scarce can take it in,  
that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing,  
he bled and died to take away my sin:  
Then sings my soul...

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,  
and there proclaim, "My God, how great thou art!"  
Then sings my soul...

Stuart K. Hine(1899-1989)

**\*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	<b>And also with you.</b>

<b>Worship Through Hearing God's Word</b>
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**Prayers of the  
People**

Lori Yamauchi

Prayer Partners     Andy and Yvonne Cheng, Samuel, Joshua and Annie, Ted and Betsy Chiao, Buddy Tate Choy and Jeanne Choy Tate, Tracy Claggett

**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.**

**Psalm 66:8-20**

*We read the psalm responsively.*

Leader     Bless our God, O peoples; let the sound of God's praise be heard,  
who has kept us among the living and has not let our feet slip.

**People     For you, O God, have tested us;  
you have tried us as silver is tried.**

Leader     You brought us into the net; you laid burdens on our backs;  
you let people ride over our heads; we went through fire and through water;  
yet you have brought us out to a spacious place.

**People     I will come into your house with burnt offerings;  
I will pay you my vows,  
those that my lips uttered and my mouth promised  
when I was in trouble.**

Leader     I will offer to you burnt offerings of fatted calves,  
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;  
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

**People     Come and hear, all you who fear God,  
and I will tell what God has done for me.**

Leader     I cried aloud to God,  
and God was extolled with my tongue.

**People     If I had cherished iniquity in my heart,  
THE LORD would not have listened.**

Leader     But truly God has listened;  
God has heard the words of my prayer.

**People     Blessed be God, who has not rejected my prayer  
or removed God's steadfast love from me.**

**Scripture** Acts 17:22-31 (page 129)  
**Leader** The Word of God in scripture.  
**People** Thanks be to God.  
**Sermon**

Pastor Henderson

<b>Worship Through Responding to God's Word</b>
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- \*Hymn 317 In Christ There Is No East or West**
- 1 In Christ there is no east or west,  
in him no south or north,  
but one great fellowship of love  
throughout the whole wide earth.**
  - 2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere  
their high communion find;  
this service is the golden cord  
close-binding humankind.**
  - 3 Join hands, disciples of the faith,  
whate'er your race may be.  
All children of the living God  
are surely kin to me.**
  - 4 In Christ now meet both east and west;  
in him meet south and north.  
All Christly souls are one in him  
throughout the whole wide earth.**

**\*Charge and  
Benediction**

**Postlude** Fantasia on "Now Thank We All Our God"

Eric Thiman (1900-1975)

*During the postlude, you or take a seat to listen, as you wish.*

*However, do please join us for coffee hour!*

*Today's coffee hour will be held in the sanctuary so all can hear  
Chris Burt's presentation on Old First's musical history.*

## 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 Flowers and Coffee Hour

Lori Yamauchi and James Fagler have given today's flowers and coffee hour in gratitude for the volunteers and partner churches/organizations of the weekly Interfaith Food Pantry and the monthly 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday Community Dinners.

### Old First's Musical History and Coffee Hour in the Sanctuary After Worship Today

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. Coffee service and snacks will be available in the chapel, so get a cup and settle in for Chris's presentation.

### Next Sunday's Guest Preacher 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.

### 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 or this address: <https://giving.aidslifecycle.org/participants/pastormaggi2025>

### 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>

### Pentecost, June 8

The Day of Pentecost, which celebrates the gift of the Holy Spirit to the church and closes the fifty days of Eastertide, falls on June 8 this year. The Acts of the Apostles tells us on that first Pentecost, "tongues, as of fire, appeared among them," so wear a touch of red to worship on Pentecost in honor of the gift of the Spirit.

### Pentecost Offering, June 8

The annual Pentecost Offering is one of the four special offerings received each year in the Presbyterian Church (USA). The Pentecost Offering helps our youth begin life with a strong start in the years from childhood through young adulthood – a strong start that supports a strong life.

The offering received is divided four ways:

- 40% stays with our congregation to support our own local ministries with children and young people.
- 25% supports the PC(USA)'s Young Adult Volunteer program serving people around the world.
- 25% supports the PC(USA)'s Presbyterian Youth Triennium.
- 10% supports at-risk children by improving education opportunities and safe havens.

You can make your Pentecost Offering by using the envelope that will be included in the bulletin on Pentecost, May 19, or you can make your Pentecost Offering at any time using Old First's on-line donations page: Either navigate to <https://dev.oldfirst.org/donations//> or use the QR-code to the right. Remember to select "Pentecost Offering in the drop-down dialog box.



### 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

<b>Sunday</b>	<b>May 25: Sixth Sunday of Easter</b>
After Worship	Old First's Musical History and Coffee Hour, Sanctuary
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall
<b>Monday</b>	<b>May 26</b>
	Memorial Day: Church Office Closed
<b>Tuesday</b>	<b>May 27</b>
6:00 pm	Session, On-Line
<b>Saturday</b>	<b>May 31</b>
9:00 am	Interfaith Food Pantry
<b>Sunday</b>	<b>June 1: Seventh Sunday of Easter</b>
9:30 am	Choir Rehearsal
11:00 am	Worship, Sanctuary
After Worship	Coffee Hour, Fellowship Hall
7:15 pm	AA Friendly Circle, Fellowship Hall

### 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





## Lament, Healing & Hope on the Road to Justice

West Region Antiracism Group  
Hybrid Event

**Saturday, May 31, 2025**

2:00 pm ~ 4:30 pm • Snacks provided  
Presbyterian Church in Chinatown, SF

**Join us for a time of conversation and reflection.** Check-in at  
2:00 pm with refreshments and program to follow.

**Listen to Rev. Dr. Peter Choi from Center for Faith & Justice.**  
Small group discussion time included.

**Express your lamentations and hopes in solidarity with people  
of faith.** Hear stories and poems on how others are handling  
this moment.



**Donations accepted**

*Select "Regional Antiracism  
Group Gathering"*

**Click here to register ~ deadline is May 21st**  
Zoom link sent after registration.

- In-person location is Presbyterian Church in Chinatown, 925 Stockton Street, San Francisco
- Parking at Portsmouth Square Garage
- Public transit access: Powell Street BART/T-Third MUNI to Chinatown