



OLD first REFORMED CHURCH

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

EBULLETIN FOR THE FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER, MAY 10, 2020

Please accept this eBulletin for your use on Sunday morning (there may be late changes).
To log-on Worship, Ctrl+click this link: <https://zoom.us/j/281701997>.

To join us via phone: Dial 1-929-205-6099.
If you are instructed to enter a webinar id, the id is: 281701997.

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

- Contents:
- I. Worship Service
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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.

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I. WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE *First Arabesque* *C. Debussy*

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

HYMN 325 **“Christ the Lord is risen today,”**
 all creation joins to say;
 raise your songs and triumphs high;
 sing, ye heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Vain the stone, the watch, the seal:
Christ has burst the gates of hell!
Death in vain forbids his rise;
Christ has opened Paradise! Alleluia!
Lives again our glorious King;
where, O death, is now thy sting?
Dying once, he all doth save;
where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

King of glory, soul of bliss,
Everlasting life is this:
Thee to know, thy power to prove,
Thus to sing, and thus to love! 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.

Almighty God, whom truly to know is everlasting life: Grant us so perfectly to know your Son Jesus Christ to be the way, the truth, and the life, that we may steadfastly follow his steps in the way that leads to eternal life; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

FIRST READING: Acts 7:55-60

Marian Bagnulo

Filled with the Holy Spirit, Stephen gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. "Look," he said, "I see the heavens opened and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God!" But they covered their ears, and with a loud shout all rushed together against him. Then they dragged him out of the city and began to stone him; and the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul. While they were stoning Stephen, he prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." Then he knelt down and cried out in a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he died.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 31:1-5, 13-16

In you, O LORD, have I taken refuge; let me never be put to shame;
deliver me in your righteousness.

Incline your ear to me;
make haste to deliver me.

Be my strong rock, a castle to keep me safe, for you are my crag and my stronghold;
for the sake of your name, lead me and guide me.
Take me out of the net that they have secretly set for me,
for you are my tower of strength.
Into your hands I commend my spirit,
for you have redeemed me, O LORD, O God of truth.
My times are in your hand;
rescue me from the hand of my enemies, and from those who persecute me.
Make your face to shine upon your servant,
and in your lovingkindness save me.

**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

Be still and know that I am God.

**God be in my head, and in my understanding.
God be in my eyes, and in my looking.
God be in my mouth, and in my speaking.
God be in my heart, and in my thinking.
God be at my end, and at my beginning.**

**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.**

**Deep and wide, deep and wide, there's a fountain flowing deep and wide,
Deep and wide, deep and wide, there's a fountain flowing deep and wide.**

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 2:2-10

Michael Cairl

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good. Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. For it stands in scripture: "See, I am laying in Zion a stone, a cornerstone chosen and precious; and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame." To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe, "The stone that the builders rejected has become the very head of the corner," and "A stone that makes them stumble, and a rock that makes them fall." They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do. But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SOLO *My Help*

Sung by Lauren Alzos- Benke

GOSPEL: John 14:1-14

Michael Cairl

Jesus told his disciples, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father's house there are many dwelling places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going." Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied." Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

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

SERMON: *Signs and Wonders #4: The Stones that Live* Pastor

ASCRPTION AND SILENCE

HYMN 424 (to #3) **You that know the Lord is gracious,**
you for whom a cornerstone
stands, of God elect and precious,
laid that you may build thereon,
see that on that sure foundation
you a living temple raise,
towers that may tell forth salvation,
walls that may re-echo praise.

Living stones by God appointed
each to an allotted place,
kings and priests, by God anointed,
shall you not declare his grace?
You, a royal generation,
tell the tidings of your birth,
tidings of a new creation
to an old and weary earth.
Tell the praise of him who called you
out of darkness into light,
broke the fetters that enthralled you,
gave you freedom, peace, and sight:
tell the tale of sins forgiven,

strength renewed, and hope restored,
till the earth, in tune with heaven,
praise and magnify the Lord.

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
Godly Play / Children-in-Worship
Baroquelyn
Other Announcements

TESTIMONY James Harvey

PRAYERS OF PEACE AND INTERCESSION Jenny Burrill

(*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.**

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 328 **This joyful Eastertide,
away with sin and sorrow;**

**my Love, the Crucified,
hath sprung to life this morrow.**

**Had Christ, that once was slain,
ne'er burst his three day prison,**

our faith had been in vain:

but now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen!

My flesh in hope shall rest
and for a season slumber,
till trump from East to West
shall wake the dead in number.
Had Christ, that once was slain,
ne'er burst his three day prison,
our faith had been in vain:
but now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen!

Death's flood has lost its chill
since Jesus crossed the river;
Lover of souls, from ill
my passing soul deliver.
Had Christ, that once was slain,
ne'er burst his three day prison,
our faith had been in vain:
but now is Christ arisen, arisen, arisen, arisen!

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 STUDY IN G MINOR D. Scarlatti

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 virus victims buried on Hart Island.

For those in ministry or service: Dr. Jessica, Dr. Paul, Jabe, Jack, Jeff, 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>.

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 TODAY for our Spotlight concert at 3pm. It will feature soprano and Park-Sloper Elyse Anne Kakacek, exploring polyphony on her own (wait till you hear how she's managing to sing trios with herself!) and collaborating with recent Spotlighter guitarist Brandon Acker. Join us by subscribing to Baroquelyn at www.baroquelyn.com. All funds are going directly to the musicians, and you can subscribe at any level at all -- there's even a spot where you can make up your own amount. Or if you'd like to check us out as a guest, just write to baroquelyn@gmail.com and ask for a link!

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 10

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

Monday, May 11

Deacons Meeting - 7:00 p.m., online

Elders Meeting - 7:00 p.m., online
Wednesday, May 13
Vespers - 9:00 p.m., online

Look Ahead

Sunday, May 17
Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m., online
Monday, May 18
Consistory Meeting - 7:00 p.m., online
Wednesday, May 20
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.

(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/