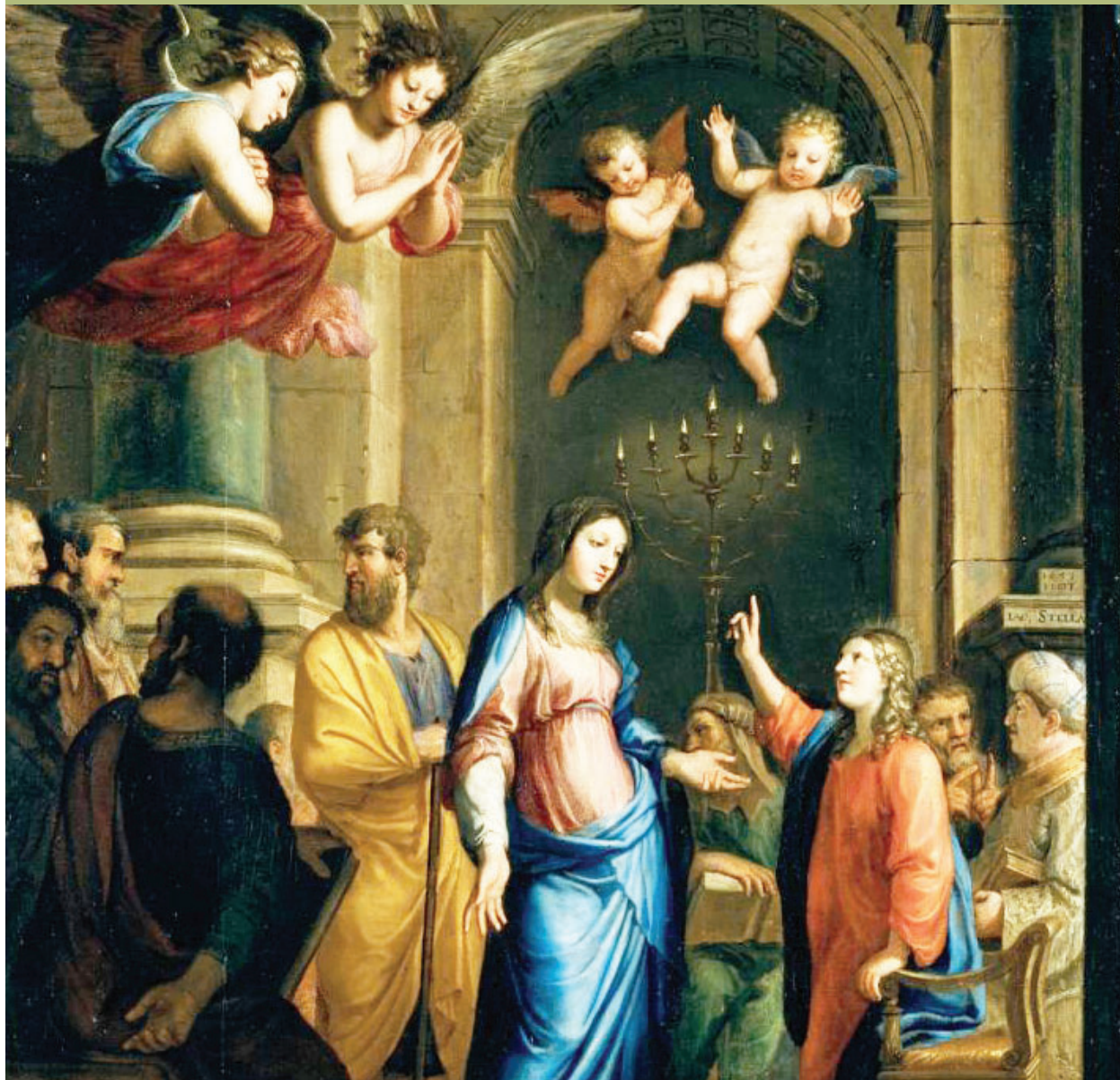


Sunday, January 25, 2026

First Presbyterian Church Oakland

Making God's Welcome Known



WELCOME

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.

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: We gather this morning ready to listen.

All: Open our ears, Lord.

One: We gather this morning ready to learn.

All: Open our minds, Lord.

One: We gather this morning ready to love.

All: Open our hearts, Lord.

One: We gather this morning ready to worship.

All: Open our spirits to receive you, Lord.

One: We gather to praise the Lord Almighty!

Gathering Prayer

One: Holy one, as we gather today, may we be like young Jesus—eager to hear, eager to learn, and eager to minister to others. Meet us here in this sacred space. May our hearts and minds be open to your call, as we worship and praise your holy name.

All: Amen.

CONFESSION of SIN & ASSURANCE of GRACE

Confession

One: God of love, we long to hear your voice but sometimes block our ears to the true words of love you speak into our lives. You offer words of love and acceptance, but we find reason to ignore them or withhold them from others. Be tolerant and forgive us in your love. For we yearn to find your perfect bond of unity in our relationships with one another and with the world.

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

One: When you feel like no one understands, sit at Christ's feet. Ask the hard questions and listen for the answers. God will speak. You are not alone. You are loved.

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.

Children may go with leaders to Godly Play.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

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.

Song

THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

Luke 2. 41 - 52 NRSV

Now every year his parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents were unaware of this. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished, and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Your father and I have been anxiously looking for you." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them, and his mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years and in divine and human favor.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

Deep Talks

RESPONSE to the WORD

Sermon Continued

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

Song

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me
African American Heritage Hymnal #563

Invitation to the Offering

As people following the ways of Jesus, we practice generosity each day with our time, talents, and treasure. Let us gather some of our financial resources together through our offerings to be generous together.

Ushers will collect the weekly offering. Donations can be placed in the offering plate. You may also make a donation by scanning this QR code with your smartphone, or by texting your donation to 510.880.1329.



Music at the Offering

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow
Glory to God #607

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore;
praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

Prayer for the Offering

One: God of generosity, may your peace and your love seep into our hearts and our offerings, that we might become shining examples of your light in a dark and hurting world. Thank you for your many gifts—the gift of community, the enthusiasm for learning, the power of generosity, and the gift of love. May our gifts and our very lives bring your blessings to the world.

All: Amen.

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Invitation to Community Life

Song

Great is Thy Faithfulness
Glory to God #39

Benediction

As you leave this sacred space, go with an excitement to share all you have learned at the feet of Jesus.

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: Matthew Inadomi

Music Director: Jake Fontana

Song Leader: Raenelle Tauro

Head Usher: Matthew Inadomi

Godly Play: Anne Margaret Manay and Ruby Prinz

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Nina and Eric Lapachet

Black History Month Event Happening This Afternoon!



In preparation for Black History Month, we are planning a trip to the Oakland Museum of California (OCMA) on Sunday, January 25, after church.

Martha Baab has arranged a 30-minute guided tour of a special exhibit. Black Spaces: Reclaim & Remain navigates the braided histories of displacement, resistance, and resilience within Black American communities in Oakland and the East Bay. Through new commissions in art, architecture, and archival research, the exhibition traces how these communities have creatively resisted dispossession and reimagined spaces of home and belonging.

Admission is free but we only have space for 20-25 participants. Please let Suzie Inadomi know if you would like you join us.

Please Join Faith in Action for these 6 p.m. Friday Ceasefire Nightwalks



Free Lecture Series on Civil Rights Features Renowned Judge: The Honorable Thelton Henderson



You are warmly invited to an evening with

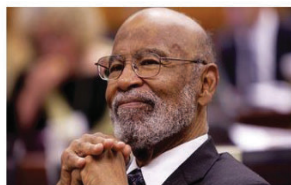
Hon. Thelton E. Henderson

World-renowned federal judge whose commitment
to advancing civil rights spans six decades

Saturday, January 31

7:00 pm

Northeastern University, Jeannik Méquet Littlefield Concert Hall
5000 MacArthur Blvd, Oakland
formerly Mills College



Moderated by
civil rights attorney
John Burris



RSVP Required

Admission is Free.

Use QR Code
or call

510-434-3988



Martin Luther King Jr.
FREEDOM CENTER

Co-Presented by the Martin Luther King Jr. Freedom Center
and the Peralta Community College District



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!

Jan 30 ~ At Thy Word, 8915 International Blvd.

Feb 13 ~ First Mt. Sinai, 1970 86th Avenue

Feb 20 ~ St. Patrick's, 1023 Peralta St

Feb 27 ~ At Thy Word, 8915 International Blvd.

2025 First Church Activities Show an Active Year of Faith and Fellowship









Please join us on Sundays in February for these special weekly services. Our theme : Celebrating 'Good Trouble' - ongoing work for freedom and justice.

Feb 1st - Family Sunday, Pastor Matt preaching, history of Black History month.

Feb. 7th - 3pm - Mark Miller concert collaboration with First Pres. choir and Lafayette Orinda Pres. choir.

Feb. 8th - Youth Sunday, Carter Provost preaching, poems by Black poets.

Feb. 15th - Rev. Joel Mackey preaching, Voice of Legacy choir, Building the Beloved Community discussion about 'good trouble' today during coffee hour.

Feb. 22nd - Rev. Riana Shaw Robinson preaching, Lucy Kinchen Chorale, potluck meal following the service.

Black History Month Celebration Concert on Saturday, February 7

This February 7th at 3pm, we have the pleasure of welcoming organist and composer Mark Miller to First Church. Mark will lead our choir and the choir of Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church in a concert celebrating Black History Month.

The concert will include congregational songs, solos, Mark's choral music, and poetry written by historical and contemporary Black poets. Mark is a graduate of Juilliard and Yale University who is equally at home in classical, gospel, and contemporary styles, and his music blends all three. He often writes his own lyrics for his songs, and many of the texts emphasize themes of social justice and building the beloved community.

If you'd like to be involved in welcoming Mark and LOPC to our church, please be in touch, and be sure to attend this special event!!!



Garage Leveling in Progress



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



Scan this code with your
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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, Cassandra Flipper

Church Staff

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email to make an appointment

Rev. Joel Mackey, Parish Associate
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Jake Fontana, Music Director
jake@firstchurchoakland.org

Micheline La Mont, Community Relationships Manager
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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

Temple Tidings

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

Sign up to be on our email list:

firstchurchoakland.org/temple-tidings