



OLD first REFORMED CHURCH

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

EBULLETIN FOR 2 PENTECOST SUNDAY, JUNE 14, 2020

Use this eBulletin for Sunday morning. To log-on, Ctrl+click: <https://zoom.us/j/281701997>.

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

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

Please have ready your bowl with water, a cloth, your candle, your bread, and your cup of wine or juice.

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I. WORSHIP SERVICE

PRELUDE *Claire de Lune (from Suite Bergamasque)* Claude Debussy

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

HYMN 497 **This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine;
this is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:
but other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.**

**My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on clover leaf and pine;
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:
O hear my song, thou God of all nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.**

**This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms,
thy kingdom come, on earth thy will be done;
let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
and hearts united learn to live as one:
O hear my prayer, thou god of all the nations.
Myself I give thee, let thy will be done.**

VOTUM AND SALUTATION

COLLECT OF THE DAY (*In unison*)

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

Keep, O Lord, your household the Church in your steadfast faith and love, that through your grace we may proclaim your truth with boldness, and minister your justice with compassion; for the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

Lector: Evelyn Cribbs

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, 'My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on—since you have come to your servant.' So they said, 'Do as you have said.' And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, 'Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes.' Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate. They said to him, 'Where is your wife Sarah?' And he said, 'There, in the tent.' Then one said, 'I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son.' And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, 'After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?' The LORD said to Abraham, 'Why did Sarah laugh, and say, "Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?" Is anything too wonderful for the LORD? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son.' But Sarah denied, saying, 'I did not laugh'; for she was afraid. He said, 'Oh yes, you did laugh.' The LORD dealt with Sarah as he had said, and the LORD did for Sarah as he had promised. Sarah conceived and bore Abraham a son in his old age, at the time of which God had spoken to him. Abraham gave the name Isaac to his son whom Sarah bore him. And Abraham circumcised his son Isaac when he was eight days old, as God had commanded him. Abraham was a hundred years old when his son Isaac was born to him. Now Sarah said, 'God has brought laughter for me; everyone who hears will laugh with me.' And she said, 'Who would ever have said to Abraham that Sarah would nurse children? Yet I have borne him a son in his old age.'

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 116:1, 10-17

I love the Lord, because he has heard the voice of my supplication,
because he has inclined his ear to me whenever I called upon him.
How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things he has done for me?
I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.
Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his servants.
O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant and the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.
I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the Name of the Lord.
I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,
In the courts of the Lord's house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!
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.

The Great Banquet Rev. Melody Meeter

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.

SECOND READING: Romans 5:1-8 Lector: Jenn Cribbs

Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person — though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. But God proves his love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SOLO *Ave Maria* J. S. Bach/C. Gounod

Merrill Grant

GOSPEL:

Matthew 9:35-10:8

Lector: Jeff Cribbs

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest." Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Laughing of Sarah

Pastor

ASCRPTION OF GLORY AND SILENCE

HYMN 1:1-4&6

**Our God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:**

**Under the shadow of thy throne
thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone,
and our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood,
or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God,
to endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in thy sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night,
before the rising sun.**

**Our God, our help in ages past,
Our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last,
And our eternal home.**

APOSTLES CREED (*In unison*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth;
I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived
by the power of the Holy Spirit, and born of the Virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*In unison*)

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

**KYRIE: Lord, have mercy upon us.
(564) Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

ABSOLUTION

PASSING THE PEACE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today's service recognitions
Wednesday evening Vespers
Virtual Coffee Hour
Godly Play / Children-in-Worship
Interim Minister
Brooklyn Relief Kitchen / Cooking for CHiPS
Other Announcements

TESTIMONY: FROM THE BELHAR CONFESSION

We believe

- that God has revealed himself as the one who wishes to bring about justice and true peace among people;
- that God, in a world full of injustice and enmity, is in a special way the God of the destitute, the poor and the wronged;
- that God calls the church to follow him in this, for God brings justice to the oppressed and gives bread to the hungry;
- that God frees the prisoner and restores sight to the blind;

- that God supports the downtrodden, protects the stranger, helps orphans and widows and blocks the path of the ungodly;
- that for God pure and undefiled religion is to visit the orphans and the widows in their suffering;
- that God wishes to teach the church to do what is good and to seek the right;
- that the church must therefore stand by people in any form of suffering and need, which implies, among other things, that the church must witness against and strive against any form of injustice, so that justice may roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream;
- that the church as the possession of God must stand where the Lord stands, namely against injustice and with the wronged; that in following Christ the church must witness against all the powerful and privileged who selfishly seek their own interests and thus control and harm others.

Therefore, we reject any ideology

- which would legitimate forms of injustice and any doctrine which is unwilling to resist such an ideology in the name of the gospel.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Janet Philips

In need: Georgia, Andrew, Jean, Barbara, Eva, Albert, Nancy, Keileigh, Viola, Michael, Blas, Stephen, Elisabeth, Spencer, Maryanne, Ron, Susanna.

In ministry or service: Dr. Jessica, Dr. Paul, Jabe, Jack, Jeff, Housing Plus, and CHiPS.

OFFERING *The Deacons*

While we worship together online, we can still make our offerings. Our preferred method is the digital platform Tithe.ly, which you can find as a smart-phone app or as a link at OldFirstBrooklyn.org. Please consider covering the processing fee to make your gift go farther. If you prefer to mail a check, please note whether your gift is for the general fund, mission, or the capital campaign. And please consider giving for our mission work with CHiPS and Housing Plus, as well as our Brooklyn Relief Kitchen.

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.**

RINSE YOUR HANDS: I am baptized. **In the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.**

SET YOUR TABLES

LIGHT YOUR CANDLE

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,

and when he had given thanks,

he broke it,

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,

Saying, “This cup in the new testament in my blood,

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

Take, drink it in remembrance of me.”

Take the bread

Raise the bread

Break the bread

Take the cup

Raise the cup

Drink from the cup.

PSALM OF THANKSGIVING

Bless the Lord, O my soul,
 And all that is within me, bless his holy Name.
Bless the Lord, O my soul,
 And forget not all his benefits.
Who forgives all your iniquities,
 Who heals all your diseases,
Who redeems your life from the Pit,
 Who crowns you with steadfast mercy and loving-kindness.
The Lord is merciful and gracious,
 Slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love.
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
 Nor reward us according to our iniquities.
For as the heavens are high above the earth,
 So great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him.
As far as the east is from the west,
 So far does he remove our transgressions from us.
As a father pities his children,
 So the Lord pities those who fear him,
Who did not spare his own son, but gave him up for us all
 And will also give us all things with him.
Therefore shall my mouth and heart show forth the praise of the Lord
 From this time forth and forever more.

HYMN 607

**The King shall come when morning dawns,
and light triumphant breaks;
when beauty gilds the eastern hills,
and life to joy awakes.**

**Not as of old a little child
to bear, and fight, and die,
but crowned with glory like the sun
that lights the morning sky.**

**O brighter than the rising morn
when He, victorious, rose,
and left the lonesome place of death,
despite the rage of foes**

**O brighter than that glorious morn
shall this fair morning be,
when Christ, our King, in beauty comes,
and we His face shall see!**

**The King shall come when morning dawns,
and, light and beauty brings:
hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray,
“Come quickly King of kings.”**

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

Prélude (from Suite Bergamasque)

Claude Debussy

ii. Announcements

Old First is working on creating a new prayer team, to bring our biggest issues and individual requests to God in prayer as we face many new challenges. We hope to find a time to meet weekly to pray together via Zoom, and also to write prayers to be shared with the consistory and the larger congregation. We have a lot of committees at Old First, but not many of them are for directly talking to God; this is important work, and we hope you'll consider whether you can help to lead and support our congregation in this way. If you're interested or you'd like to know more, please contact Jessica Stockton Bagnulo; you can email jsbagnulo@gmail.com, or talk at the virtual coffee hour after the service. You can also send your prayer request to our direct email 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. please use this zoom link to join. <https://zoom.us/j/314004075>

THE OLD FIRST BROOKLYN RELIEF KITCHEN is cooking up a storm and sending out lots of free food. You can volunteer to prepare and package fresh meals, and help delivery to 3 sites: CHiPS, Camp Friendship and Red Hook, plus a new site in Coney Island (probably more to come). and distributing from Old First's front door at 7th Ave and Carroll St. on Wednesday afternoons.

You can volunteer to help clean-up every day, from 3 to 5 pm. Sign-up online at:

On Wednesday afternoons, from 1 to 4 pm, we distribute food at the church front door. We need four volunteers every Wednesday afternoon. Sign-up online at:

For information on volunteering, text Deacon Susan Snyder at: **347-410-1877** (or email her at ssnyder8792@gmail.com)

OUR MISSIONS AND BENEVOLENCE: HousingPlus provides housing and services for women who have been incarcerated and marginalized in New York City—including an apartment to call home. They support about 150 women and 94 children in overcoming poverty, homelessness, addiction, and trauma. CHiPS, on 4th Avenue in Park Slope, provides meals and housing for the needy, especially now. Our Old First CHiPS team is 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.

THE CONSISTORY HAS APPROVED A NOMINEE FOR INTERIM PASTOR. Contractual details are being worked out now.

BAROQUELYN: After two months of weekly spotlight concerts, Baroquelyn is taking a little breather. We aim to have one concert a month for the summer while we look ahead to some fun fall programming. Stay tuned for announcements in the newsletter and on the website! Subscribe at www.baroquelyn.com.

iii. Schedule

This week

Sunday, June 14

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

Monday, June 15

Consistory meeting - 7:00 p.m., online

Wednesday, June 17

Old First Take-Out – 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Front Door on 7th Avenue.

Vespers - 9:00 p.m., online

Look Ahead

Sunday, June 21

Pastor and Children Farewell – 9:30 a.m., online

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

Wednesday, June 24

Old First Take-Out – 1:00 to 4:00 p.m., Front Door on 7th Avenue.

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.

The Old First Brooklyn Relief Kitchen: Weekdays with Take-Out food on Wednesday afternoons.

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/