

Welcome to Our Celebration of Worship

To all who live joyfully and long to share their excitement ... to all who mourn and need comfort ... to all who are weary and need rest ... to all who are homeless and desire sheltering love ... to all who pray or are in need of prayer ... to all who sin and need a Savior ... to all who recognize Christ in their midst and hunger to share God's love with all the world ... Old First Presbyterian Church opens wide its doors and in the name of Jesus Christ, says ... WELCOME!

**Those who are able, please stand in body or spirit.
(The congregation is invited to join in speaking or singing **items in bold.**)*

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY BEFORE GOD

Prelude *Improvisation* K. Friese

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Opening Prayer

Introit *Grant, O God, Your Blessing* M. Bedford
Handbells: Paul Grasso and Gus Panagacos

Call to Worship —*from Psalm 19*

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God;
the skies proclaim the mighty work of God's hands.

**People: Day after day they pour forth praise;
night after night they display God's greatness.**

Leader: The law of the Lord is perfect,
reviving the soul and giving joy to the heart.

**People: The fear of the Lord is pure and trustworthy,
enduring forever in righteousness.**

Leader: Our God is more valuable to us than costly gold,
sweeter than precious honey.

**People: May the words of our mouth and the meditations
of our hearts be pleasing and acceptable to our God!**

Leader: Giving thanks for the Lord of our lives,
let us lift our hearts and voices as we worship our God together.

*Hymn 409 *God Is Here!*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, you have revealed yourself to us in Jesus Christ, perfect in every way; kind and compassionate, faithful and loving, welcoming and hospitable. You call us to follow his way and live as examples of the kindness and mercy that marked his life and ministry. We are filled with hope and joy by the power and presence of your Holy Spirit, made known to us in the bread, cup, and water. But there is part of us that longs to remain at the table and font, rather than continuing Christ's ministry in our lives and among our world. As we continue to look backward, we stumble and fall in our feeble attempts to walk in the footsteps of our Christ.

Loving God, forgive our failings and raise us from sin and death into life eternal, so that we may serve you humbly and faithfully. Encourage us to continue our Lenten journeys with renewed focus, trusting that what we are given in Jesus Christ is lasting and true. Fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may obey the commandments of our Savior and follow his example each day of our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Christ ...

(Please continue in silent prayer of confession.)

Together, let all of God's people say ... **amen.**

Hymn 551 (Kyrie Eleison) *Lord, Have Mercy*

**Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy upon us.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Leader: God acts with justice and mercy.
In everlasting love, God redeems us and sets us free.

**All: God forgives us, frees us and gives us peace.
To God, we are ever thankful. Amen.**

*Response of Praise (verses 1 and 3, Hymn 518) *Your Only Son*

*Passing of the Peace

The Peace of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

Let us greet one another with signs of Christ's peace.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson 1 Corinthians 11:23-26 New Testament, p. 173 / P. 211

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Guide Us, Lord* M. Patterson
Viola: Amalia Heinz, Violin: Sierra Healy

Time with Our Young Disciples

Congregational Invitation (*Sung*)

**This, this is where children belong,
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song:
This is where children belong.**

(Church school is available for children preschool through 6th grade.)

Second Lesson Acts 2:37-42 New Testament, p. 120 / P. 145

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon **"Celebrating the Sacraments"**

*Hymn 488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

** When you reach the end of the first three verses, return to the top of the page.
Verse 4 of the hymn is printed at the bottom of the page.*

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

The Sacrament of Baptism *Jorge Robert Gibbons*

Meaning and Institution

* Vows

* Affirmation of Faith

Prayer for Blessing

The Baptism

Welcome

The Scots Confession (See Next Page)

*Affirmation of Faith — *The Scots Confession (1560)*

**By grace alone, God chose us in his Son, Christ Jesus,
before the foundation of the world was laid, and appointed him to
be our head, our brother, our pastor, and the great bishop of our souls.
We believe our Lord Jesus offered himself a voluntary sacrifice unto his
Father for us, suffered contradiction of sinners, was wounded and plagued
for our transgressions, and was condemned in the presence of an earthly
judge, that we should be absolved before the judgment seat of our God.
We believe our Lord Jesus did rise again for our justification and
brought life again to us who were subject to death and bondage.**

Invitation to Receive our Tithes & Offerings

Receiving of our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory *And Can It Be?* D. Forrest
Sanctuary Choir

*Congregational Response (Hymn 606) *Doxology*

*Prayer of Dedication and Choral Response (Hymn 647, no repeats)

Invitation to the Lord's Table

The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

People: It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

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

Communion

All are invited to hold the bread and cup so that we may commune together.

Prayer after Communion

*Hymn 515 *I Come with Joy*

*Charge and Benediction

*Choral Benediction *Sung to the tune of "Edelweiss"*

Come, O Lord, be with us. Fill us with joy and thanksgiving.

May our hearts, flow with peace. Come with your love and surround us.

Friendship and love, may they bloom and grow, bloom and grow forever.

Bless us now. Bless our friends. Bless all people forever.

*Postlude *Fughetta in D* T. Dubois

IN OUR PRAYERS:

New to the prayer list this week:

Holly Baptista - recovery from back surgery

Continue to pray for those who remain on our prayer list:

Bob and Gail Esser, William Gray (Father of Dorothy Mandrakos), Dave and Else Haddock, Pat Lobasso (Husband of Joan Lobasso), Virginia Perry, Ken Peterson, Angelica Richter, James Schubauer, Rod Tibbetts (Husband of Martha Tibbetts), Laura Jane Tiberia (Daughter of Joan Lobasso), Peter Witkowski, and Grace Youngquist.

Names on our prayer list will remain for a month.

If you would like to add a prayer request, please contact Pastor Means.

OLD FIRST CHURCH SESSION MEMBERS:

| <u>Class of 2018</u> | <u>Class of 2019</u> | <u>Class of 2020</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Curt Abbott | Jim Colbert | Kerry Degnan |
| Melissa Balm | Katie Dopico | Judy Gilbert |
| Peter Fetterolf | Beverly Elliott | Jerry Kessler |
| Laure McKenna | Gretchen Hargis | Susan Oehrig |
| Julie Salzano | Amy Girimonti | Gillian Plastaras |
| Cindy Samuels | Marge Sammis | Melissa Terc |

Thomas Bosch, *Clerk of Session*
Rev. Matthew Means, *Moderator*

OLD FIRST CHURCH BOARD OF DEACONS:

| <u>Class of 2018</u> | <u>Class of 2019</u> | <u>Class of 2020</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|-----------------------|
| Julie Andrade | Holly Baptista, | Leeanne M. Bedell |
| Victor Andrade, | <i>Secretary</i> | Richard C. Bedell, |
| <i>Moderator</i> | Sue Degnan | <i>Vice Moderator</i> |
| Mary Frazier | Cheryl Grossman | Dan Degnan |
| Asenath Fuchs | Steven Samuels | Robert Ponzetti, |
| Linda Ketcham | Martha Tibbetts | <i>Treasurer</i> |
| Pat Miller | Leslie Yovino | Kathy Porter |
| Heather Tucker | | Mary Porter |
| | | Faith Youngquist |

OLD FIRST CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

| <u>Class of 2018</u> | <u>Class of 2019</u> | <u>Class of 2020</u> |
|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Victor Budzitowski | Brian Behrens | Robert Ponzetti |
| Kathy Porter, | John Collins | James Thatcher |
| <i>Secretary</i> | Liz Richter | Charles Worledge |
| Cindy Samuels, | | |
| <i>President</i> | | |

*Old First Presbyterian Church
125 Main Street
Huntington, NY 11743
(631) 427-2101*

www.oldfirstchurchhuntington.org

*Reverend Matthew Means, Pastor
pastor@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org*

Key elements of today's service of worship include ...

Prelude

The pre-service music is an opportunity for us to be called out of the world and into the presence of God, preparing our hearts, minds, and spirits to worship God together.

Welcome / Opening Prayer / Call to Worship

We gather together in the name of Jesus Christ, in whose name we are called to worship in Spirit and Truth. We pray for an awareness of God's presence in our worship and share a responsive "Call to Worship," based upon the lectionary Psalm of the day.

Confessional Liturgy

Recognizing that all have fallen short of the glory of God by failing to love and serve God perfectly, we are invited to join together in confessing our corporate and individual sin. After sharing the "Prayer of Confession," we sing our desire for God's mercy ("Kyrie Eleison"). We listen for the "Assurance of Our Forgiveness" in Jesus Christ and then proclaim our gratitude both in song ("Gloria Patri") and through the sharing of God's peace with our brothers and sisters in Christ ("Passing of the Peace.")

Prayer for Illumination and Scripture Readings

Given the importance of hearing and heeding God's Word, we pray for God to open our hearts, minds, and spirits to receive and live the Word of God read and proclaimed. We believe that Scripture (the Bible) is the Spirit-inspired Word of God for the people of God. Usually, two Scripture passages are read, each one relating to the Pastor's message as well as the overall spirit, theme, and direction of the service of worship.

Time with Our Young Disciples

Children and their faith growth are very important to our church family. Jesus called God's children to his presence to love and teach them and it is our great joy to do the same! Our children have special time in worship to hear the message in ways that help them consider God's Word for their faith and lives. Those who are between preschool and sixth grade are then given the opportunity to exit worship for a time of church school.

Sermon

The pastor then enters the pulpit to deliver the sermon, which is intended to offer some comment or instruction on the Bible readings in the service and some challenge to the congregation to live the Christian life, understand the Christian faith, or affirm the Christian commitment. The sermon usually lasts between 15 and 20 minutes.

Affirmation of Faith

Following the proclamation of God's Word, we are given the opportunity to respond to God's action in our lives as we affirm the faith we share by reciting the Apostles' Creed.

Offering

*The ministry of Old First is supported by members and friends of the congregation responding to God by giving our financial gifts. The offering is the moment in the service when, out of gratitude to God, members of the community of faith **freely choose** to give financial gifts to Christ's ministry in and through Old First as an expression of our faith.*

Communion / The Lord's Supper

*We are blessed to be nourished - physically and spiritually - at the Lord's Table by bread and grape juice. These are visible reminders of the invisible grace of God, reminding us of the love of God, shown to us in the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. Our invitation to the Lord's Table is for **all who trust and believe in Jesus Christ.***

Charge and Benediction

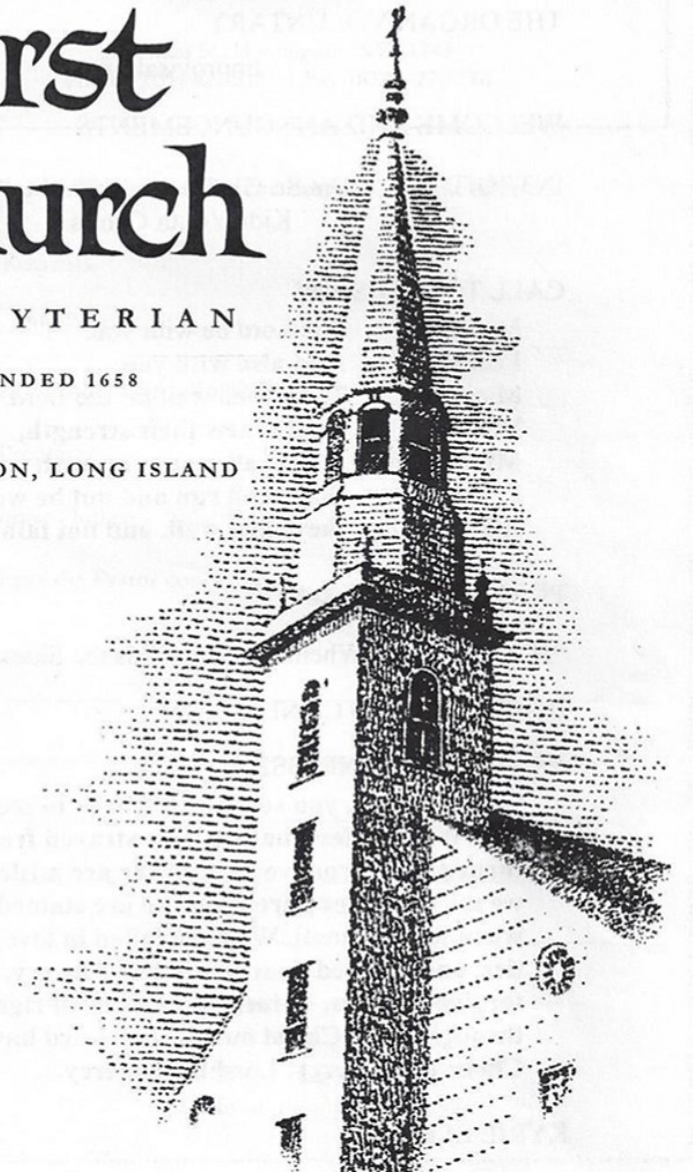
We are sent out into the world with a charge and benediction from the pastor, inviting the spirit of today's worship to go with us as we seek ways to share our faith with others!

Old First Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



THIRD SUNDAY IN LENT

MARCH 4, 2018

10:00 AM

1 Corinthians 11:23-26

New Testament, p. 173 / P. 211

²³ For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, ²⁴ and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, “This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me.” ²⁵ In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” ²⁶ For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Acts 2:37-42

New Testament, p. 120 / P. 145

³⁷ Now when they heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and to the other apostles, “Brothers, what should we do?” ³⁸ Peter said to them, “Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ so that your sins may be forgiven; and you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit.

³⁹ For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him.” ⁴⁰ And he testified with many other arguments and exhorted them, saying, “Save yourselves from this corrupt generation.” ⁴¹ So those who welcomed his message were baptized, and that day about three thousand persons were added. ⁴² They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.