

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

Sanctuary Choir *Footprints in the Sand* Martin

“Footprints in the Sand: A Journey to the Cross and Beyond”
Narrators: Leslie Schult and Charles Worledge

Call to Worship — *from Psalm 118*

Leader: The Lord is my strength and my song;
he has become my rock and salvation!

**People: We will not die, but live;
we will proclaim what the Lord has done!**

Leader: Open the gates of righteousness;
I will enter and give thanks to the Lord.

**People: We will give you our thanks and praise,
for you have answered our prayers.**

Leader: The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone of our faith.

**People: This is the day that the Lord has made;
let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Leader: Giving thanks to the Lord for God's enduring goodness and love,
let us lift our hearts and voices as we worship our God together!

*Hymn 353 *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, throughout this blessed Easter season, the light of your resurrected presence nearly blinds us. We confess that we have grown used to the darkness and have even learned to use it for our own advantage. There are times we prefer that Jesus had remained in the tomb ... that he had not appeared to Mary or the disciples ... or that he had not answered the insecurities of Thomas. We are afraid the truth of Jesus' resurrection will force us to face our own sins, doubts, fears, failures, and shortcomings.

Loving God, forgive our lack of faith and refusal to fully embrace the mystery and wonder of this holy season. The truth of Easter makes each moment a gift, filled with promise, and the joy of living our lives in Christ Jesus makes each day worth living. Help us receive the promise of your resurrection so that we may serve you more faithfully and worship you more freely. Strengthen us to live for the day of eternal celebration that awaits your faithful disciples in the kingdom of God. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Christ ...

(Please continue in silent prayer of confession and intercession.)

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

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.

Sanctuary Choir *Footprints in the Sand*

The Master Has Come

Rise Up! Rejoice!

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson 1 Corinthians 1:18-31 New Testament, p. 166 / P. 202

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Time with Our Young Disciples

Preschool through 6th 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 8th grade.

Sanctuary Choir *Footprints in the Sand*

Songs for the Journey

Lift High Your Songs of Praise

Come to the Table of Grace

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.**

Offering of Our Time and Talent

Invitation to Receive our Tithes & Offerings

Receiving of our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory *Footprints in the Sand*

The Garden Path

Come Walk with Me

Pathway of Hope

*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 157 *I Danced in the Morning*

*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 *Fugue in C* D. Buxtehude

THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew Means, Pastor

Elder Jim Colbert, Lector

Ken Friese, Director of Music

Dan Degnan, Usher Captain

*The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and honor of God
by the Presbyterian Women in loving memory of Vera Murphy.*

*Vera is remembered fondly by her sisters in faith as a faithful Christian
woman who lived her faith on a daily basis and supported Old First
Church in many ways. Vera was President of the Old First Presbyterian
Women and always attended Circle 3 Bible Study where, in the midst of
conversation, she would often say, "Ok ... let's get on with the Bible study!"*

*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.*

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:

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

Tom and JoAnn Bosch, Dave and Else Haddock, David and Sandy Lange, Pat Lobasso (Husband of Joan Lobasso), James Schubauer, Don Thompson, Diane Walker, 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	Susan Oehrig	Tom Bosch
Gretchen Hargis	Gillian Plastaras	Gloria Burgess
Amy Girimonti	Melissa Terc	Philip Heinz
Marge Sammis		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	Asenath Fuchs
Cheryl Grossman	Richard C. Bedell	Carol Breckner
Steven Samuels	Dan Degnan	Judy Gilbert
Martha Tibbetts	Robert Ponzetti	Matthew Girimonti
Leslie Yovino	Kathy Porter	Virginia Greene
	Mary Porter	

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	Charles Worledge	Gerry Schult

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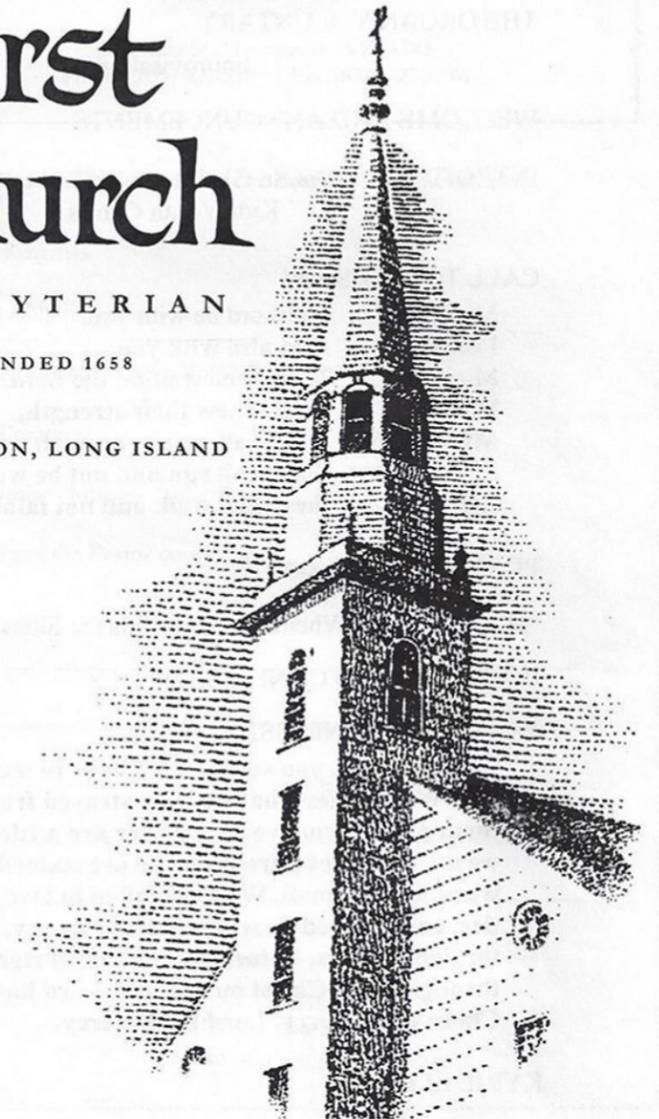
Reverend Matthew Means, Pastor
pastor@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org

Old First Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTER

APRIL 28, 2019

10:00 AM

1 Corinthians 1:18-31

New Testament, p. 166 / P. 202

¹⁸ For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written,

“I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.”

²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe.

²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, ²³ but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are the called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For God's

foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

²⁶ Consider your own call, brothers and sisters: not many of you were wise by human standards, not many were powerful, not many were of noble birth. ²⁷ But God chose what is foolish in the world to shame the wise; God chose what is weak in the world to shame the strong; ²⁸ God chose what is low and despised in the world, things that are not, to reduce to nothing things that are, ²⁹ so that no one might boast in the presence of God. ³⁰ He is the source of your life in Christ Jesus, who became for us wisdom from God, and righteousness and sanctification and redemption, ³¹ in order that, as it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord."

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.