

April 12, 2026

First Presbyterian Church Oakland

Making God's Welcome Known



WELCOME

Visitors:

- If you would like to join our email list, please fill out the form at firstchurchoakland.org.
- 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 three and under.
- You may also use the **Parent Corners** in the back and front right corner of the sanctuary.
- Children's **worship bags** are available in the narthex or from the ushers.
- On the first Sunday of the month we celebrate **Family Worship & Communion**. On all other Sundays, children may join in **Godly Play**. Children are escorted to Classroom 2 during the *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: With trumpet sounds and singing hearts,

All: we come to praise the Lord.

One: As faithful witnesses of Christ's grace and love,

All: we come to praise the Lord.

One: Coming here with our doubts and our faith,

All: we come to praise the Lord.

Gathering Prayer

One: Jesus of the Cross, Jesus of the Resurrection, we rejoice in you.
For long before the experience of the cross, you defeated the powers of sin, pain, and death in the hurting people around you. And then you were struck down. But you defeated the cross and stood before your beloved disciples, as you are present today—alive again. We rejoice in you, Risen Savior, for you open before us your life-giving peace and power. You are our Lord and our God. Alleluia!

All: Amen.

Please rise in body or spirit to join in singing.

Hymn *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*

Glory to God #475

CONFESSION of SIN and ASSURANCE of GRACE

Confession

One: Jesus Christ, our Brother, our Savior, sometimes we are bold and sure that you are the Living One who defeated death and destruction for us all. Sometimes we wonder at the ancient stories of your resurrection, and we are not so sure how things happened. Amid our doubts, bless us with your peace. Bless us with the joy and assurance of your presence, wherever we are in our journey of faith. In your compassionate name, we pray.

All: Amen.

You are invited into a time of silent, personal reflection.

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

All: Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Please rise in body or spirit.

One: “Peace be with you!” Jesus said to his disciples. Today Jesus Christ also bestows his peace and presence upon us: “Peace be with you!”

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 gather at the side door to follow leaders to Godly Play.

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

The Lord's 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 remain seated.

Hymn *I've Got Peace Like a River*

African American Heritage Hymnal #492

THE WORD

Scripture Lesson

John 20. 19-23 NRSV

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors were locked where the disciples were, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

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

All: Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE to the WORD

Sermon Continued

Rev. Matt will lead the congregation in reflection on reading and sermon. Afterward, please rise in body or spirit to join in singing.

Hymn

I'll Fly Away

African American Heritage Hymnal #601

Invitation to the Offering

We are blessed with what the psalmist calls a “goodly heritage.” We are disciples and heirs in the family of Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God. Let us give generously, so that others may know the faithfulness of Jesus, alive in our lives, alive in their lives, the very source of healing, joy, and delight.

Ushers will collect the weekly offering. Donations can be placed in the offering plate. You may also donate using this QR code on your smartphone:



Solo

Malibu

Mumford & Sons

In all my doubt
In all my weakness
Can you lead?
I fall behind
But like you promise
You wait for me
And I feel a spirit move in me again
I know it's the same spirit that still
moves in you
I don't know how it took so long to shed
this skin
Live under the shadow of your wings
You are all I want
You're all I need
I'll find peace beneath the shadow of
your wings
I'm still afraid
I said too much

Or not enough
You'd only see
The ghost still rising
A broken touch
But walking through the valley was
what brought me here
I knew I would never make it on my
own
And I don't know how it took so long
to shed this skin
Live under the shadow of your wings
You are all I want
You're all I need
And I'll find peace beneath the shadow
of your wings

Prayer for the Offering

One: Jesus our Protector and Savior, we thank you for every gift you have given us that brings us delight and joy in this life. We thank you for every gift that comes to us in times of despair to lift us up and tend to our sorrows. May these gifts reach out to our world, that others may know your joy, your caring, your deep understanding of despair—and your Life that defeats death.

All: Amen.

SENDING OUT to be THE CHURCH

Invitation to Community Life

Please rise in body or spirit to join in singing.

Song It Is Well with My Soul

Glory to God #840

Benediction

Peace be with you

Peace be with you

Go and take the Christ's peace to everyone you see this week.

SERVING in WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor: Rev. Matt Prinz

Liturgist: Nina Lapachet

Pianist: Joe Warner

Song Leader: Susannah Prinz

Head Usher: Matthew Inadomi

Godly Play: Raenelle Tauro and Monrovia Prinz

Fellowship Time Refreshments: Maggie Harmon

Flipping the Tables of Injustice

Interfaith prayer gathering with Interfaith Movement for Human Integrity



Stewardship Gratitude

We are the beneficiaries of God's inclusive love, and as a community seek to welcome all to share in this joy. What a gift!

Over the years First Presbyterian has been the beneficiary of numerous bequest and memorial gifts. We want to gratefully acknowledge the names of those we know and invite you to share names of those we have missed so that we can build a living memory of all who have shared with the church.

We are grateful to:

James Buhler
Dewitt and Lelia Davison
Rose Davison
Evelean Hebrard
Lisa Olson
Elliott Royer
Norman Terry
Marilyn Williams



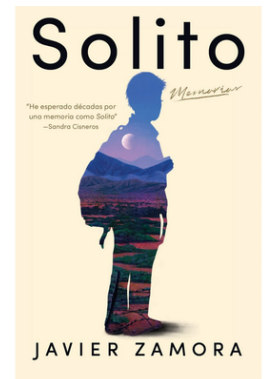
And so many others... please email office@firstchurchoakland.org so that we can include everyone who has remembered the church as a part of their legacy.

"Be generous with the different things God gave you, passing them around so all get in on it... that way, God's bright presence will be evident in everything through Jesus, and God will get all the credit as the One mighty in everything."

1 Peter 4:8-11 (The Message).

Building Beloved Community: *Solito* discussion

Here at First Church, we endeavor to make God's welcome known and in that vein we welcome people from all places. Our next Building Beloved Community (BBC) topic is immigration and we are reading *Solito* by Javier Zamora about a nine-year old boy's journey from El Salvador to the USA to reunite with his parents. Please join us on Sunday, April 19th after church for a light lunch and discussion about the book and our own immigration stories. Julia Marquez will share insight as an expert in immigration laws. You do not have to finish the book to participate. Please contact Sarah Roberts or Suzie Inadomi for more details.





Water Bottles for **West Oakland Middle School**

West Oakland Middle School has lead in their faucets and recently installed fresh water stations throughout the campus. They need at least 60 metal water bottles so each kid can have access to clean water.

Please collect water bottles by April 30.



Project Peace

Pavement Project Breaks New Ground



Holy Week Worship and Celebration





Mark your Calendar for our October 2-4, 2026 Church Retreat



Join us next year at Zephyr Point at Lake Tahoe for an opportunity to gather in a beautiful space, to step away from everyday rhythms of life, to build community with other members, and to connect with God.

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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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

Martha Baab, Martha Bauman, Cassandra
Flipper, Charmaine Irmiter, Lorraine Provost,
Pam Prinz, Paul Roberts

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Temple Tidings

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

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