

Sunday, May 25, 2025

First Presbyterian Church Oakland

Making God's Welcome Known



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** by the Hammond organ and in the back of the sanctuary.
- 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

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Great winds drive our spirits across the sky,

All: opening our hearts to hope and joy.

One: Unseen powers on high move in our lives,

All: turning our mourning into dancing.

One: Weeping may last the night,

All: but joy comes with the morning.

Gathering Prayer

One: Lord of life, you meet us on the road, challenge our prejudices, and upend our lives.
Remove the scales from our eyes—that we may see the breadth of your love, the
diversity of the ones we are called to love, and the joy of extending your welcome. Fill
us with your Spirit, that we might love one another as our shepherd loves us.

All: Amen

Please rise in body or spirit

Song

Just a Closer Walk with Thee
African American Heritage Hymnal #455

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

One: Merciful God, help us leave ignorance behind, as we learn to love as you would have us love. Heal our vision when false piety blinds us. Rescue us when we go astray, and renew our desire to feed Christ's sheep and to tend to his lambs.

All: Amen.

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

The time for weeping is over, for joy comes with the morning. Rejoice, people of God, God's Spirit saves us, when we give up on ourselves.

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. Children go with leaders to Godly Play.

P R A Y E R S o f t h e P E O P L E

Sharing of Joys & 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. If you would like, there are two tables set up with candles for prayer and salt water for lament.

Prayer

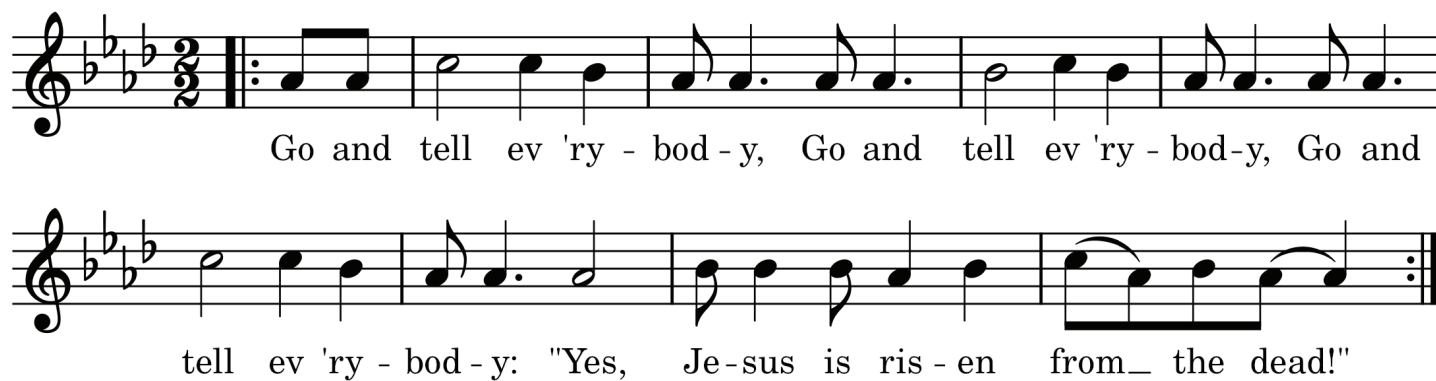
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.

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.



THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

John 21. 1 – 19 NRSV

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias, and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach, but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment, for he had taken it off, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them, and though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to

him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.” (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

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

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

RESPONSE to the WORD

Wondering Together

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

Song

*Precious Lord, Take My Hand
Glory to God #834*

Invitation to the Offering

One: Christ asks: “Do you love me? Feed my lambs.”

All: Receive our love, Lord.

One: Christ challenges: “Do you love me? Tend my sheep.”

All: Receive our service, Holy One.

One: Christ entreats: “Do you love me? Feed my sheep.”

All: Receive our gifts, gracious savior.

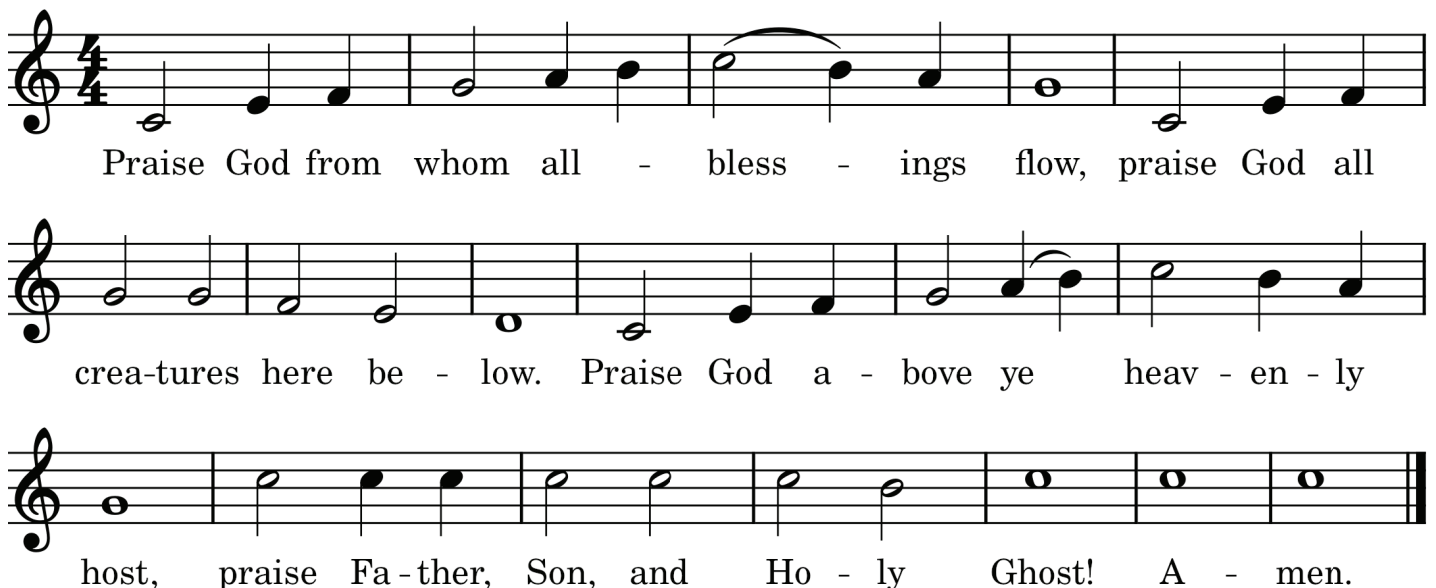
Ushers will collect the weekly offering. Donations can be placed in the offering plate. You may also make a donation by using this QR code on your smart phone:



Offertory

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow



Praise God from whom all - bless - ings flow, praise God all
crea-tures here be - low. Praise God a - bove ye heav - en - ly
host, praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost! A - men.

Prayer for the Offering

One: Great Spirit, receive the gifts from our hands this day. For you rescue us from ourselves and free us to love others, as you have loved us. After a long slumber of ignorance and fear, we offer you our gratitude for the joy that comes in the morning. Accept this offering, as a sign of our commitment, to tend your sheep and feed your lambs.

All: Amen.

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Invitation to Community Life

Song

Walk Together Children
African American Heritage Hymnal #541

Benediction

One: The Spirit blows us across the sky,

All: shows us God's little ones.

One: The Lamb of God looks on us with love,

All: calling us to feed God's sheep.

One: The Spirit leads us through the darkest nights

All: to a joy that comes with the morning.

Poem

'Fish Fry' by Drew Jackson

Ain't nothing more down to earth, touching the dirt, than a fish fry.
Only the real ones know. I'm talking about aunts with battered hands,
covered with buttermilk, flour, and cornmeal.
Touch those hands and feel the evidence of love.
There will be no doubt of how real the love is once that fish touches your lips.
Throw on some hot sauce and you'll insist
that this is Divine visitation.

SERVING in WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Linda Carter

Music Director: Jake Fontana

Song Leader: Raenelle Tauro

Guest Pianist: Joe Warner

Head Usher: Di Pagel

Godly Play: Dorrie Dodge and Aaron Ruff

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Elizabeth Cureton and Shawn Jones

Music Selections an Important Element of Sunday Worship Planning

By Jake Fontana, Music Director



One of the best parts of the music director job is working with our musicians to choose songs for worship. You'll notice that each song leader has their own style, and that we come up with tunes that suit their interests and strengths. It's a great way to ensure a diversity of styles in our worship: some weeks are more classical, others are more folk, gospel, contemporary, and so on. This week, for instance, the fantastic Joe Warner is our guest pianist, and we've picked some songs that he'll hit out of the park.

As we head into Pride Month, we'll also be spotlighting some different genres as we celebrate the great artistic diversity of LGBTQ+ history. The choir will sing contemporary gospel, we'll hear organ music by queer composers, and some of our guest preachers will share some of their favorite songs. We've also got a tune that we'll sing all throughout the month, highlighting the theme of inclusivity: the contemporary song "Draw the Circle Wide."

Pastor Matt and I have been experimenting with picking one song that we repeat all throughout a season, such as Easter season or Pride Month. It has felt like a great way for the congregation to spend time with a new melody, and it's fun to hear the singing get louder and more confident as we learn it better and better.

As always, we strive each week for a selection of music that can speak to the rich diversity of people and styles we have at First Church. I try to make a point of including the pipe organ, Hammond B-3, and piano each week -- I haven't gotten to the harpsichord yet, but I hope to someday.

When possible, I also like to make sure we sing out of both of our hymnals each week. Throughout, we're always looking for a balance of musical diversity, flexibility, growth, and tradition. Please be in touch if you'd like to learn more about how we pick music at First Church, or if you've got a favorite song to suggest. I never make any promises we can include everything, but I love to hear what music is on people's minds. Reach out at jake@firstchurchoakland.org if you'd like to share your thoughts.

Join us for Upcoming Oakland Ballers and Oakland Roots Games!



Please join us at two upcoming Oakland hometown teams. Henry secured the box for the Roots vs Detroit City FC game on Saturday, July 5 at 7pm. It seats 18 and there are fireworks that night.

Suzie purchased 10 tickets to the Oakland Ballers vs Northern Colorado Owlz game on Sunday, July 27 at 1:05pm. They were \$20.50 each. Theme is Halloween in July so costumes are welcomed.

Please contact Suzie to secure your seat at either or both of these games. It will be great to cheer for our local teams!



Please Join Faith in Action for these Ceasefire Nightwalks



Stop the gun violence! Oakland Ceasefire is a movement to stop the killings and more people going to jail. We are uniting to build a culture of peace and healing. We are walking our neighborhoods to carry this message: We love you and we want you to be alive and free!

May 30 ~ At Thy Word, 8915 International Blvd.

June 13 ~ Tabernacle MBC, 10115 Edes Avenue

June 20 ~ Emmanuel Greater Praise Church,
2025 86th Avenue

June 27 ~ At Thy Word, 8915 International Blvd.

Please talk with Suzie Inadomi or Pastor Matt to plan a Friday to attend together.

Join in the June 8 Pilgrimage



Right of Return Pilgrimage

Sunday, June 8, 7am-7pm

22 miles in 7 legs

Starting at: Islamic Center of Alameda
Ending at: West Berkeley Shellmound

To register for a leg:
bit.ly/RightofReturnPilgrimage

Join Interfaith4Ceasfire to walk in public witness for the Palestinian Right of Return to their homes and families.

We also walk in solidarity with immigrant, Indigenous, student, unhoused, transgender and BIPOC communities.

To register for the event, please visit:
im4humanintegrity.org/2025/04/right-of-return-pilgrimage/

Save the Date for our Fall Retreat: September 26-28, 2025

Join us at the beautiful Zephyr Point Presbyterian Center for a weekend of peace and joy. Please see Pastor Matt if you are interested in helping to plan the retreat.



Food Ministry Roles Available

Contact Pastor Matt, Dorothy Dugger or Gay Cobb to sign up for these opportunities.

Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 11 a.m.: Each Saturday morning volunteers go to Whole Foods and Good Eggs to pick up donations. We need help organizing and cleaning up the donation pick-ups. Love our neighbors and build community.

Weekly Communications: Each week we share in word and picture what is happening within our food ministry to the church community. Would you like to take a few pictures and type up a brief report about the food ministry to encourage and inspire others to join us in loving our neighbors?

Sunday Lead: We are seeking another volunteer to lead one Sunday a month before and after our worship service. A Sunday lead follows the meal plan, coordinates volunteers, guides food distribution, and checks on the clean-up. The lead ensures that volunteers have meaningful service and can contribute to this important ministry.

Organizing dry goods pantry and storage closets: With many users of the kitchen, things sometimes don't get put away in the best place or with the most logic. Spend an hour or two at the most, once a month to put things back in shape and help keep the kitchen functional.

Neighbor Liasion: Get to know the neighbors we serve and guests who come pick up lunch and sometimes groceries at our 27th St entrance. Sundays after fellowship hour. 11:45 to 12:45-1:00. 2 volunteers needed to give out lunch bags and serve coffee and visit with our guests. You can sign up online when you see a vacancy or pick one Sunday a month as a regular time of service.

Substitute Friday Pick Up in August 11am -1pm

Our Friday grocery donation pick up team (Ben and Martha Baab) will be away for three weeks in August. Involves driving the church truck (standard transmission) or your own vehicle to pick up groceries and put them away in church kitchen refrigerator/freezer/pantry.



Get to Know and Support our Community Partners

Afterglow Chorus

afterglowchorus.com

Cantare Choirs

cantareconvivo.org

Catalyst Youth Network

catalystyn.org

Community Women's Orchestra

communitywomensorchestra.org

Faith in Action East Bay

fiaeastbay.org

East Bay Food Not Bombs

eastbayfoodnotbombs.org

**Habitat for Humanity, East Bay/
Silicon Valley**

habitatebsv.org

Mandela Partners

mandelapartners.org

Oakland Civic Orchestra

oaklandcivicorchestra.com

Oakland Early Head Start Preschool

oaklandca.gov/topics/head-start

Oakland Gay Men's Chorus

oaklandgmc.org

ReCares

recares.org/oakland

East Bay Food Not Bombs

eastbayfoodnotbombs.org

The Lucy Kinchen Chorale

[facebook.com/
groups/292284984240820](https://facebook.com/groups/292284984240820)



Gardeners Beautify the Courtyard



First Church proudly supports our COMMUNITY PARTNERS:

- Afterglow Chorus
- Cantare Choirs
- Catalyst Youth Network
- College Awareness
- Community Women's Orchestra
- 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
- ReCares
- The Lucy Kinchen Chorale
- Vituity Care Foundation



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Temple Tidings

Elders

Ben Baab: Building and Grounds
Di Pagel: Worship and Music/Personnel
Gay Plair Cobb: Personnel/Food Ministry
Erick Bevington: Treasurer
Maggie Harmon: Finance
Julia Marquez: Community Life
Suzie Inadomi: Building the Beloved Community

Session Officers

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

Deacons

Derrick Polk, Su Coburn, Pauline Ahanotu,
Monrovia Prinz, Martha Bauman, Charmaine
Irmiter, Pam Prinz

Church Staff

Rev. Matt Prinz, Pastor

matt@firstchurchoakland.org

510.488.3812

email to make an appointment

Rev. Joel Mackey, Parish Associate

joelmackey@comcast.net

Jake Fontana, Music Director

jake@firstchurchoakland.org

Micheline La Mont, Community Relationships Manager

micheline@firstchurchoakland.org

510.488.3810

Hours: Wednesday 2-4:30/Thursday 9-2:30

Gus Lopez, Head Custodian

510.290.9677

Erick Bevington, Treasurer

erick@firstchurchoakland.org

Joan Clerk, Bookkeeper

joan@firstchurchoakland.org

Temple Tidings

Temple Tidings is a weekly publication. All are
welcome to contribute news, events and opinion.

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