

## 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 *Let Us Rejoice and Sing!* L. Schultz

Call to Worship — *Psalm 119:97-112*

Leader: Oh Lord, our God; how we love your Word!  
It is our prayerful meditation all day long.

**People: Your commandments are with us always,  
making us wiser than those who oppose us.**

Leader: Through your Word and law I receive understanding;  
therefore, I turn from all other false ways.

**People: We have sworn an oath and confirmed it,  
to observe your holy and righteous ordinances.**

Leader: Accept my offering of praise, O Lord,  
and strengthen me to never forget your holy laws.

**People: Your decrees are our heritage forever;  
they are the everlasting joy of our hearts.**

Leader: Praising the Lord, our God, for the gift of God's holy Word,  
let us lift our hearts and voices as we praise our God together.

\*Hymn 728 *Somebody's Knocking at Your Door*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, in Jesus, our Christ, you shattered the power of sin, freeing us for the gift of eternal life. When given ways to fully experience our eternal Christ, we often choose instead to lose ourselves in things that are here today and gone tomorrow. When provided opportunities to learn from the example of our servant Lord, we often choose instead to consume our lives with the pursuit of selfish desires. And when presented with the chance to lead others to faith in Jesus Christ, we often choose instead to invest our God-given time, talent, and treasure in everything but ministries that share our faith.**

**Loving God, show us the power of your forgiveness to change our lives and make us new creations. Give us the confidence to stand firmly in your promise of eternal life, drawing our strength from your love and grace. Empower us to embrace our role in the life of faith — roles that allow us to live both as seekers and finders of the Christ. We pray together in the name of Jesus, our Christ, who sends us out into the world to love and serve you faithfully ...**

*(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 581) *Glory Be to the Father*

\*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 Psalm 27:1-6 Old Testament, p. 503 / P. 619

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Sing, Sing, Sing* D. Wagner  
Kids' and Youth Choirs

Time with Our Young Disciples

*Preschool through 6<sup>th</sup> grade children are invited to come to the front pews.*

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

Second Lesson Luke 19:1-10 New Testament, p. 82 / P. 100

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon **"What Role Will You Play?"**

\*Hymn 69 *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky*

## 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;  
and 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 *I Want Jesus to Walk with Me* L. Shackley  
Sanctuary Choir

\*Congregational Response (Hymn 606) *Doxology*

\*Prayer of Dedication

Response of Thanksgiving (Hymn 469) *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*

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.*

Prayers of the People 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 724 *O Jesus, I Have Promised*

\*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 *Grand Choeur* T. Dubois

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*The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and honor of God by  
Barbara and Dan Charnews in loving memory of Aunt Libby Terry.*

## THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew Means, Pastor  
Elder William Johnson, Lector  
Ken Friese, Director of Music  
Diane Starost, Director of Youth Music  
Dan Degnan, Usher Captain

Alyssa Gonzalez, Alexa Schirripa, Sarah Thatcher, Liva Camarata, Soloists  
Jake Amend, Kevin Gordon, Amalia Heinz, Nolan Means, Handbells

*Thank you for choosing to worship with us and be part of our family of faith!*

*If you are a first-time guest or returning visitor, please allow us to extend a  
special welcome and invitation to join us in the Parish Hall following worship  
for light refreshments and a chance to learn more about Old First.*

IN OUR PRAYERS:

**New to the prayer list:**

**Tom and Diane Means (Parents of Pastor Matthew) - recent car accident**  
**Miles Lerner & Family (Family Friend of Dana Richter) - ongoing recovery**

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

Holly Baptista, Bob and Gail Esser, Dave and Else Haddock, Pat Lobasso (Husband of Joan Lobasso), James Schubauer, and Grace Youngquist.

*Names on our prayer list will remain for one month.*

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

OLD FIRST CHURCH SESSION MEMBERS:

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Jim Colbert	Kerry Degnan	Curt Abbott
Beverly Elliott	Jerry Kessler	Tom Bosch
Gretchen Hargis	Susan Oehrig	Gloria Burgess
Amy Girimonti	Gillian Plastaras	Philip Heinz
Marge Sammis	Melissa Terc	Mark Rapko

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

OLD FIRST CHURCH BOARD OF DEACONS:

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Sue Degnan	Leeanne M. Bedell	Victor Andrade
Cheryl Grossman	Richard C. Bedell	Asenath Fuchs
Steven Samuels	Dan Degnan	Carol Breckner
Martha Tibbetts	Robert Ponzetti	Judy Gilbert
Leslie Yovino	Kathy Porter	Matthew Girimonti
	Mary Porter	Virginia Greene
	Faith Youngquist	

OLD FIRST CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

<u>Class of 2019</u>	<u>Class of 2020</u>	<u>Class of 2021</u>
Brian Behrens	Robert Ponzetti	Nathaniel Corwin
John Collins	James Thatcher,	Bruce Elliott
Liz Richter,	<i>President</i>	Gerry Schult
<i>Secretary</i>	Charles Worledge,	
	<i>Vice President</i>	

*Old First Presbyterian Church*  
*125 Main Street*  
*Huntington, NY 11743*  
*(631) 427-2101*  
[www.oldfirstchurchhuntington.org](http://www.oldfirstchurchhuntington.org)

*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**

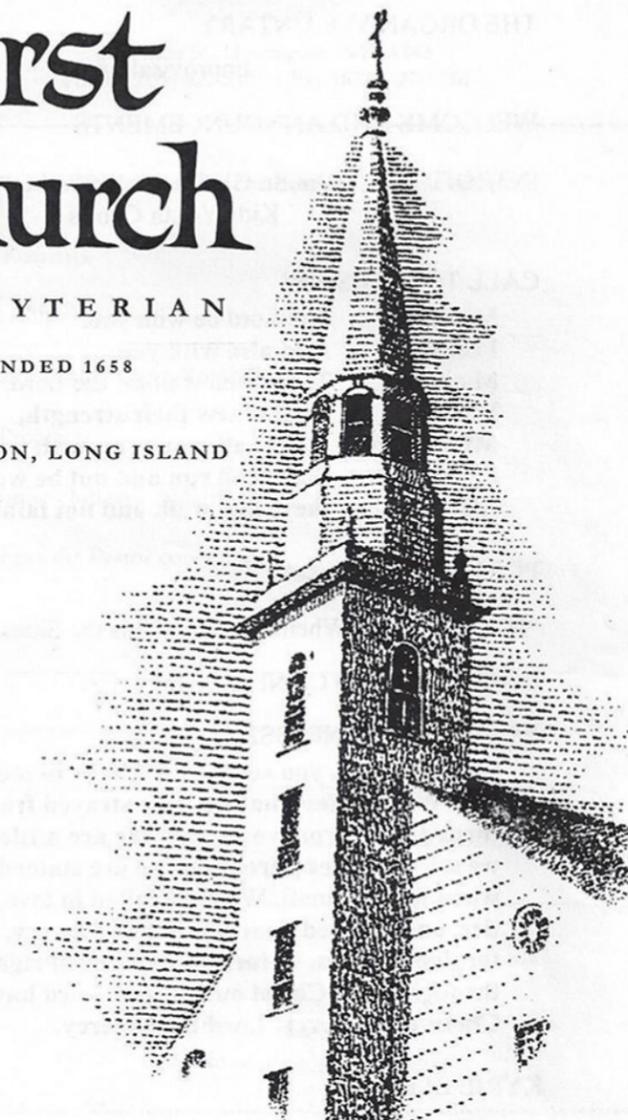
*We are sent out into the world with a charge and benediction from the pastor, inviting the spirit of today's worship to go with us as we seek ways to share our faith with others!*

# Old First Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



***NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

***SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2018***

***10:00 AM***

## **Psalm 27:1-6**

**New Testament, p. 503 / P. 619**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear? The LORD is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

<sup>2</sup> When evildoers assail me to devour my flesh — my adversaries and foes — they shall stumble and fall.

<sup>3</sup> Though an army encamp against me, my heart shall not fear; though war rise up against me, yet I will be confident.

<sup>4</sup> One thing I asked of the LORD, that will I seek after: to live in the house of the LORD all the days of my life, to behold the beauty of the LORD, and to inquire in his temple.

<sup>5</sup> For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble; he will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will set me high on a rock.

<sup>6</sup> Now my head is lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy; I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Luke 19:1-10**

**New Testament, p. 82 / P. 100**

**19** He entered Jericho and was passing through it. <sup>2</sup> A man was there named Zacchaeus; he was a chief tax collector and was rich. <sup>3</sup> He was trying to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was short in stature.

<sup>4</sup> So he ran ahead and climbed a sycamore tree to see him, because he was going to pass that way. <sup>5</sup> When Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, “Zacchaeus, hurry and come down; for I must stay at your house today.”

<sup>6</sup> So he hurried down and was happy to welcome him.

<sup>7</sup> All who saw it began to grumble and said, “He has gone to be the guest of one who is a sinner.” <sup>8</sup> Zacchaeus stood there and said to the Lord, “Look, half of my possessions, Lord, I will give to the poor; and if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I will pay back four times as much.”

<sup>9</sup> Then Jesus said to him, “Today salvation has come to this house, because he too is a son of Abraham. <sup>10</sup> For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**