

## 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 *The People Are Gathered Together* J.N. Beck

Call to Worship — *Psalm 65*

Leader: All praise and honor are due to you, O Lord, our God; to you alone shall our worship and praise be given!  
**People: God answers our prayers! When sin overwhelms us, God forgives our transgressions and disobedience.**  
Leader: Happy are those who have been chosen by God; they are satisfied in the goodness of God's holy presence.  
**People: God of our salvation and hope of the earth, you answer our prayers through awesome deeds of power.**  
Leader: By your creating power you establish the mountains and girded with strength, you silence our restlessness.  
**People: We are your people ... awed by your mighty deeds and overjoyed by signs of your eternal presence.**  
Leader: Rejoicing in the greatness and wonder of the Lord, our God, let us lift our hearts and voices as we worship God together!

\*Hymn 22 *God of the Sparrow*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, like our ancestors before us, we often complain when things do not go our way. Fearful of what the future may hold, we forget what you have done for us in the past. We desire an abundance of everything, rather than being content with what is sufficient to sustain us. We grumble in frustration when conditions challenge us, or demand more than we are prepared to offer. We begrudge others their success, allow envy to divide us, and live lives that are unworthy of the Gospel of Jesus Christ.**

**Loving God, forgive our lack of trust in your goodness, mercy, and grace, and grant us forgiveness for not believing you will meet our needs. Help us remember your wonderful works, trust in your gracious provision, seek your eternal presence, and strive side-by-side with others to serve you faithfully. When we are lost and in need, may we believe whole-heartedly in your amazing grace, as we look with confident expectation for examples of your loving mercy at work in our lives. We pray together 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.**

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 Exodus 16:2-8, 13-15 Old Testament, p. 62 / P. 78  
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* S.N. Callaway  
Sanctuary 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 Matthew 20:1-16 New Testament, p. 21 / P. 26  
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.  
**People: Thanks be to God.**

Message **"Unexpected Grace"**

\*Hymn 649 *Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound*

### 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 *It Is Well* B.D. Knoedler  
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 361 *O Christ, the Great Foundation*

\*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 *Procession* J. Nixon

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*The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and honor of God by the  
Presbyterian Women in joyful thanksgiving for a wildly successful Fall Fair  
and in grateful appreciation for all who gave of themselves in support.*

#### THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew Means, Pastor  
Michael Upston, 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 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," usually based on the lectionary Psalm.

**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:**

**Lucy Fetterolf - health concerns**  
**Valery Goetchiuz (Friend of Elizabeth Libert) - health concerns**

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

Holly Baptista, Richard Bedell, Tom and JoAnn Bosch, Paul and Gloria Burgess, 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

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)

# Old First Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



**TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

**NOVEMBER 10, 2019**

**10:00 AM**

## **Exodus 16:2-8, 13-15**

### **Old Testament, p. 62 / P. 78**

<sup>2</sup> The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup> The Israelites said to them, “If only we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger.”

<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. <sup>5</sup> On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days.”

<sup>6</sup> So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, “In the evening you shall know that it was the LORD who brought you out of the land of Egypt, <sup>7</sup> and in the morning you shall see the glory of the LORD, because he has heard your complaining against the LORD. For what are we, that you complain against us?”

<sup>8</sup> And Moses said, “When the LORD gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the LORD has heard the complaining that you utter against him—what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the LORD.”

<sup>13</sup> In the evening, quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. <sup>14</sup> When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground.

<sup>15</sup> When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, “What is it?” For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, “It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **Matthew 20:1-16**

### **New Testament, p. 21 / P. 26**

**20** “For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o’clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

<sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o’clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o’clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’ <sup>7</sup> They said to him, ‘Because no one has hired us.’ He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

<sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.’

<sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.'

<sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?'

<sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**