

## 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 *Opus 38 #2 Allegro Moderato duet for two violins* F. Mazas  
Sierra Healy and Jared Ponzetti

Greetings in the Name of Our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ

Opening Prayer

Introit *I'm Gonna Sing* arr. by A. Snyder  
Kids and Youth Choirs

Call to Worship — *adapted from Travis Jeffords*

Leader: We come from all places and all walks of life:  
the rich and poor; the struggling and secure ...

**People: And God calls us all.**

Leader: We bring our hearts to this time and place;  
hearts holding joy and sorrow; questions and wonders ...

**People: And God knows us all.**

Leader: We offer what we have to give: our talents and  
imperfections; our faith and doubt; our hope and hands ...

**People: And God loves us all.**

Leader: Joyfully praising the Lord, our God, the giver and  
nurturer of all good and perfect gifts in our lives ...

**People: We lift our hearts and voices as we worship our God,  
who calls us all ... knows us all ... and loves us all!**

\*Hymn 694 *Great God of Every Blessing*

Invitation to Confession

Unison Prayer of Confession — *adapted from Christian Smith*

God of grace, you have called us to give ourselves wholly and completely  
to you, but we often hold back part of ourselves for worldly pursuits.

**Lord, in your everlasting mercy, forgive us.**

You have freely given us the gift of time each day: time to serve, time to learn,  
time to grow, and time to share, but we spend our time serving ourselves.

**Lord, in your everlasting mercy, forgive us.**

You provide us with opportunities to serve in numerous ways, using the talents  
and abilities with which we are created, but we tend to hide our gifts.

**Lord, in your everlasting mercy, forgive us.**

You have given even the least among us more financial resources than  
most of the world, but we resist sharing because of fear for our own future.

**Lord, in your everlasting mercy, forgive us.**

You have provided us with a beautiful creation to savor and enjoy,  
but we take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth.

**Lord, in your everlasting mercy, forgive us.**

*(Continue in silent prayer of confession and intercession.)*

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 2 Corinthians 9:6-15 New Testament, p. 183 / P. 224

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Jesus Teach Me* Stratton & Courtney  
Youth Choir

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 students preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.*

Second Lesson John 6:1-14 New Testament, p. 97 / P. 118

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Message **"Re-Imagining Stewardship"**

\*Hymn 822 *When We Are Living*

### 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 *Trust in the Lord* M. McDonald  
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 692 *Spirit, Open My Heart*

\*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 *Flourish for St. Muredach* A.V. Fish

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*The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory of God by the Presbyterian  
Women in joyful celebration of the life and ministry of our church family.*

#### THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew Means, Pastor  
Deacon Matt Girimonti, Lector  
Ken Friese, Director of Music  
Dan Degnan, Usher Captain

*Thank you for worshiping with us and being 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 be introduced  
to our Pastor, Matthew Means, as we celebrate the joys of life shared 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 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," usually 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:**

**Family and Friends of Jean Schipper - recent death  
Paul & Gloria Burgess - recent house fire**

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

Holly Baptista, Richard Bedell, Tom and JoAnn Bosch, Bob Esser, Dave and Else Haddock, David and Sandy Lange, Joan and Pat Lobasso, Peg Weigers, 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:

Class of 2020

Meghan Alexander  
Kerry Degnan  
Susan Oehrig  
Gillian Plastaras  
Melissa Terc

Class of 2021

Curt Abbott  
Tom Bosch  
Gloria Burgess  
Philip Heinz  
Mark Rapko

Class of 2022

John Collins  
Amy Girimonti  
Laure McKenna  
Mary Porter  
Leslie Schult

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

OLD FIRST CHURCH DEACONS:

Class of 2020

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

Class of 2021

Vera Dole  
Asenath Fuchs  
Carol Breckner  
Judy Gilbert  
Matthew Girimonti  
Virginia Greene

Class of 2022

Arden Benvenuti  
Bruce Benvenuti  
Cheryl Grossman  
Jennifer Heinz  
Kate Starr Newell  
Martha Tibbetts

OLD FIRST CHURCH TRUSTEES:

Class of 2020

Robert Ponzetti  
James Thatcher  
Charles Worledge

Class of 2021

Nathaniel Corwin  
Bruce Elliott  
Gerry Schult

Class of 2022

Curt Abbott  
Dan Degnan  
Virginia Greene

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Reverend Matthew Means, Pastor  
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Old  
First  
Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



***NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST***

***OCTOBER 20, 2019***

***10:00 AM***

## **2 Corinthians 9:6-15**

**New Testament, p. 183 / P. 224**

<sup>6</sup> The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. <sup>7</sup> Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

<sup>8</sup> And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. <sup>9</sup> As it is written, “He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever.”

<sup>10</sup> He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

<sup>11</sup> You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; <sup>12</sup> for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

<sup>13</sup> Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your sharing with them and with all others, <sup>14</sup> while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you.

<sup>15</sup> Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **John 6:1-14**

**New Testament, p. 97 / P. 118**

<sup>6</sup> After this Jesus went to the other side of the Sea of Galilee, also called the Sea of Tiberias. <sup>2</sup> A large crowd kept following him, because they saw the signs that he was doing for the sick.

<sup>3</sup> Jesus went up the mountain and sat down there with his disciples. <sup>4</sup> Now the Passover, the festival of the Jews, was near. <sup>5</sup> When he looked up and saw a large crowd coming toward him, Jesus said to Philip, “Where are we to buy bread for these people to eat?” <sup>6</sup> He said this to test him, for he himself knew what he was going to do.

<sup>7</sup> Philip answered him, “Six months’ wages would not buy enough bread for each of them to get a little.” <sup>8</sup> One of his disciples, Andrew, Simon Peter’s brother, said to him, <sup>9</sup> “There is a boy here who has five barley loaves and two fish. But what are they among so many people?”

<sup>10</sup> Jesus said, “Make the people sit down.” Now there was a great deal of grass in the place; so they sat down, about five thousand in all. <sup>11</sup> Then Jesus took the loaves, and when he had given thanks, he distributed them to those who were seated; so also the fish, as much as they wanted.

<sup>12</sup> When they were satisfied, he told his disciples, “Gather up the fragments left over, so that nothing may be lost.” <sup>13</sup> So they gathered them up, and from the fragments of the five barley loaves, left by those who had eaten, they filled twelve baskets. <sup>14</sup> When the people saw the sign that he had done, they began to say, “This is indeed the prophet who is to come into the world.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**