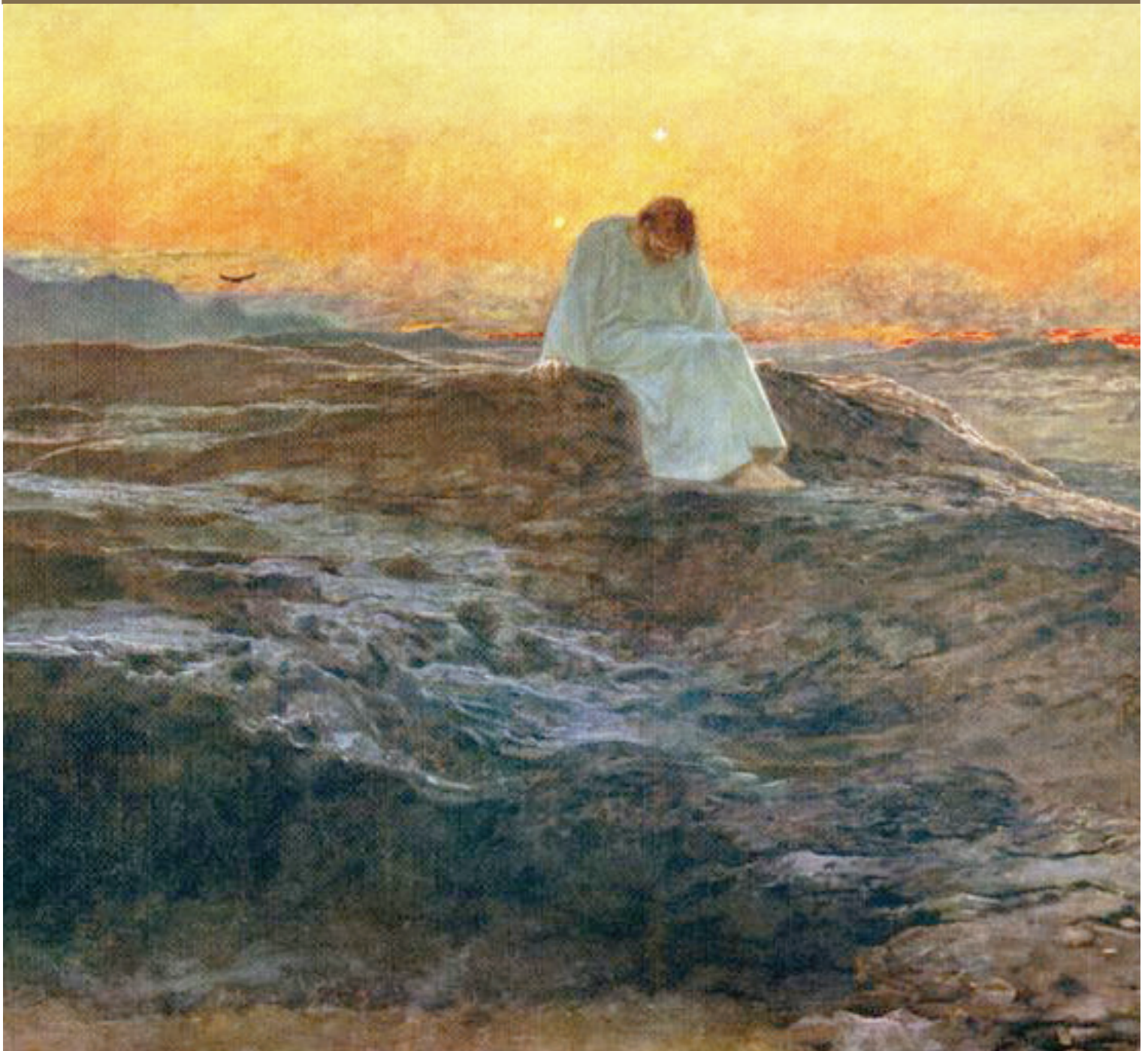


Sunday, March 8, 2026

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

*Festal March
Florence Price*

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: Be glad in the Lord and rejoice.

All: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust the Lord.

One: When we confess our sins, Christ's grace and forgiveness encompass us.

All: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust the Lord.

One: Open yourselves to the teachings and wisdom of the Spirit.

All: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust the Lord.

Gathering Prayer

One: Gracious and loving God, we seek the freedom found in the grace we receive through Christ Jesus. We seek to know more fully your great love.

Turn us from our temptations. Inspire us to open ourselves to the way of Christ, that as we examine our lives and live out these days, we may become examples of your abundant love for all people. May your Divine Spirit tend us as angels attend Jesus in the wilderness, and may we feel revived and sustained to follow Jesus.

All: Amen.

Song

*Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah
Glory to God #65*

CONFESSION of SIN & ASSURANCE of GRACE

Confession

One: Just as Jesus faced temptations in the wilderness, we too struggle with desires for power, glory, or riches. Teach us to turn from these temptations and to turn toward the power of scripture and prayer. Center us in our faith. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

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: Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust the Lord. Be glad in the Lord and rejoice, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

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

God of the Women

1. God of the wo-men who an-swered your call, Trust-ing your
2. God of the wo-men who walked Je-sus' Way, Giv-ing their

pro-mis-es, giv-ing their all, Wo-men like Sa-rah and
re-sour-ces, learn-ing to pray, Ma-ry, Jo-an-na, Su-

Hann-ah and Ruth,— Give us their cou-age to live in your truth.
-san-na and more — May we give free-ly as they did be-fore.

THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

Matthew 4. 1 – 11 NSRV

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, “If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.” But he answered, “It is written, ‘One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.’”

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, “If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

“He will command his angels concerning you,’ and ‘On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”

Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.” Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written,

‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ” Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

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

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon

R E S P O N S E t o t h e W O R D

Sermon Continued

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

Invitation to the Offering

We practice generosity in many ways throughout the week. We practice generosity together each Sunday by gathering our tithes and 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

*I Talked to God Last Night
David Guion*

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

We offer ourselves to you, Lord Jesus, emptying ourselves to become your vessels of love and grace and hope to all we encounter. May the gift of our lives and the gifts of our service create God's kingdom on earth, as it is in heaven.

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Invitation to Community Life

Song

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Benediction

Glory to God #39

And so now go--

Knowing that God's steadfast love surrounds you, knowing that Christ leads through your temptations, knowing that the Holy Spirit tends you with care. Go in peace. Stay in Courage. Amen.

SERVING in WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Maggie Harmon

Music Director: Jake Fontana

Song Leader: Marilyn Reynolds

Head Usher: Mathew Inadomi

Godly Play: Di Pagel and Monrovia Prinz

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Aaron Ruff and Sarah Postma

Upcoming Art Show Features the Works of Carol Aust

Beginning Sunday, March 22 First Church will be hosting an art show in the Reception Room. Carol Aust is a local artist who primarily paints large liturgical paintings. In the past year she has been volunteering at a church in the Fruitvale district teaching ESL and was inspired to paint portraits of her students and the hope and resilience they model to her.

Please come enjoy the portraits and meet Carol on March 22 after church. Also, in considering the issues of immigration we will have a book group reading in April *Solito: A Memoir* by Javier Zamora. Please contact Sarah Roberts for more information, 925-212-9478.



Please join Temple Sinai for its Annual Unity Seder on March 25



Temple Sinai Unity Seder

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25, 2026

6:00 – 8:00PM

We invite you to an interfaith celebration of freedom and redemption, complete with the ritual foods and story of a traditional Seder plus readings from many different traditions and an opportunity to learn from and share with each other. Vegetarian dinner will be served.

Sponsored by



Urban League of
Greater San Francisco Bay Area

TEMPLE SINAI STERN HALL, 28TH AND WEBSTER, OAKLAND



Scan this code to
register or visit
oaklandsinai.org

Community Women's Orchestra Concert Today at 4 p.m.



COMMUNITY WOMEN'S ORCHESTRA PRESENTS

MOTHER NATURE

A CONCERT FOR INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Anne Guzzo • *Fanfare for Mountains and Peace*
Nancy Bloomer Deussen • *The Transit of Venus*
Augusta Holmés • *Andromede*
Mattea Williams • *Deepest Blue*
Imogen Holst • *Persephone*

Samantha Burgess, Music Director

SUNDAY, MARCH 8, 2026 at 4pm

First Presbyterian Church of Oakland
2619 Broadway • Oakland

Tickets available at:
<https://secure.actblue.com/donate/cwo-mothernature> www.communitywomensorchestra.org

 COMMUNITY WOMEN'S ORCHESTRA



FAMILIES *Are* SACRED
CONVENTION

MARCH 24
SACRAMENTO • 10 AM • STATE CAPITOL

LAS FAMILIAS *son* SAGRADAS
CONVENCIÓN

24 DE MARZO
SACRAMENTO • 10 AM • CAPITOLIO ESTATAL

March 24, 2026

10am - 4pm

Veterans Memorial Sacramento Capitol

1255-1289 15th St.

Sacramento, CA 95814

We invite you to gather in Sacramento with over 1,000 leaders from across the PICO California Network on Tuesday, March 24, 2026, for the Families Are Sacred Convention: a powerful day of action to launch our collective vision for

California, and build our power to make that vision a reality. To register, visit:
web.cvent.com/event/dd73af6d-a1e2-4e62-99f0-da2935b3boee/regProcessStep1

Practices of our Church Community – Ways to Join Us

Worship Service Each Sunday we gather at 10am to sing, pray, confess, and worship God together. We invite our community to participate in our worship services through singing, reading, praying, ushering, or sharing testimony. Do you like to write prayers or help connect music to themes in scripture? Talk with Di Pagel (Elder of Worship), Jake Fontana (Music Director) or Pastor Matt if you would like to help lead/design our worship services. You can also help us create space for conversation and building community through providing food during our coffee hour (11-12). Talk with Julia Marquez if you would like to contribute.



Food Ministry Each week, more than 40 volunteers share over 300 meals with our neighbors through our food ministry. Volunteers gather donated food on Fridays and Saturdays from local supermarkets and bakeries. Meals are prepared on Sundays and Mondays and are shared with neighbors and delivered to local encampments. We have opportunities to serve during the week, each Saturday, and Sunday. Talk with Gay Cobb or Dorothy Dugger or Nina Lapachet to get involved.

Bible Study Wednesday nights at 7pm via Zoom we gather around the sacred texts of scripture to study and reflect upon our lives and take new steps of faithfulness together. No need to study beforehand, just sign up for our weekly emails, click on the Zoom link and join conversation. Come with a desire to build community and listen for God's Spirit in the midst of scripture. Talk with Henry Gardner or Maggie Harmon or Pastor Matt for more details.



Building the Beloved Community Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. constantly spoke about God's work of building the beloved community - a community bridging across the differences of race, class, gender, sexuality, and ability. Building the Beloved Community is one lens we use to look at all of our ministry at First Church. We also host conversations, book groups, attend concerts and art shows, to learn, reflect, and to help us build God's beloved community within our church community, in our neighborhoods, and city. Talk with Suzie Inadomi, Pastor Matt or Pastor Joel to learn about ways to join BBC work at First Presbyterian Church of Oakland.



Community Life - God is community Three in one and we are made for community. Creating spaces for community around meals, discussion groups, backyard firepits, and outings together (A's game, beach etc.) are an important ministry within our church community. Do you like to host events, love connecting with others, enjoy building community? Talk with Julia Marquez or Pastor Matt and join them in planning our next community life events.



Faith in Action "Justice is what love looks like in the public." Cornel West. How do we put our faith into action to love our neighbors? One way we live out our faith is joining the ministries of Faith in Action East Bay, who for over 40 years have advocated and worked in areas of gun violence, immigration, education, housing, and equity in Oakland and the larger Bay Area. Members of First Pres. regularly join FIA Ceasefire night walks, advocate for affordable housing, and seek to support new structural changes for equity and justice. Talk with Pastor Matt to get involved and our new community organizer Chris Logan.



Office Administrator Needed!

Please share our job search with friends and neighbors. The QR code links to the job description.



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 smart phone for access to all First Church News and past editions of *Temple Tidings*

Elders

Ben Baab: Building and Grounds

Aaron Ruff

Gay Plair Cobb: Personnel/Food Ministry

David Alexander

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

Paul Roberts, Martha Baab, Lorraine Provost,

Monrovia Prinz, Martha Bauman, Charmaine

Irmiter, Pam Prinz, Cassandra Flipper

Church Staff

Rev. Matt Prinz, Pastor

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510.488.3812

email to make an appointment

Rev. Joel Mackey, Parish Associate

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510.326.5590

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

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