

## 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 *Sonata #3 in F Major* G.F. Handel  
Sierra Healy, Violin

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Opening Prayer

Introit *Love Is A Special Thing* Janie Oliver  
Kids' and Youth Choirs  
Mothers, Grandmothers, and Great-Grandmothers join in singing verses 2 and 3

Call to Worship — *from Psalm 47*

Leader: Clap your hands all people; shout to God with loud songs of joy!

**People: Sing praises to God; sing praises to our King; sing praises!**

Leader: For the Lord, Most High, is awesome indeed,  
the great and mighty King over all the earth.

**People: Sing praises to God; sing praises to our King; sing praises!**

Leader: God is exalted over all the nations;  
let us sing to God our psalms of praise.

**People: Sing praises to God; sing praises to our King; sing praises!**

Leader: The earth and all its inhabitants belong to God;  
let us highly exalt the Lord, our King, with praise.

**People: Sing praises to God; sing praises to our King; sing praises!**

Leader: Giving thanks for the eternal promises of our God and King;  
let us lift our hearts and voices in joyful praise and worship!

\*Hymn 213 *In the Cross of Christ I Glory*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, forgive us for being so focused on our own experiences in life that we do not even try to understand the depth of the struggle that others around the world have known in theirs. Open our eyes to see something of what they have seen, our ears to hear something of what they have heard, and our hearts to feel something of what they have felt. By the miracle of your freely given grace, help us understand the ways of your redemptive love in such a world as this and draw us once more into the eternal embrace of your love.**

**Loving God, yours is the justice that calls power to account, yours is the love that calls sinners to repent, and yours is the mercy that forgives us and grants us eternal life. Lead us in the truth of your Son, Jesus, our Christ, and set us free to rejoice with all our heart, mind, body, and soul over the mystery of faith you have revealed. Lead us once more to the cross of our Christ; that we may open our hearts and receive its power of forgiveness, freedom, and renewal. We pray in the name of Jesus, the Christ, our Lord and our Savior ...**

*(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 (Hymn 240) *Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks*  
*(We will sing the refrain, verse 2, and the refrain once more.)*

\*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

Anthem *All Things Bright and Beautiful* arr. By Anna Page  
Kids' and Youth Choirs  
Sierra Healy, Violin / Alexa Schirripa, Finger Cymbals

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson Isaiah 43:16-21 Old Testament, p. 672 / P. 823

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Time with Our Young Disciples

Congregational Invitation (*Sung Twice*)

**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 6<sup>th</sup> grade.*

Second Lesson Philippians 3:4b-14 New Testament, p. 198 / P. 242

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon **"Cross Talk"**

\*Hymn 826 *Lift High the Cross*

### WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

\*Affirmation of Faith — *The Apostles' Creed (Traditional)*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by  
the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius  
Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell;  
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven,  
and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty;  
from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;  
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;  
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Invitation to Receive our Tithes & Offerings

Receiving of our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory *Spring Prayer* J. Tibbetts  
Sanctuary Choir

\*Congregational Response (Hymn 606) *Doxology*

\*Prayer of Dedication

\*Choral Response (Hymn 647, no repeats)

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

*The congregation is invited to share our prayer requests with one another.*

*If you would like to share a prayer request, please raise your hand  
and the Pastor will invite you to share your need for prayer.*

Litany for Women (*See Insert*) and 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.**

Offering of Our Time and Talent

\*Hymn (See Insert) *Old Rugged Cross*

\*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

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*The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God by  
the Tibbetts Family in joyful celebration of the gift of music.*

### THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew T. Means, Pastor

Philip Heinz, Lector

Ken Friese, Director of Music

Dan Degnan, Usher Captain

*If you are a first-time guest or returning visitor to our church family, please allow us  
to extend a special welcome to you. We invite you to join us in the Parish Hall after  
worship for coffee, tea, cookies, and a chance to learn more about Old First.*

*Please take this opportunity to be greeted by our members and be introduced to our  
Pastor, Matthew Means. Thank you for joining us and welcome to our family of faith!*

IN OUR PRAYERS:

New to the prayer list this week:

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

Holly Baptista, Bob and Gail Esser, William Gray (Father of Dorothy Mandrakos), Dave and Else Haddock, Pat Lobasso (Husband of Joan Lobasso), Virginia Perry, Ilse Perwass (Grandmother of Erik Heidenfelder), Angelica Richter, James Schubauer, Rod Tibbetts (Husband of Martha Tibbetts), George West, Arthur Whitfield (Cousin of Emil Backstrom), 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>		

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*Reverend Matthew Means, Pastor*  
[pastor@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org](mailto: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.*

**Prayers of the People / Lord's Prayer**

*One of the great joys of being called to live together as brothers and sisters in Jesus Christ is our opportunity to pray for and with one another. We share our prayer requests as a family of faith, gather in a pastor-led prayer, and conclude our prayers by praying the Lord's Prayer **together**, showing our desire to live our lives as followers of Jesus Christ.*

**Charge and Benediction**

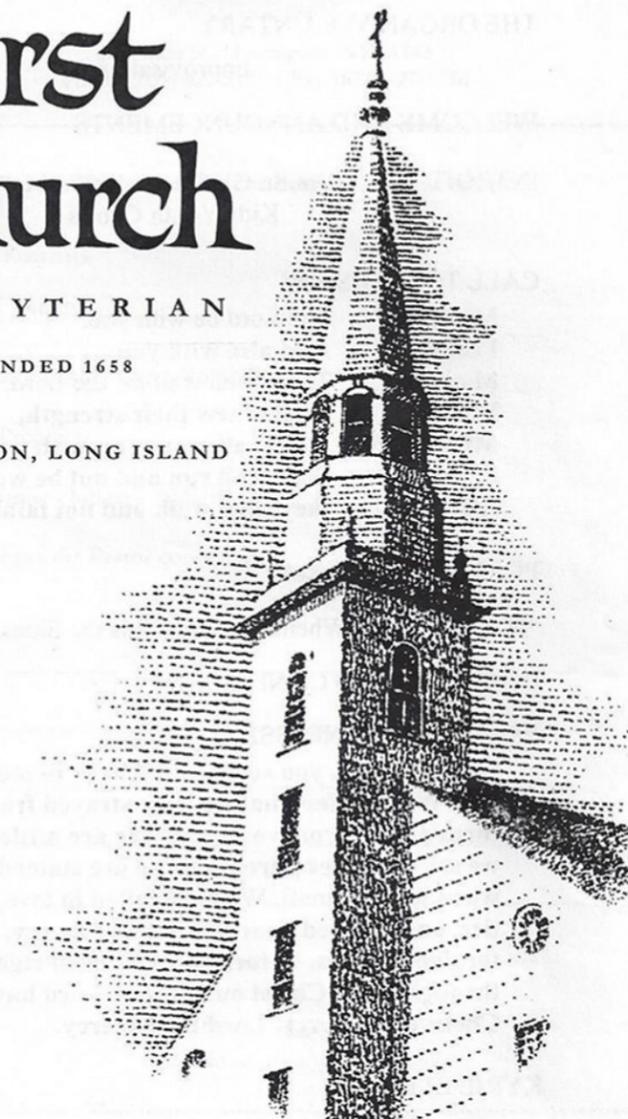
*We are sent out into the world with a charge and benediction from the pastor, inviting the spirit of today's worship to go with us as we seek ways to share our faith with others!*

Old  
First  
Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



**SEVENTH SUNDAY IN EASTER**

**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!**

**MAY 13, 2018**

**10:00 AM**

**Isaiah 43:16-21**

**Old Testament, p. 672 / P. 823**

<sup>16</sup> Thus says the LORD, who makes a way in the sea, a path  
in the mighty waters,

<sup>17</sup> who brings out chariot and horse, army and warrior;  
they lie down, they cannot rise, they are extinguished, quenched  
like a wick:

<sup>18</sup> Do not remember the former things, or consider the  
things of old.

<sup>19</sup> I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you  
not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers  
in the desert.

<sup>20</sup> The wild animals will honor me, the jackals and the ostriches; for I give water in the wilderness, rivers in the desert, to give drink to my chosen people,

<sup>21</sup> the people whom I formed for myself so that they might declare my praise.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Philippians 4:4b-14**

**New Testament, p. 198 / P. 242**

<sup>4</sup>If anyone else has reason to be confident in the flesh, I have more: <sup>5</sup>circumcised on the eighth day, a member of the people of Israel, of the tribe of Benjamin, a Hebrew born of Hebrews; as to the law, a Pharisee; <sup>6</sup>as to zeal, a persecutor of the church; as to righteousness under the law, blameless.

<sup>7</sup>Yet whatever gains I had, these I have come to regard as loss because of Christ. <sup>8</sup>More than that, I regard everything as loss because of the surpassing value of knowing Christ Jesus my Lord. For his sake I have suffered the loss of all things, and I regard them as rubbish, in order that I may gain Christ <sup>9</sup>and be found in him, not having a righteousness of my own that comes from the law, but one that comes through faith in Christ, the righteousness from God based on faith.

<sup>10</sup>I want to know Christ and the power of his resurrection and the sharing of his sufferings by becoming like him in his death, <sup>11</sup> if somehow I may attain the resurrection from the dead.

<sup>12</sup>Not that I have already obtained this or have already reached the goal; but I press on to make it my own, because Christ Jesus has made me his own.

<sup>13</sup>Beloved, I do not consider that I have made it my own; but this one thing I do: forgetting what lies behind and straining forward to what lies ahead,

<sup>14</sup>I press on toward the goal for the prize of the heavenly call of God in Christ Jesus.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**