

## 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 Hour Cometh* J.N. Beck  
Sanctuary Choir

Call to Worship — *from Psalm 121*

Leader: I lift up my eyes to the hills;  
from where will my help come?

**People: My help comes from the Lord,  
who made heaven and earth.**

Leader: The Lord is your keeper;  
the Lord is your shade at your right hand.

**People: The sun shall not strike you by day,  
nor the moon by night.**

Leader: The Lord will keep you from all evil;  
he will keep your very life.

**People: The Lord will keep your going out  
and your coming in, from now until forever.**

Leader: Rejoicing in the greatness and wonder of the Lord, our God,  
let us lift our hearts and voices and worship our God together.

\*Hymn 301 *Let Us Build a House*

Invitation to Confession

Prayer of Confession

**Gracious God, in your merciful presence, we confess our sin and the sin of our world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves, clinging to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasure we selfishly pursue, lay waste to the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies we harbor, set brother against brother, sister against sister, and neighbor against neighbor. We abuse your freely given gifts, teaching others the values of our world, rather than the values of our faith. Give us eyes to see how we have failed to share your love and grace with one another.**

**Loving God, have mercy upon us and send your grace to more fully open our hearts and lives to your love. Set us free from a past that we cannot change and lead us boldly into a future in which we may be changed. Fill our Lenten journeys with humble thanksgiving for the gracious sacrifice of your Son. Whether we spend our lives close to you or wandering far away from your presence, help us to remember there is always a place for us in your eternal home. We pray in the name of Jesus, our Christ, the Lord of our lives ...**

*(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 (Hymn 518, verses 1 and 3)

*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

First Lesson Colossians 3:12-17 New Testament, p. 201 / P. 246

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Anthem *More Love to Thee* T. Shaw  
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 children preschool through 8<sup>th</sup> grade.*

Second Lesson Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28 Old Testament, p. 168 / P. 210

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

Message

### ***"Children Will Listen"***

\*Hymn 488

*I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry*

### 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 *For the Beauty of the Earth* J. Rutter  
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 757 *Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples*

\*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 *Concerto in A Minor (Vivace)* J.G. Walther

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*The flowers in the chancel are given to the glory and honor of God by the  
Old First Deacons in joyful celebration of the ministry of our church family.*

### THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Rev. Matthew Means, Pastor

Martha Tibbetts, Message

Priscilla Jahier, 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:

Please continue to be in prayer for:

**Melissa Terc - health concerns**  
**Joan Lobasso - 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, Judy Gilbert, Dave and Else Haddock, David and Sandy Lange, Joan and Pat Lobasso, Diane Walker, 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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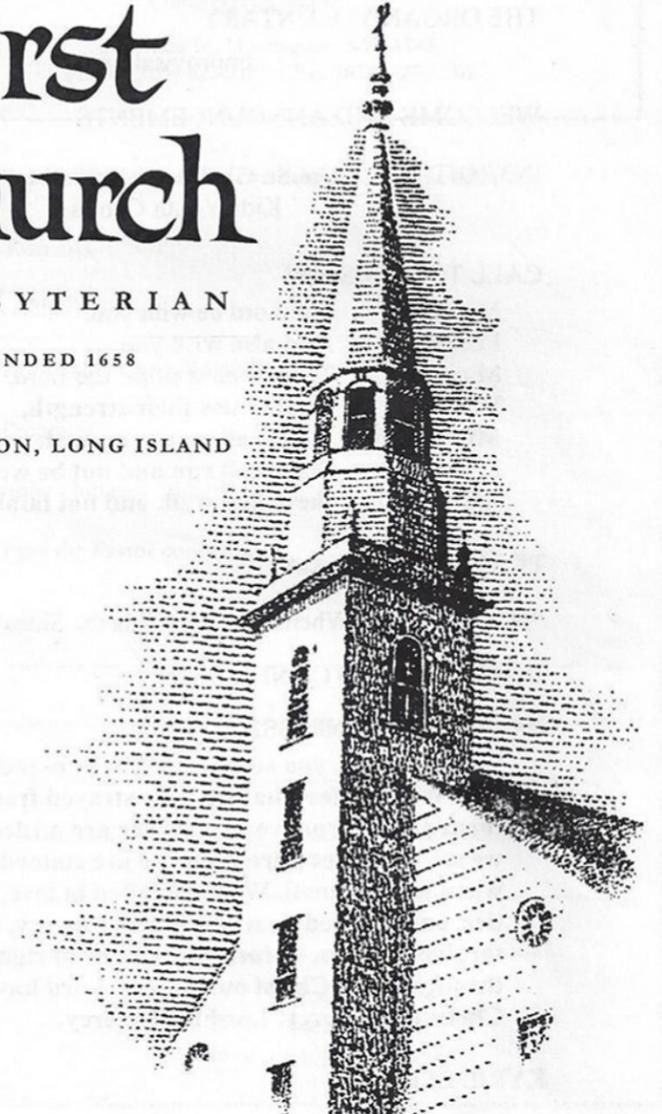
Reverend Matthew Means, Pastor  
[pastor@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org](mailto:pastor@oldfirstchurchhuntington.org)

# Old First Church

PRESBYTERIAN

FOUNDED 1658

HUNTINGTON, LONG ISLAND



**SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT**

**MARCH 8, 2020**

**10:00 AM**

## **Colossians 3:12-17**

**New Testament, p. 201 / P. 246**

<sup>12</sup> As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. <sup>13</sup> Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive.

<sup>14</sup> Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. <sup>15</sup> And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. <sup>16</sup> Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God.

<sup>17</sup> And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Deuteronomy 11:18-21, 26-28**

**Old Testament, p. 168 / P. 210**

<sup>18</sup> You shall put these words of mine in your heart and soul, and you shall bind them as a sign on your hand, and fix them as an emblem on your forehead.

<sup>19</sup> Teach them to your children, talking about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.

<sup>20</sup> Write them on the doorposts of your house and on your gates, <sup>21</sup> so that your days and the days of your children may be multiplied in the land that the LORD swore to your ancestors to give them, as long as the heavens are above the earth.

<sup>26</sup> See, I am setting before you today a blessing and a curse: <sup>27</sup> the blessing, if you obey the commandments of the LORD your God that I am commanding you today; <sup>28</sup> and the curse, if you do not obey the commandments of the LORD your God, but turn from the way that I am commanding you today, to follow other gods that you have not known.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**