

**After 113 Weeks, Worship on Zoom Signs Off as  
Pandemic Wanes**

**Sunday Volunteers Sought for Food Ministry  
Lunch Service**



**Congregation invited to Backyard Brisket &  
Bocce Bash**

**Inter-generational Community a Topic for Next  
Building the Beloved Community**

May 1, 2022

Weekly Newsletter

# Temple Tidings

First Presbyterian Church of Oakland

M a k i n g   G o d ' s   W e l c o m e   K n o w n

## Theology of the Church

Join us for this four-part worship & sermon series that examines the major aspects of life in the Christian Church

- **April 24: Overview**
- **May 8: Congregational Life**  
Love for each other
- **May 15: Missional Life**  
Love for our neighbors
- **May 22: Spiritual Life**  
Love of God

## After 113 Weeks, Worship on Zoom to Conclude

In response to the Coronavirus Pandemic, First Church has provided a virtual worship service for 110 Sundays so far. Services offered on Zoom allowed church members and distant friends alike to join together in worship and fellowship. At its April meeting, the Session acknowledged the waning weeks of the global pandemic and the relative safety of meeting together. May 8 will be the final church service to be streamed live on Zoom. Audio of worship services will be recorded on Sundays and uploaded to First Church's YouTube channel.

Expect other changes to worship services in coming weeks as Covid protocols are lifted, including The Lord's Supper served by elders, by intinction, greeting each other with handshakes and embraces during the passing of the Peace, and eventually removal of masks while indoors.

Other gatherings, including Bible Study, Women's Circle, and committee meetings will still be held by Zoom at the discretion of each group's leadership.

Please be sure to thank Linda Carter, whose volunteer leadership supported making Zoom available for the entirety the pandemic.

## Discussion Group to Focus on Inter-generational Community

First Church confirmation class is focused on the spiritual practices and work of our church community. The students in this year's confirmation class identified worship services, bible study, food ministry, faith in action organizing, and Building the Beloved Community as four central practices of our church community. The class, consisting of three high school students, meets once a month to participate in one of these practices, to share a meal together, and to reflect upon how this practice informs our faith.

During each gathering, Pastor Matt invites different First Church members to join the confirmation class to build community and to allow the students to experience the diversity or work and perspective found in the life of First Church. The current confirmation class will conclude with each member Cami Inadomi, Leah Marquez, Elizabeth Goodwin, and Alessandra Mohar sharing their story of growing up at First Church during the Building the Beloved Community meeting on **Wednesday, May 11 on Zoom**. Please join us for this important conversation.



Elizabeth Goodwin, Leah Marquez & Alessandra Mohar work with Dorothy Dugger to prepare food for use in the Food Ministry's Monday meal.

## Brisket & Bocce Tournament

Nancy and Keith Ogden will be hosting a Bocce ball tournament in their backyard in May. Micah Ogden and Pastor Matt will be smoking a brisket and all are invited to bring a side dish to share. Come and build community as we eat, play and laugh together, **Sunday May 15th from 3:30 to 5:30 pm.**

## Volunteers Needed for Sunday Food Ministry Effort

The Food Ministry is a vital ministry of First Church and is entirely supported by volunteer efforts. Each week, volunteers prepare 300 meals for the community. This effort has critical short term volunteer gaps to fill while leaders are recovering from illness and injury or preparing to move. Food Ministry leadership is requesting the kind assistance of new volunteers interested in a short-term assignment, Sundays in May, June and July.

What does this volunteer work look like? Sunday mornings before the worship service, 8 am – 10 am, volunteers are needed to make sandwiches and package them in to-go boxes with other sides. The menu will already have been planned and all provisions made – help is just needed with assembly. Typically 150 meals are prepared on Sunday morning.

New volunteers are also needed Sundays, after the worship service to either assist with distributing meals at the gate (about 50 meals are given away at the gate, the remainder are loaded into vehicles and driven to encampments) or with helping to prepare components of the Monday meal, which is typically more elaborate.

Do you feel called to assist? Please contact Steve Cabrera, Dorothy Dugger, Louise Hill, Gay Cobb or Bryan Breitung, or just walk into the kitchen and introduce yourself.

## Spring Concerts at First Church



### Community Women's Orchestra Sunday, May 1, 4 pm

Join Community Women's Orchestra for an evening of spectacular music, featuring the world premiere of Jessica Krash's *Seven Kinds of Happiness*. Community Women's Orchestra concerts showcase contributions by women in classical music as composers and musicians. Tickets are available at CWO's website.



### Oakland School for the Arts Sunday, May 6, 7 pm

Come experience the Oakland School for the Arts year-end concert, featuring dozens of student performing groups, with musical styles ranging from a cappella and classical to hip hop and pop.



### Oakland Civic Orchestra Sunday, May 15, 4 pm

Featuring the premier of a special commission by Oakland local, Umar Durr: *Serenade: A Zephyr in Gemini*, with Eamon Riley and Milo Klise, playing Violoncelli. Also featuring Brahms: *Academic Festival Overture* and Beethoven: *Symphony No. 7*.



THIS NEXT SONG IS A  
DIFFICULT AND TEDIOUS  
ONE, BUT WE'RE GOING  
TO SING IT ANYWAY

#### **Elders**

Linda Carter, Dorothy Dugger, Henry Gardner,  
Suzie Inadomi, Elizabeth Cureton, Chris Weber,  
Alessandra Mohar

#### **Session Officers**

Rev. Matt Prinz, Moderator  
Anne Margaret Manay, Clerk  
Rose Mary Richmond, Treasurer

#### **Deacons**

Judy Rowan, Louise Hill, Chris Kovach, Marjorie  
Witt, Barbara Goodroe, Martha Bauman, Diane Hill,  
Lorraine Provost

#### **Church Staff**

Rev. Matt Prinz, Pastor  
matt@firstchurchoakland.org  
510.488.3812  
Office Hours: Mon-Th, 8 am - 4 pm

Rev. Joel Mackey, Parish Associate  
joelmackey@comcast.net

Chris Weber, Facility Management  
chris@firstchurchoakland.org

Gus Lopez, Head Custodian  
510.290.9677

Rose Mary Richmond, Treasurer, office volunteer  
rosemary@firstchurchoakland.org

Joan Clerk, Bookkeeper  
joan@firstchurchoakland.org

#### **Someone turned 47!**

Quarantining at home with Covid is not the best way to spend a birthday - Join us in wishing Pastor Matt a very happy birthday and a speedy recovery.

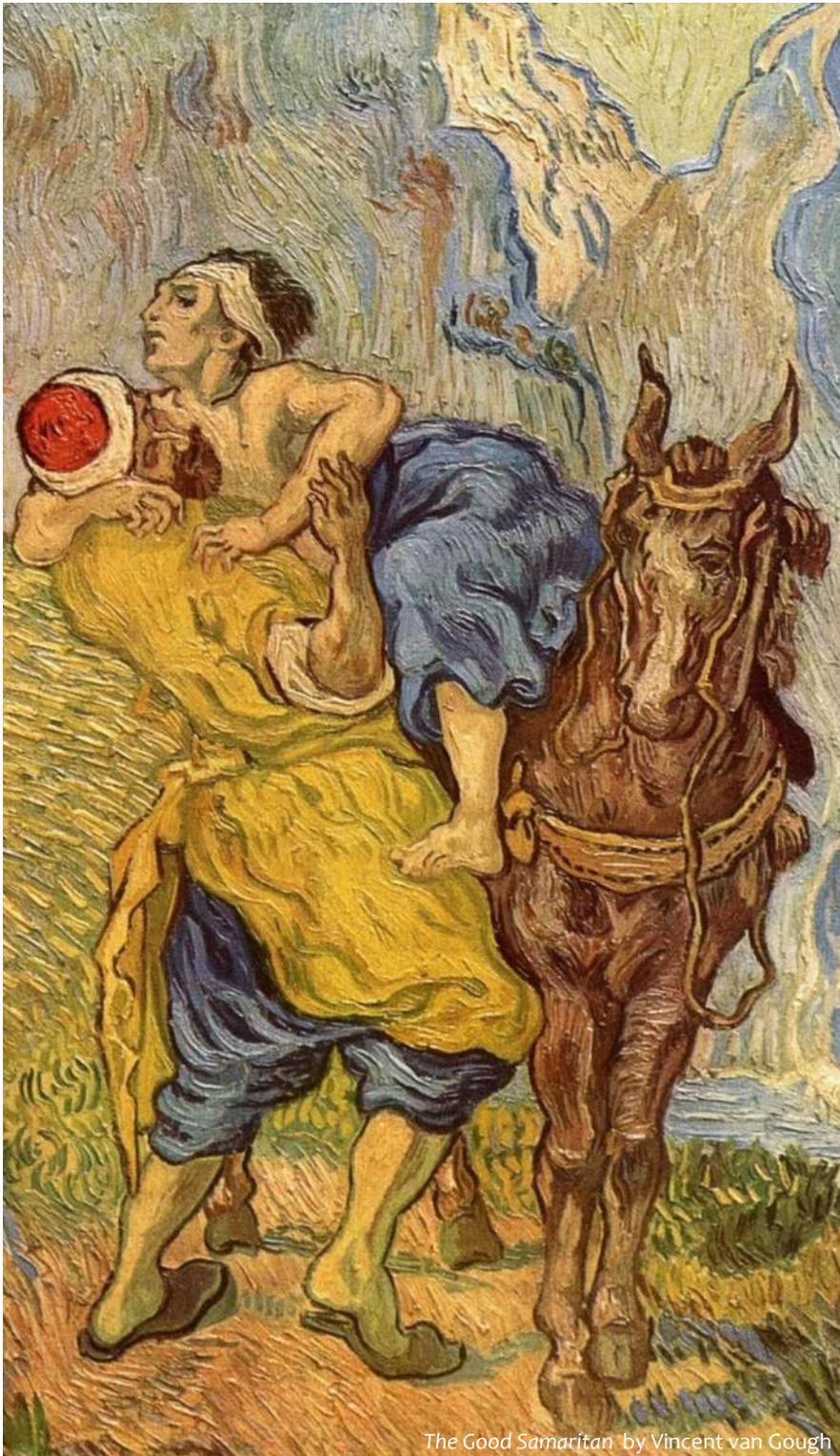


#### **Temple Tidings Contributors This Week**

Writing by Chris Weber, Julia Marquez & Matt Prinz. Photos by Chris Weber & Matt Prinz. Temple Tidings is a weekly publication. All are welcome to contribute news, events and opinion.

#### **First Church is proud to support its COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**

- Cantare Choirs
- College Awareness
- Community Women's Orchestra
- Faith in Action East Bay
- Food Not Bombs
- Habitat For Humanity, East Bay-Silicon Valley
- Oakland Civic Orchestra
- Oakland Early Head Start Preschool
- Oakland Gay Men's Chorus
- Oakland Kids First
- Piedmont East Bay Children's Choirs
- Quinteto Latino
- ReCares
- The Lucy Kinchen Chorale
- Vituity Care Foundation
- Western Service Workers Assoc.



The Good Samaritan by Vincent van Gogh

FIRST  
PRESBYTERIAN  
CHURCH  
OAKLAND  
AD 1853

Third Sunday of Easter, May 1, 2022

Godly Play Story:

The Good Samaritan

Making God's  
welcome known

# Welcome to this time of intergenerational praise and worship

## Visitors:

- Please fill out a **Prayer Card** if you would like prayer from our pastor and deacons.
- Please also fill out a **Welcome Card** so we can become acquainted with you and remember your name and your visit with us. If you would like to be added to our email and mailing lists the welcome card will do that too (you can also sign up on the home page of our website - at the very bottom)
- Need help hearing? Ushers can provide **hearing devices** to assist you.

## Visiting Parents:

- Ushers can guide you to the **nursery** for certified childcare for children age three years and younger.
- You may also make use of the **Parent Corners** at the rear sanctuary entrance or up front by the font.
- Children's **worship bags** are available in the narthex or from the ushers with materials that can be used by children during the worship service.
- On the first Sunday of every month we celebrate **Family Worship & Communion** and children remain in worship with families to participate.
- **Godly Play** is offered for children all other Sundays. Children are escorted to Classroom 2 during *Passing of the Peace* and can rejoin their families during Fellowship Time.

## ORDER of SERVICE

First Presbyterian Church of Oakland is a **More Light** faith family,  
on a journey toward becoming the **Beloved Community**.

We welcome and affirm persons of every age,  
national origin, racial and ethnic heritage, gender identity, sexual orientation,  
socio-economic status, physical ability and spiritual leaning.

## INVITATION to WORSHIP

Prelude

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Sing praises to God, you people of faith.

**All: We give thanks to God, who heals and restores.**

One: Praise God who transforms us, who heals and loves us.

**All: Praise God, who clothes us with joy.**

One: Do not be silent. Praise the Lord!

**All: We give thanks to our God, today and always.**

Gathering Prayer

One: Wisdom of God, come and dwell among us. We gather to hear your word, and to sing your praise. We come as we are, trusting that your grace will perfect us. Interrupt our lives with your vision of truth and love. We praise you now and always.

**All: Amen**

*Please stand as you are able*

Opening Hymn

*#1 :Holy, Holy, Holy! Lord God Almighty!*

# CONFESSION of SIN & ASSURANCE of GRACE

## Confession

One: Loving God, we can be so sure that we know what is best. We head into life following our own dreams. Forgive us. Interrupt us with the blinding light of your grace, that we may gain new vision. When despair and sadness overwhelm us, and when hope fails us, teach us to dance to the music of your love. Open us up, God, that we may see your path, walk in deeper faith, and be loving witnesses of your glory.

## Silent Reflection

*You are invited into a time of silent, personal prayer*

One: In the name of the one who loves us unconditionally, we pray.

**All: Amen**

*Please stand as you are able*

## Assurance of Pardon

One: Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes in the morning. God is a work, transforming our sorry, giving us hope for a new day.

**All: Amen**

## Passing the Peace of Christ

One: May the peace of Christ be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Let us offer each other a sign of Christ's peace

*Greet those around you with a sign of Christ's peace.*

## PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

### Sharing of joys and concerns

*You may share requests for prayer with the congregation aloud, or fill out a prayer card and place it in the offering plate to privately share your prayer need with the pastor.*

### Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

**All: 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.**

## THE WORD

*Please stand as you are able*

Hymn

*#188 : Jesus Loves Me!*

Godly Play Story Telling

*The Parable of the Good Samaritan*

## RESPONSE to the WORD

*Please stand as you are able*

Hymn #835 : *Just A Closer Walk With Thee*

Invitation to the Lord's Supper & Offering

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The bread of heaven is here, leading us into life.

**All: We draw strength from the bread of life.**

One: The cup of blessing is at hand, bringing us salvation.

**All: We find life in the cup of salvation.**

One: Eat and drink, for Christ is here, offering us eternal life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Words of Institution

Musical Offering

*Let Us Break Bread Together*

Sharing the Holy Meal

*Please come forward as the ushers allow and return to your seat down the side aisles. Communion is alcohol and gluten free.*

*Donations, Welcome Cards & Prayer Cards can be placed in the offering plate.*

*You may also make a donation by using this QR code on your smart phone:*

*Note: donations made online are subject to a 4% service charge, paid by us.*



## SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Invitation to Community Life

Sending Hymn

#804 : *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!*

Benediction

Postlude

## SERVING in WORSHIP TODAY

**Pastor:** Rev. Matt Prinz (away)

**Guest Pastor:** Rev. Ruth T. West

**Message:** Di Pagel, Godly Play

**Liturgist:** Kerry Sherman

**Guest Musician:** Joe Warner, piano

**Song Leader:** Marilyn Reynolds

**Head Usher:** Matthew Inadomi

**Communion Prep:** Diane Hill & Marjorie Witt

**Audio & Online Support:** Diane Hill, Linda Carter,  
Bex Fortin, Anne Margaret Manay