

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 *Blow the Trumpet in Zion* J.N. Beck

Call to Worship *Stephen M. Fearing*

Leader: We have been claimed by the God who calls us children.

People: We, the redeemed, have been called by name.

Leader: As with the Israelites, God promises to pass with us through the water.

People: We will not fear, for our God is with us!

Leader: The rivers shall not overwhelm us, for God is our guide and our protector.

People: Through God's saving grace, the waters that tested us are now the waters that wash us and nourish us.

Leader: Great is the Fount of Every Blessing;

People: Ever flowing, ever redeeming, ever claiming us as God's faithful children.

Leader: Come, let us worship the God who washes us in grace, the Lord of our lives and generous creator of new beginnings!

*Hymn 177 *I Will Come to You*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession *Adapted from PC(USA) Office of Theology and Worship*

Gracious God, in baptism, you have called us to turn away from sin and to Jesus Christ; but we stray from his ways and do not heed your call to faithful living. In baptism, you raise us with Christ in new life; but we cherish old ways of living and fail to embrace your new life of righteousness, justice, mercy, and love. In baptism, you unite us with all who confess your name; but we foster division, refusing to live as examples of your reconciling love. In baptism, you send us into the world to serve others with humility and compassion; but we ignore the suffering of the oppressed and plight of the poor.

Loving God, help us to live more fully into the promises of our baptisms, trusting that all we need may be found in you. Cleanse us once more in your unconditional love, so that with willing hearts, we may follow in the way of Jesus, our Christ. Fill us with the power of your Holy Spirit, that we may live in freedom from all that enslaves us to brokenness and sin. May our lives be nurseries of faith for each child of the covenant entrusted to our care. We pray together as your faithful children, in the name of Jesus, our Savior ...

(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 482, *verses 1 and 3 only*) *Baptized in Water*

*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 Isaiah 43:1-7 Old Testament, p. 672 / P. 822

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem *Praise to the Lord* A. Whitehead
Sanctuary Choir

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.

Second Lesson Matthew 3:13-17 New Testament, p. 3 / P. 3

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon **"All In!"**

*Hymn 488 *I Was There to Hear Your Borning Cry*

WE RESPOND IN WORD AND DEED

Reaffirmation of the Baptismal Covenant

Meaning and Institution

* Vows

* Affirmation of Faith

Westminster Confession of Faith (Larger Catechism)

(see next page for question and answer response)

Thanksgiving Over the Water

Remembering Our Baptisms

Prayer for Blessing

* Affirmation of Faith

*Westminster Confession of Faith (1647)
Larger Catechism - Question 165 "What is Baptism?"*

Baptism is a sacrament of the New Testament, wherein Christ hath ordained the washing with water in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, to be a sign and seal of ingrafting into himself, or remission of sins by his blood, and regeneration by his Spirit; of adoption and resurrection unto everlasting life: and whereby the parties baptized are solemnly admitted into the visible Church, and enter into an open and professed engagement to be wholly and only the Lord's.

Offering of Our Time and Talent

Invitation to Receive our Tithes & Offerings

Receiving of our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory *How Beautiful* T. Paris
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 475 *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

*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 *Festal Finale* H. Coleman

THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew Means, Pastor

Elder William Johnson, 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.

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:

Greg Ramsey (Nephew of Kate Starr Newell) - heart surgery
Janet Gray (Mother of Dorothy Mandrakos) - recovery from recent fall
Charles and Susan Worledge - ongoing health concerns

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

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

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
Gerry Schult

Class of 2022

Curt Abbott
Dan Degnan
Virginia Greene

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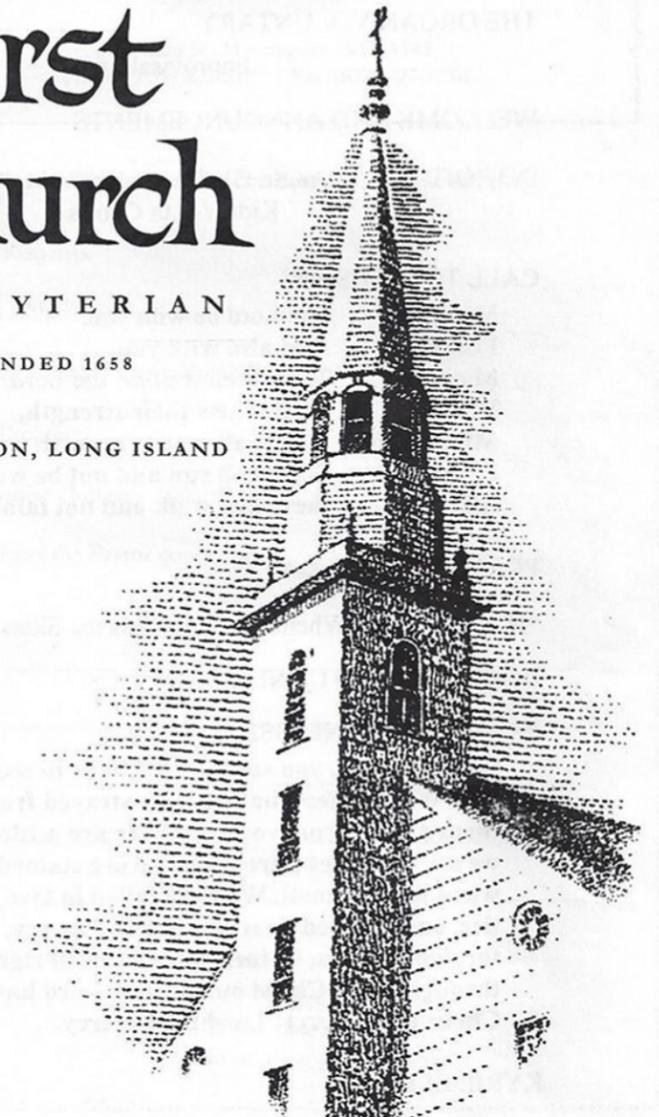
Reverend Matthew Means, Pastor
pastor@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org

Old
First
Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



BAPTISM OF THE LORD SUNDAY
REAFFIRMATION OF OUR BAPTISMS
JANUARY 12, 2020

10:00 AM

Isaiah 43:1-7

Old Testament, p. 672 / P. 822

43 But now thus says the LORD, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel:

Do not fear, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

² When you pass through the waters, I will be with you; and through the rivers, they shall not overwhelm you; when you walk through fire you shall not be burned, and the flame shall not consume you.

³ For I am the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel, your Savior. I give Egypt as your ransom, Ethiopia and Seba in exchange for you.

⁴ Because you are precious in my sight, and honored, and I love you, I give people in return for you, nations in exchange for your life.

⁵ Do not fear, for I am with you; I will bring your offspring from the east, and from the west I will gather you;

⁶ I will say to the north, “Give them up,” and to the south, “Do not withhold; bring my sons from far away and my daughters from the end of the earth—

⁷ everyone who is called by my name, whom I created for my glory, whom I formed and made.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 3:13-17

New Testament, p. 3 / P. 3

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.

¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, “I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?”

¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, “Let it be so now; for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness.” Then John consented.

¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.

¹⁷ And a voice from heaven said, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.