

Weekly Newsletter

July 28, 2024

Temple Tidings

First Presbyterian Church of Oakland

Making God's Welcome Known



The Resurrection by André Kamba Luesa

W E L C O M E

Visitors:

- If you would like to be added to our email list, please go to firstchurchoakland.org and fill out the form at the bottom
- Need help hearing? Ushers can provide **hearing devices** to assist you.
- Please feel free to take the Sanctuary flowers home to enjoy after the service.

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 worship play items.
- On the first Sunday of the month we celebrate **Family Worship & Communion** and children remain in worship.
- **Godly Play** is offered for children all other Sundays. Children are escorted to Classroom 2 during *Passing of the Peace* and rejoin their families during Fellowship Time.

O R D E R o f S E R V I C E

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.

I N V I T A T I O N t o W O R S H I P

Prelude

The LORD's Prayer
by Georg Böhm (1661-1733)

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: May every family in heaven and on earth gather in name and spirit.

All: May God pour out courage and compassion on our congregation through the Spirit.

One: May our minds be open, that Christ may dwell within. May our hearts receive the fullness of our faith.

All: From generation to generation, God's grace is abundant!

Gathering Prayer

One: Holy Spirit, meet us here. Find our spirits open and our hearts receptive to your word for us this day. With our songs and prayers, our witness and reflection, may we faithfully go where you call us to be. In the name of Christ, we pray.

All: Amen

Please rise in body or spirit

Hymn

#475: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

CONFESS I O N o f S I N & A S S U R A N C E o f G R A C E

Confession

One: Holy One, we come before you with contrite hearts. You know what we've done and left undone. You know who we've betrayed and excluded. Yet you love us still. We do not mean to hurt or cause harm, yet we easily cover up our wrongs. We bow before you in hope and trust that you won't push us away, but will draw us home once more into the arms of your never-failing love.

Silent Reflection

You are invited into a time of silent, personal reflection

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

All: Amen

Please rise in body or spirit

Assurance of Pardon

One: In Christ's love, we are loved.
In Christ's glory, we are glorified.
In Christ's grace, we are saved.

All: Amen.

Passing of 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 & Concerns

You may share requests for prayer with the congregation aloud. Children may go with leaders to Godly Play.

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.**

Please rise in body or spirit
Song

#469: LORD, Listen to Your Children Praying

THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 6.9 - 13 NRSV

One: “Pray, then, in this way:
Our Father in heaven,
 may your name be revered as holy.
 May your kingdom come.
 May your will be done
 on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
 as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
 but rescue us from the evil one.

One: For the Word in Scripture, the Word made flesh and the Word in our hearts.

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

LORD, Don't Let Me Fall

RESPONSE to the WORD

Sermon Continued

Pastor Matt will lead the congregation in reflection on the reading and sermon.

Please rise in body or spirit

Song

#834: Precious LORD, Take My Hand

Invitation to the Offering

God's grace is abundant. Wherever we wander, God remains our God. The profoundness of God's love stands in contrast to the harsh judgment of our world. In response to this unfailing love, let us bring our time, talents, and treasures to serve the ministries to which we are called.

Offertory

Head Above Water
by Avril Lavigne

Ushers will collect the weekly offering. Donations can be placed in the offering plate. You may also make a donation by using this QR code on your smart phone:



Prayer of Dedication

One: Merciful LORD, there is nowhere we can go- in the heavens above, or the earth and ocean below to escape your loving care. Receive today the offerings we make and bless our gifts, that they may be a blessing. May this offering reflect our sincerest hope that all may be filled with your fullness. In the name of the one who calls us, we pray.

All: Amen.

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Please rise in body or spirit

Song

275: A Mighty Fortress is Our God

Invitation to Community Life

Music for Reflection

A Mighty Fortress is Our God
by Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Benediction

S E R V I N G i n W O R S H I P T O D A Y

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Henry Gardner

Music Director: Jake Fontana

Song Leader: Anne Margaret Manay

Head Usher: Louise Hill

Godly Play: Judy Rowan and Dorrie Dodge

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Paul and Sarah Roberts

Save these Dates for Upcoming First Church Community Events



August 4: Inside Out 2

Inside Out 2 is an animated coming of age story following the life of Riley as she juggles friendship, going to summer hockey camp, and preparing to enter high school. Riley experiences new emotions as she turns thirteen, makes a series of bad decisions, and wrestles with who she is becoming as a young adult. We will depart after coffee hour to watch the movie together and Jake Fontana will host a conversation afterwards about the film and its intersection with our lives.

August 25: Oakland A's Game

Come and cheer for the Oakland A's on Sunday, August 25 at 1:05 p.m. The A's will match up with the Chicago White Sox for the game.

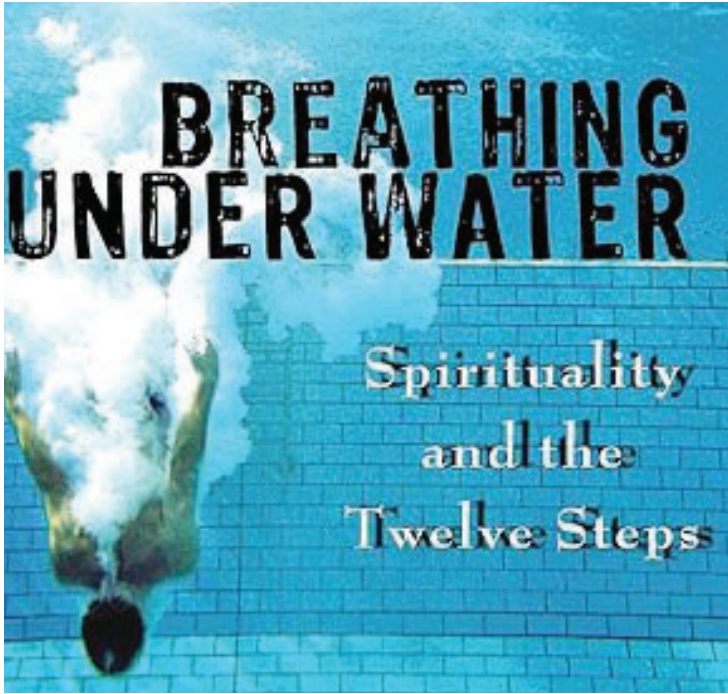
Suzie Inadomi is organizing this event and will have more information about ticket prices and other details in the upcoming weeks! Let's go, Oakland!



September Art Show

Susan Allison-Hatch is an Episcopal priest and mixed media artist who served at St. Paul's Episcopal church in Oakland and currently lives in Albuquerque, New Mexico. Allison-Hatch creatively weaves fabric, text, yarn, and ribbon to invite others into the intersection of faith and social justice. We are planning to display several fabric pieces by Allison-Hatch in the reception room in September. If you would like to be a part of this new ministry experiment, talk with Pastor Matt or Aaron Ruff.

Join us for a First Church Contemplative Study Today at Noon!



Please join as First Church takes a summer break to dive into the spirituality of awakening into our life as beloved children of God. Over the course of three months we will gently explore *Breathing Under Water* by Father Richard Rohr. This book will guide us in 'breaking negative patterns and experiencing greater internal freedom' to help us find 'bold hope and transformation.'

Build contemplative practices, consider how to break negative patterns, and have fun with your community! This is for believers, non-believers, the spiritually curious, and anyone who is willing to be surprised by God.

Come to one session or all - please RSVP to the monthly host so we can plan food.

July 28 @ 12:00pm Di Pagel
(dianapagel@gmail.com)

August 25 Pastor Matt (time tbd)

September 29 @ 4:00pm Maggie Harmon
maggieafh@gmail.com

Brother Rohr may just take you to places you've both avoided and longed for, to truth, union, joy, laughter, and the greatest of all, to your own precious self, here on earth with us, a child of God.

- Anne Lamott, from the forward

More about the book:

We all suffer from unhealthy dependencies that we continually return to in hopes of having a better life. But after yet another TV show is streamed or another drink is swallowed, we find we once again feel worse, not better, than we did before. Where is the hope for that fully awakened life we long to live?

World-renowned author Richard Rohr says we can only be healed and find true fulfillment by facing our dependencies head-on. *Breathing Under Water* will guide you to:

- Disentangle from cultural cycles of sin and emptiness
- Discover how to get free from your personal dependencies
- Learn how the Twelve Step program can supplement Christian teaching
- Find compassion for others and yourself
- Enjoy a deeper spiritual life, feeling God's love for you.

Those who are ready to break negative patterns and experience greater internal freedom will find bold hope and transformation in this insightful book.

Creative Versions of the LORD's Prayer from *A Liturgy for all Bodies*

We are studying and reflecting on the 'LORD's Prayer' from Matthew 6 throughout the month of July in our worship services. We are looking at this prayer as a template for our own lives of prayer and conversations with God. Read through these two creative renditions of the 'LORD's Prayer.'

We are inviting our community to re-write the LORD's Prayer in their own words. What would you change? What would you emphasize? Would you be willing to share your version with the larger church community?

From a New Zealand Prayer Book

Eternal Spirit,
Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

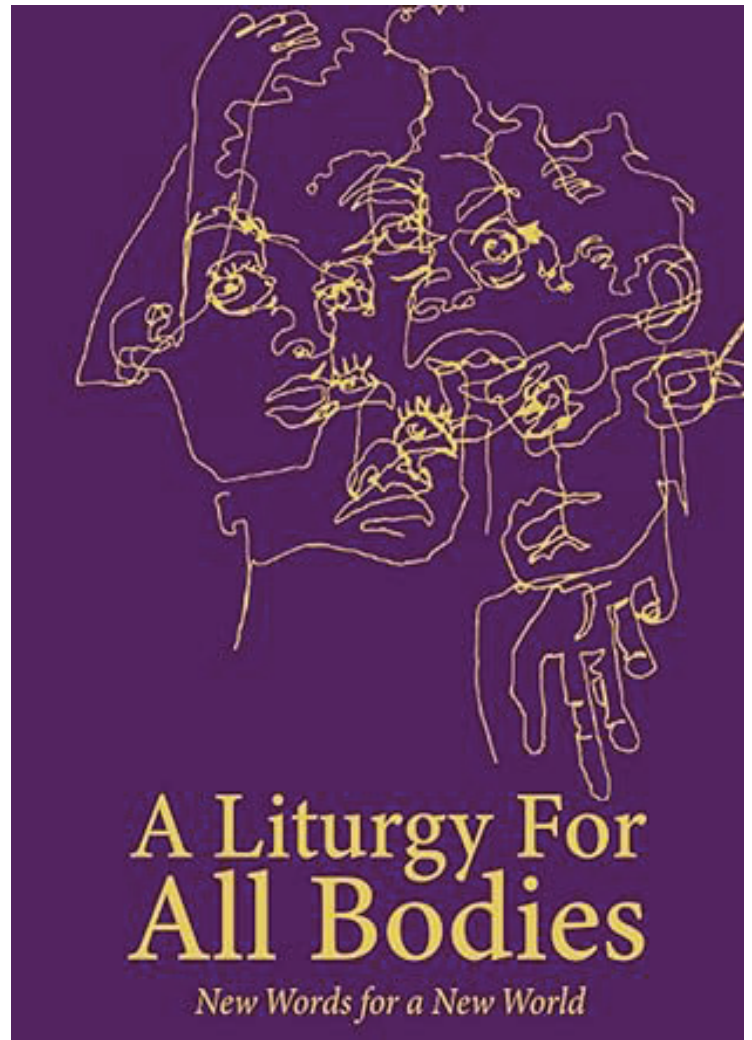
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
Sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
Now and forever. Amen



Jesus Prayer/Disciples Prayer (Version 2)

By Armanda Udis-Kessler

Love, sacred mystery at the heart of all things,
holy are you.

May your domain spread out across the world.
May all have what they need, today and all days.
May we forgive ourselves for our failings and
strive to do better.

May we forgive others for their failings and
invite them to do better, even as they forgive
themselves and us.

If we must face difficulties, may we do so with
courage, humor, humility, and grace.

If we must face evil, may we not be overcome
with it but may we overcome evil with love,
For love is the measure of all things and the hope
of humanity, now and forever. Amen.

The Spanish Guitar Sets Concert for September 1

First Church is excited to announce a new concert coming to the Sanctuary on September 1 at 7 p.m. . The Spanish Guitar is a guitar concert by one of Australia's greatest players, Andrew Blanch. He will present a program of music from Spain and Latin America.

His partner is a beautiful Argentinian mezzo-soprano and she will join towards the end of the concert for a set of Argentinian folk songs.

For tickets, please visit:

<https://concerts.andrewblanch.com/oakland>



ANDREW BLANCH
SPANISH ROMANCE ★★★★★

A TOUR OF THE SPANISH GUITAR
FEATURING **MARIA EUGENIA NIEVA**

SEP 1 | OAKLAND CA
FIRST PREBYTERIAN CHURCH
TICKETS ON SALE NOW!



CandleLight Concerts Adds Two More Performances to Calendar



Candlelight concerts bring the magic of a live, multi-sensory musical experience to our beautiful sanctuary. Discover the music of your artists under the gentle glow of candlelight.

Upcoming events include:

Saturday, August 31, 7 p.m. Tribute to Beyoncé

Saturday, August 31, 9 p.m. Tribute to Bad Bunny

Friday, September 13, 7 p.m. Beatles Favorites

Friday, September 13, 9 p.m. Neo-Soul Favorites

Thursday, October 31 - Halloween theme

Thursday, December 19 - Holiday theme

For tickets visit: feverup.com/en/oakland

Food Ministry Kitchen Report

Food donations were picked up over the weekend by Ben, Martha, Dorothy Paul, Bryan and Micheal.

Teri and Ellen joined the pickup crew on Sat to receive and store groceries, plan Sunday and Monday meals and boil and peel over 200 hardboiled eggs for Sunday eggs salad sandwiches.

Sunday volunteers Anne, Martha, Erika, Stewart, Betsy, Kyong, Pastor Matt and Dorothy made lunches of sandwiches, fruits, desserts, pastries. Derek, Pauline, Bonnie and Anne helped prep vegetables for Monday's lunch. Nina, Matt S and Victor gave out lunches and coffee to guests at the 27th Street entrance. MACRO and Jean from Berkeley Presbyterian Homes took lunches to give to people living in the streets.

Monday volunteers included Hunter, Paul, Teri, Cassi, Dan C, Dan M, Barb, Shirley, Jan, Natalie, Ellen, Bonnie, Pam, Tom, Trish, Lynn, David B, and Tai.

43 hot meals and coffee were distributed at the 27th St entrance. MACRO and others took 104 hot lunches to people living in the streets.

The Food Ministry received a generous donation of food and supplies from the kitchen of the convent where Maggie Harmon works. The convent is closing and Maggie offered us food from their pantry and freezer. Bryan picked up a truckload and Ben, Bryan and Dorothy found room somehow to put it all away. We were able to share some with a couple of other programs we work with.

Thank you Maggie!

Join the Food Ministry Team!

The Food Ministry is looking to incorporate many more First Church volunteers into our work. Anyone is invited to try one shift. Volunteering is low-stress, hassle free and easy kitchen work. The Food Ministry is primarily sustained by the same volunteer group. It's important for new people to volunteer for our primary charitable effort!

Sunday Morning Lunchbag Prep (8:30 – 10:00 am)

Arrive early and help put together bagged sandwich lunches. This shift operates with seven volunteers, so you'll have lots of help learning how the assembly line works. The conversation is lively, coffee is hot, and the work concludes when worship starts at 10 am.

Sunday Lunch Giveaway & Clean-up (11:30 – 1 pm)

You can also volunteer to distribute bagged lunches and coffee/tea at the 27th Street gate. Some days produce and clothes are also given away (depending on what is available). This is a great way to have conversations with our guests and offer some friendly hospitality. You'll be expected to join in the clean-up effort when the lunches are distributed. To get involved, contact Nina Lapachet, ninalapachet@gmail.com

Is Sunday not a good day for you to volunteer?

There are opportunities on Saturday and on Monday. Join the Saturday crew to sort and put away donated groceries, help with prep for upcoming lunches (usually hard boiling and sometimes peeling) 300 +/- eggs, and light cleanup. There is a lot that happens in a short period of time. Hours 9-11. Talk with Steve Cabrera, Henry Ewoke, Chris Magnuson or Dorothy Dugger at coffee hour. Monday's team is in need of help with washing the pans and utensils used to prepare Monday hot lunch and general cleanup. Not the most glamorous job perhaps, but critical to the operation. Usually between 11:00 and 1:00, could start earlier if that is more convenient. Talk to Dorothy if interested. 510-926-0626.



**First Church proudly supports our
COMMUNITY PARTNERS:**

- Afterglow Chorus
- Cantare Choirs
- Catalyst Youth Network
- College Awareness
- Community Women's Orchestra
- Downtown Streets Team
- Faith in Action East Bay
- Food Not Bombs
- Habitat For Humanity, East Bay-Silicon Valley
- Mandela Partners
- Oakland Civic Orchestra
- Oakland Early Head Start Preschool
- Oakland Gay Men's Chorus
- Oakland Kids First
- Quinteto Latino
- ReCares
- The Lucy Kinchen Chorale
- Vituity Care Foundation

Elders

Elizabeth Cureton, Chris Weber, Di Pagel, Gay Plair Cobb, Erick Bevington, Elizabeth Goodwin, Maggie Harmon, Julia Marquez

Session Officers

Rev. Matt Prinz, Moderator
Anne Margaret Manay, Clerk
Erick Bevington, Treasurer

Deacons

Marjorie Witt, Barbara Goodroe, Derrick Polk, Su Coburn, Pauline Ahanotu, Monrovia Prinz, Martha Bauman, Charmaine Irmiter

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Temple Tidings Contributors This Week

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