

## 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 *O Come, Let Us Sing to the Lord* C. Callahan  
Sanctuary Choir

Call to Worship — *from Psalm 27*

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation,  
whom shall I fear?

**People: The Lord is the stronghold of my life,  
of whom shall I be afraid?**

Leader: One thing I ask of the Lord: that I may dwell  
in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

**People: For in times of trouble God will keep us safe,  
setting us high upon the rock of our salvation.**

Leader: Hear my voice when I call to you, O Lord,  
be merciful to me and answer me when I call.

**People: Confident in God's eternal goodness,  
we are strong and take heart as we wait upon God.**

Leader: Seeking the faithful guidance and eternal grace of our God,  
let us lift our hearts and voices as we worship God together!

\*Hymn 175 *Seek Ye First*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, you sent Jesus Christ to seek and save the lost. We confess that in moments of temptation, we have strayed from you and turned aside from your ways. We are misled by our pride, for we see ourselves great when we are small and pure when we are filled with sin. We have failed to do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with you, our God. We make half-hearted commitments to the call you have placed upon our hearts and lives; saying that we hunger and thirst for the things of faith, but depriving ourselves of far too many opportunities to be fed and nourished by the practices of our faith.**

**Loving God, open our eyes to the opportunities you provide for us to live our lives in rhythm with your Holy Spirit. In this season of Lent and always, release in us an unbridled passion for filling our hearts with deep and abiding faith. Teach us to rely on the hope of your love, promise of your Word, and mercy of your everlasting grace. May we grow as individual followers of Jesus Christ and together, as the Body of Christ, as we learn to practice our faith with one another. 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

Anthem *I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes* L. Sowerby  
Sanctuary Choir / Diane Starost, Mezzo-Soprano

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.*

First Lesson Psalm 139:7-18, 23-24 Old Testament, p. 577 / P. 710

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Message **"Honoring the Body"**

\*Hymn 543 (*verses 1, 4, and 5 only*) *God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me*

Second Lesson Ephesians 4:22-5:2 New Testament, p. 194 / P. 237

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Message **"Forgiveness"**

\*Hymn 442 (*verses 1 and 4 only*) *Just as I Am, without One Plea*

### WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

\* Affirmation of Faith — *The Nicene Creed*

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one  
Being with the Father; through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary**

**and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified  
under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again in accordance with  
the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the  
right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge  
the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

Offering of Our Time and Talent

Invitation to Receive our Tithes & Offerings

Receiving of our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory *All the Praise of a Lifetime* arr. D. Hart  
Sanctuary Choir

\*Congregational Response (Hymn 606) *Doxology*

\*Prayer of Dedication

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.**

\*Hymn 450 *Be Thou My Vision*

\*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 *Pasticcio* J. Langlais

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THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew Means, Pastor

Lilly Polak, Lector

Ken Friese, Director of Music

Dan Degnan, Usher Captain

*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.*

*Please use this opportunity to be greeted by our members and introduced to  
our Pastor, Matthew Means, as we share the joys of being together.*

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!

IN OUR PRAYERS:

**New to the prayer list:**

**Tom and JoAnn Bosch  
Diane Walker**

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

Judy Andresen, Paul Burgess Jr. (Son of Paul and Gloria Burgess), Dave and Else Haddock, David and Sandy Lange, Pat Lobasso (Husband of Joan Lobasso), Vera Murphy, James Schubauer, Don Thompson, 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:

Class of 2019

Jim Colbert  
Beverly Elliott  
Gretchen Hargis  
Amy Girimonti  
Marge Sammis

Class of 2020

Kerry Degnan  
Jerry Kessler  
Susan Oehrig  
Gillian Plataras  
Melissa Terc

Class of 2021

Curt Abbott  
Tom Bosch  
Gloria Burgess  
Philip Heinz  
Mark Rapko

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

OLD FIRST CHURCH BOARD OF DEACONS:

Class of 2019

Sue Degnan  
Cheryl Grossman  
Steven Samuels  
Martha Tibbetts  
Leslie Yovino

Class of 2020

Leeanne M. Bedell  
Richard C. Bedell  
Dan Degnan  
Robert Ponzetti  
Kathy Porter  
Mary Porter

Class of 2021

Asenath Fuchs  
Carol Breckner  
Judy Gilbert  
Matthew Girimonti  
Virginia Greene

OLD FIRST CHURCH BOARD OF TRUSTEES:

Class of 2019

Brian Behrens  
John Collins  
Liz Richter

Class of 2020

Robert Ponzetti  
James Thatcher,  
Charles Worledge

Class of 2021

Nathaniel Corwin  
Bruce Elliott  
Gerry Schult

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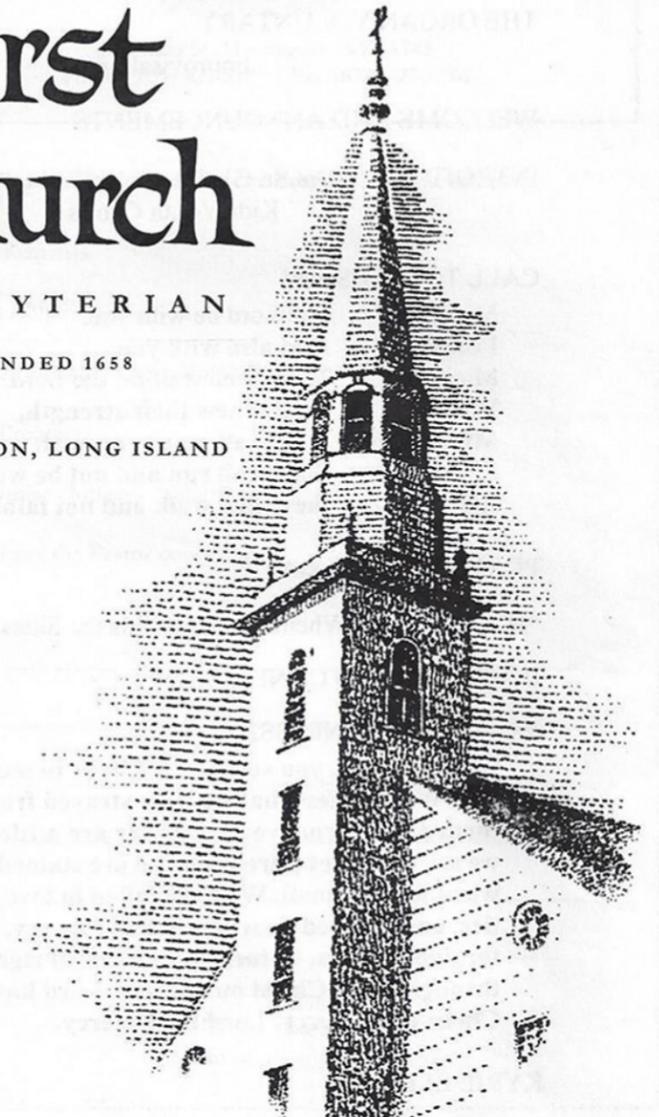
*Reverend Matthew Means, Pastor  
pastor@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org*

Old  
First  
Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

**MARCH 17, 2019**

**10:00 AM**

**Psalm 139:7-18, 23-24**

**Old Testament, p. 577 / P. 710**

<sup>7</sup> Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence?

<sup>8</sup> If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there.

<sup>9</sup> If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, <sup>10</sup> even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast.

<sup>11</sup> If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," <sup>12</sup> even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you.

<sup>13</sup> For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb.

<sup>14</sup> I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made.

Wonderful are your works; that I know very well.

<sup>15</sup> My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth.

<sup>16</sup> Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed.

<sup>17</sup> How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

<sup>18</sup> I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Ephesians 4:22-5:2**

**New Testament, p. 194 / P. 237**

<sup>22</sup> You were taught, with regard to your former way of life, to put off your old self, which is being corrupted by its deceitful desires; <sup>23</sup> to be made new in the attitude of your minds; <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created to be like God in true righteousness and holiness.

<sup>25</sup> So then, putting away falsehood, let all of us speak the truth to our neighbors, for we are members of one another.

<sup>26</sup> Be angry but do not sin; do not let the sun go down on your anger, <sup>27</sup> and do not make room for the devil.

<sup>28</sup> Thieves must give up stealing; rather let them labor and work honestly with their own hands, so as to have something to share with the needy.

<sup>29</sup> Let no evil talk come out of your mouths, but only what is useful for building up, as there is need, so that your words may give grace to those who hear.

<sup>30</sup> And do not grieve the Holy Spirit of God, with which you were marked with a seal for the day of redemption.

<sup>31</sup> Put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice, <sup>32</sup> and be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you.

**5** <sup>1</sup> Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children, <sup>2</sup> and live in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**