



OLD first REFORMED CHURCH

Rev. Dr. Daniel Meeter, Pastor
Aleeza Meir, Music Director

EBULLETIN FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 3, 2020

Please accept this eBulletin for your use on Sunday morning (there may be late changes).
Use it to go along with our Remote Access Service.

To log-on Worship, Ctrl+click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/281701997>.

To join us via phone. Please read the instructions below:

1) Dial 1-929-205-6099

If you are instructed to enter a webinar id, the id is: 281701997

Please also join us for our Virtual Coffee Hour.

To log-on Coffee Hour, Ctrl+click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/402156419>.

Contents: **I. Worship Service**
 II. Announcements
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Please have ready, your serving bowl with water, a nice cloth, your candle to light,
your plate with bread, and a cup with wine, juice, or water.

Also, for the Children's Message, please have ready for every child a small bowl with oil in it.
Olive oil, or if not, then baby oil, or vegetable oil, or oil of Olay or something similar.

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I. WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE

ANDANTE CANTABILE

W. A. Mozart

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

HYMN 326 **Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**The Lord of life is risen for aye;
bring flowers of song to strew his way;
let every tongue rejoice and say:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Thy name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

ACCLAMATION AND SALUTATION

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ is risen.
All: **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.**
 Alleluia, Christ is risen.
 The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.
 Alleluia, Christ is risen.
 The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.
Grace to you and peace from God our Father
and the Lord Jesus Christ,
the first-born of the living and dead.
 Amen and Amen, Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE COLLECT The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

O God, whose Son Jesus is the good shepherd of your people: Grant that when we hear his voice we may know him who calls us each by name, and follow where he leads; who, with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. Amen

FIRST READING: Acts 2:42-47

Evelyn Cribbs

They devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 23

The LORD is my shepherd;
I shall not be in want.
He makes me lie down in green pastures
and leads me beside still waters.
He revives my soul
and guides me along right pathways for his Name's sake.
Though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I shall fear no evil;
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.
You spread a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
you have anointed my head with oil, and my cup is running over.
Surely your goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end, Amen, Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Anointing with Oil

**SONG Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me,
All the days, all the days of my life.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me,
All the days, all the days of my life.**

**And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever,
And I shall feast at the table set for me.
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me,
All the days, all the days of my life.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:19-25

Linda Larson

It is a credit to you if, being aware of God, you endure pain while suffering unjustly. If you endure when you are beaten for doing wrong, what credit is that? But if you endure when you do right and suffer for it, you have God's approval. For to this you have been called, because Christ also suffered for you, leaving you an example, so that you should follow in his steps. "He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth." When he was abused, he did not return abuse; when he suffered, he did not threaten; but he entrusted himself to the one who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, so that, free from sins, we might live for righteousness; by his wounds you have been healed. For you were going astray like sheep, but now you have returned to the shepherd and guardian of your souls.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO *A Light in the Garden*

Sung by Jen Larson

Jesus said, "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them. So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly."

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON: *Signs and Wonders #3: Feasting among Foes*

Jeff Chu

ASCRPTION AND SILENCE

HYMN 91 **My Shepherd is the living Lord,
 nothing therefore I need;
in pastures fair, near pleasant streams
 he setteth me to feed.
He brings my wandering spirit back
 when I forsake his ways,
and leads me for his mercy's sake
 in paths of truth and grace.**

**When I walk through the shades of death,
 thy presence is my stay;
a word of thy supporting breath
 drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes,
 doth still my table spread;
my cup with blessings over flows,
 thine oil anoints my head.**

**The sure provisions of my God
 attend me all my days;
O may thy house be mine abode,
 and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest,
 while others go and come—
no more a stranger or a guest,
 but like a child at home.**

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, and of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.
Through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:
by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,
and was made a man.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord,
the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the Prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PASSING THE PEACE

The Peace of Christ be with you all. (*We pass the peace via Zoom.*)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's service
Wednesday evening Vespers
Virtual Coffee Hour
Other Announcements

TESTIMONY Derek Steele

PRAYERS OF PEACE AND INTERCESSION Lindsay Gavin

(*beginning with:*)

Lord, make me an instrument of your peace.
Where there is hatred, let me sow love;
Where there is injury, pardon;
Where there is doubt, faith;
Where there is despair, hope;
Where there is darkness, light;
Where there is sadness, joy.
O Divine Master, grant that I may not so much seek
To be consoled as to console,
To be understood as to understand,
To be loved as to love.

**For it is in giving that we receive,
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
And it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.**

Intercessions

OFFERING *The Deacons*

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

RINSING YOUR HANDS

I am baptized. **In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

SETTING YOUR TABLES

INVITATION AND CANDLE-LIGHTING

The Light of Christ. **The Light of Christ.**
Thanks be to God. **Thanks be to God.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy and right it is, O God, and our joyful duty, to give thanks to you at all times and in all places, O Lord, Holy Father, almighty and everlasting God. You created the heaven with its host and the earth with its plenty. You have given us life, and being, and you preserve us by your providence. But you have shown us the fullness of your love by sending into the world your Son, Jesus Christ, the eternal Word, made flesh for us and for our salvation. For the precious gift of this mighty savior, who has reconciled us to you, we praise and bless you, O God. With your whole church on earth, and all the company of heaven, we worship and adore your glorious name.

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory!

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord, hosanna in the highest!

Holy and righteous Father, we remember in this supper the perfect sacrifice once offered on the cross by our Lord Jesus Christ for the sin of the whole world. In the joy of his resurrection, and in expectation of his coming again, we offer to you ourselves, as holy and living sacrifices, proclaiming the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died, **Christ has died.**

Christ is risen, **Christ is risen.**

Christ will come again. **Christ will come again.**

Send your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, that the bread which we break and the cup which we bless may be to us the body and blood of Christ. Grant that being joined together in him, we may attain to the unity of the faith and grow up in all things into him who is the head, even Christ our Lord.

And as this grain has been gathered from many fields into these loaves, and these grapes from many hills into these cups, grant Lord, that your whole church may soon be gathered from the ends of the earth into your kingdom. Even so come Lord Jesus, Maranatha, Amen.

Through Jesus Christ, who taught us when we pray to say:

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.

INSTITUTION

The Lord Jesus, the same night he was betrayed, took bread, *Take the bread*

and when he had given thanks, *Raise the bread*

he broke it, *Break the bread*

and he gave it to them, saying,

“Take, eat, this is my body, broken for you, do this in remembrance of me.” *Share the bread.*

After the same manner also he took the cup *Take the cup*

when they had supped, saying,

“This cup in the new testament in my blood, *Raise the cup*

poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.

Take, drink it all of you, in remembrance of me.” *Drink from the cup.*

PSALM OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures, he leadeth me beside still waters,

He restoreth my soul.

He leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil.

For thou art with me, thy rod and thy staff, they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies.

Thou anointest my head with oil, my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,

And I shall dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

HYMN 267 **The King of love my shepherd is,
whose goodness faileth never;
I nothing lack if I am his,
and he is mine forever**

**Where streams of living water flow,
my ransomed soul he leadeth,
and where the verdant pastures grow,
with food celestial feedeth.**

**Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,
but yet in love he sought me,
and on his shoulder gently laid,
and home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**In death's dark vale I fear no ill
with thee, dear Lord, beside me;
thy rod and staff my comfort still
thy cross before to guide me.**

**Thou spread'st a table in my sight;
thy unction grace bestoweth:
and oh, what transport of delight
from thy pure chalice floweth!**

**And so, through all the length of days
thy goodness faileth never;
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise
within thy house forever.**

BENEDICTION

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord's countenance be lifted upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE MENUETTO

W. A. Mozart

ii. Announcements

PRAYER LIST. For those in need: Andrew, Jean, Barbara, Eva, Albert, Nancy, Keileigh, Viola, Michael, Blas, Stephen, Elisabeth, Spencer, Maryanne, Ron, Susanna, Ronnie, and the many unclaimed and unnamed victims of the virus in NYC who are being buried in mass graves on Hart Island.

For those in ministry or service: Dr. Jessica, Dr. Paul, Jabe, Jack, Housing Plus, and CHiPS.

WE HAVE A DIRECT EMAIL for prayer requests, for yourself or someone else. Please send your request to prayerrequests@oldfirstbrooklyn.org

VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR follows the service. To log-on, Ctrl+click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/402156419>.

OUR GUEST PREACHER TODAY is Jeff Chu, M.Div. Jeff is the Teacher-in-Residence at the Central Reformed Church in Grand Rapids, MI. He is a graduate of Princeton Theological Seminary, is a member of the Reformed Church of Bronxville, NY, and is a candidate for the Ministry within the Classis of Rockland Westchester. Jeff and his husband Tristan were members of Old First, and Jeff served us as an Elder and Vice President, so we are delighted to have him and Tristan with us this morning.

WE RECEIVED A DONATION in memory of Jean Lange Veronese and Leila Sherman Lange from Dino Veronese.

MID-WEEK VESPERS on Wednesday evenings from 9:00 to 9:45 p.m. is hosted by the Elders. We greet one another, read the Vespers liturgy and the week's scripture; reflect, share and review prayer requests from our community; and receive an evening blessing. We offer this service to however many or few desire and are able to join. Please use this zoom link to join. <https://zoom.us/j/314004075>

FROM THE DEACONS: Though we are not currently passing a collection plate for offertory, the following options are available for you to give to Old First:

1. Tithe.ly

Available as a smartphone app, via the Donations Tab on the Old First website, or through a phone call to Old First staff members. You can select a credit or debit card, or an account with a financial institution. If you currently have a check mailed to Old First from your bank, please consider switching this service to Tithe.ly

2. Mail a check to:
Old First Reformed Church
729 Carroll St.
Brooklyn, NY 11215

Remember, whichever method you send in your offering, to identify your offering as either:

- GENERAL FUND for general offering,
- CAPITAL CAMPAIGN for building restoration, or
- MISSION (CHiPS and HousingPlus)

WOULD YOU LIKE TO BE AN ADHERENT of Old First? If you worship with us, but you have your reasons for not becoming a member, you can be included as an “adherent”. That means you are under the care of the Elders, and you may fully participate in all programs and activities. Speak to the Pastor or an Elder.

OUR INTERIM PASTOR SEARCH Team is busy contacting candidates, and we have a list to start interviewing. We are very hopeful about having a good Interim Pastor to serve us part-time during the year that we will patiently and deliberately be engaged in the Search for our next Installed Minister.

OUR MISSION work with CHiPS continues! CHiPS is handing out bag lunches to hungry people from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. daily. Our CHiPS team is providing 45 of those meals every week. Please consider supporting CHiPS two ways, as you are able:

- Donate through our collection for mission. If you start using Tithely, you can designate gifts for mission, or you can write “Mission” on any donation mailed directly to church.
- Volunteer as a back-up for the cook team by contacting Steve Lappert at (718) 230-0448 or lappert@clm.com

JOIN BAROQUELYN ONLINE THIS SUNDAY at 3pm EDT for the latest in our series of weekly, live-streaming solo concerts! Proceeds from these concerts go directly to helping musicians survive these financially difficult times -- and also keep the music going! To join us, go to www.baroquelyn.com and click on the "subscribe" link. You can subscribe at any level (even \$1/month if you scroll to the bottom), and all subscribers will receive a link to the livestream as well as access to the prior series concerts. Hope to see you there!

PASTOR'S EASTER SEASON SERMON SERIES: SIGNS AND WONDERS

- 4/19 #1, The Mark of the Nails
- 4/26 #2, The Breaking of the Bread
- 5/3 #3, Jeff Chu, guest preacher, Feasting among Enemies
- 5/10 #4, The Stones that Live
- 5/17 #5, The Wonder of Love
- 5/24 #6, The Wonder of Glory
- 5/31 #7, The Signs and Wonders of the Holy Spirit

iii. Schedule

This week

Sunday, May 3

Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m., online with Jeff Chu preaching

Wednesday, May 6

Vespers - 9:00 p.m., online

Look Ahead

Sunday, May 10

Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m., online;

Wednesday, May 13

Vespers - 9:00 p.m., online

iv. Roster

Staff

Rev. Dr. Daniel Meeter, Pastor (718) 614-9763
Maureen Doyle, Finance & Operations Director (917) 428-0395
Trentasia Morant, Office Coordinator (718) 638-8300
Aleeza Meir, Organist (917) 902-0793
Abraham Barrios, Sexton (718) 638-8300

Consistory

Elders		Deacons	
Jessica Stockton Bagnulo	2021	Kent Adams	2021
Jeff Cribbs	2021	Margaret Kearney	2022
Ken Nieuwenhuis	2022	Susan Snyder	2022
Wayne Adams	2023	Philip Alexander	2023
Jabe Ziino	2023	Kelly Greene	2023

Officers

Pastor Daniel Meeter, President Jeff Cribbs, Vice President
Kent Adams, Deacons Chair Ron Coombs, Clerk pro tem
Danny Silitonga, Treasurer Elisabeth Gaikema Platt, Financial Secretary pro tem
Maureen Doyle, Bursar

GROUPS AND MINISTRIES

Cooking for CHiPS: Second Saturdays at 8:00 a.m. Cook for the homeless and hungry.

Contact: Steve Lappert (718) 230-0448.

Sunday School Teachers: Joanna Franchini, Matt LeBreux, Pastor Meeter, Jessica Stockton Bagnulo, Rev. Melody Meeter, Virginia Bouillerot, and Jabe Ziino.

Nursery Staff: Renee Espinosa, Sally Ragudo, and Bailey Olander.

CHiPS Board of Directors: Gordon Meyer.

Old First Reformed Church

www.oldfirstbrooklyn.org

(718) 638-8300

info@oldfirstbrooklyn.org

Learn more and connect:

Newsletter sign up: newsletter@oldfirstbrooklyn.org

Pastor's Sermon Blog: oldfirst.blogspot.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/Old.First.Brooklyn/

Facebook Arts: [@artsatoldfirst](https://www.facebook.com/artsatoldfirst)

Instagram: www.instagram.com/oldfirstbrooklyn/