



OLD first REFORMED CHURCH

EBULLETIN FOR 6TH PENTECOST SUNDAY, JULY 12, 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

Träumerei

R. Schumann

Aleeza Meir

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

VOTUM AND SALUTATION

HYMN 7

**Immortal, invisible, God only wise,
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.**

**Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might:
thy justice, like mountains high soaring above;
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.**

**To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish like leaves on the tree,
and wither and perish; but naught changeth thee.**

**Great Father of glory, pure Father of light,
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;
all laud we would render; O help us to see
'tis only the splendor of light hideth thee!**

COLLECT OF THE DAY (*In unison*)

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

O Lord, mercifully receive the prayers of your people who call upon you, and grant that they may know and understand what things they ought to do, and also may have grace and power faithfully to accomplish them; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST READING

Genesis 25:19-34

Lector: **Michael Cairl**

These are the descendants of Isaac, Abraham's son: Abraham was the father of Isaac, and Isaac was forty years old when he married Rebekah, daughter of Bethuel the Aramean of Paddan-aram, sister of Laban the Aramean. Isaac prayed to the Lord for his wife, because she was barren; and the Lord granted his prayer, and his wife Rebekah conceived. The children struggled together within her; and she said, "If it is to be this way, why do I live?" So she went to inquire of the Lord. And the Lord said to her, "Two nations are in your womb, and two peoples born of you shall be divided; the one shall be stronger than the other, the elder shall serve the younger." When her time to give birth was at hand, there were twins in her womb. The first came out red, all his body like a hairy mantle; so they named him Esau. Afterward his brother came out, with his hand gripping Esau's heel; so he was named Jacob. Isaac was sixty years old when she bore them. When the boys grew up, Esau was a skillful hunter, a man of the field, while Jacob was a quiet man, living in tents. Isaac loved Esau, because he was fond of game; but Rebekah loved Jacob. Once when Jacob was cooking a stew, Esau came in from the field, and he was famished. Esau said to Jacob, "Let me eat some of that red stuff, for I am famished!" (Therefore he was called Edom.) Jacob said, "First sell me your birthright." Esau said, "I am about to die; of what use is a birthright to me?" Jacob said, "Swear to me first." So he swore to him, and sold his birthright to Jacob. Then Jacob gave Esau bread and lentil stew, and he ate and drank, and rose and went his way. Thus Esau despised his birthright.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 119: 105-112

Your word is a lantern to my feet
and a light upon my path.

I have sworn and am determined
to keep your righteous judgments.

I am deeply troubled;
preserve my life, O LORD, according to your word.

Accept, O LORD, the willing tribute of my lips,
and teach me your judgments.

My life is always in my hand,
yet I do not forget your law.

The wicked have set a trap for me,
but I have not strayed from your commandments.

Your decrees are my inheritance forever;
truly, they are the joy of my heart.

I have applied my heart to fulfill your statutes
forever and to the end.

**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.**

Second Reading: Romans 8:1-11

Lector: **Michael Cairl**

There is therefore now no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus. For the law of the Spirit of life in Christ Jesus has set you free from the law of sin and of death. For God has done what the law, weakened by the flesh, could not do: by sending his own Son in the likeness of sinful flesh, and to deal with sin, he condemned sin in the flesh, so that the just requirement of the law might be fulfilled in us, who walk not according to the flesh but according to the Spirit. For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. To set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace. For this reason the mind that is set on the flesh is hostile to God; it does not submit to God's law-- indeed it cannot, and those who are in the flesh cannot please God. But you are not in the flesh; you are in the Spirit, since the Spirit of God dwells in you. Anyone who does not have the Spirit of Christ does not belong to him. But if Christ is in you, though the body is dead because of sin, the Spirit is life because of righteousness. If the Spirit of him who raised Jesus from the dead dwells in you, he who raised Christ from the dead will give life to your mortal bodies also through his Spirit that dwells in you.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Lector: **Lance Hurst**

Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen! Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Guest preacher: **Lance Hurst**

ASCRPTION OF GLORY AND SILENCE

HYMN 10

**I sing th' almighty power of God, that made the mountains rise,
that spread the flowing seas abroad, and build the lofty skies,
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule by day;
the moon shines full at his command, and all the stars obey.**

I sing the goodness of the Lord that filled the earth with food;
he form'd the creatures with his word, and then pronounced them good.
Lord, how thy wonders are displayed where'er I turn my eye,
if I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky!

Creatures, as num'rous as they be, are subject to thy care;
there's not a place where we can flee, but God is present there.
His hand is my perpetual guard, he keeps me with his eye;
why should I then forget the Lord, who is forever nigh?

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
Interim Minister
Brooklyn Relief Kitchen / Cooking for CHiPS
Other Announcements

TESTIMONY: from the Belhar Confession

Jessica Stockton Bagnulo

4. 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

Lindsay Gavin

In need: 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 Tithely, 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."**

*Take the bread
Raise the bread
Break the bread*

Share the bread.

**After the same manner also he took the cup,
Saying, "This cup is 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 cup
Raise the cup*

Drink from the cup.

*COMMUNION

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 12

**Let the whole creation cry, "Glory to the Lord on high."
Heav'n and earth, awake and sing, "God is good and therefore King."
Praise him, all ye hosts above, ever bright and fair in love;
sun and moon, uplift up your voice; night and stars, in God rejoice!**

**Warriors fighting for the Lord, prophets burning with his word,
those to whom the arts belong, add their voices to the song.
Kings of knowledge and of law, to the glorious circle draw;
all who work and all who wait, sing, "The Lord is good and great!"**

**Men and women, young and old, raise the anthem manifold;
and let children's happy hearts in this worship bear their parts;
from the north to southern pole, let the mighty chorus roll:
"Holy, holy, holy One, glory be to God alone!"**

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

Preludium in E Major (from WTC 1)

J.S. Bach

Aleeza Meir

ii. Announcements

We welcome our guest preacher, Lance Hurst.



Lance Hurst comes from a small town near the Florida-Georgia border with 3 red lights. While he spent his early years eating fried chicken, mashed potatoes, and macaroni & cheese, he was swooped out of the Deep South further south to Tampa, Florida and eventually to Norfolk, Virginia and then to RAF Lakenheath because his stepfather was in the military. After high school, Lance returned to central Florida, attended a conservative, Christian university where he earned both bachelor and master's degrees and became a Pentecostal minister. After coming out as gay, Lance knew that change was necessary and Princeton Theological Seminary seemed to be his salvation. After earning his Master of Divinity, he moved to Brooklyn, New York where he now happily resides with his partner, Lucas, and their cat, Mollie. He currently serves at a Presbyterian church in Manhattan and as the discipleship pastor at a new church plant, Common Ground Church, while pursuing ordination in the United Church of Christ.

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 meet on Thursday evenings from 9:00 to 9:45 p.m. 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 deliver to CHiPS and Camp Friendship, along with several other local sites.

You can volunteer to help by Contacting Piper the Volunteer Coordinator at :
piper@brooklynreliefkitchen.org

We accept drop-off donations Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-2 p.m., Wed 10 a.m.- 4 p.m. at the front entrance at 126 7th Ave. under the tent.

You can also donate funds to the Old First Brooklyn Relief Kitchen through Tithly by selecting the OF Brooklyn Relief Kitchen option in the dropdown menu.

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 funded through our collection for mission. If you start using Tithely, you can designate gifts by selecting Mission in the dropdown menu, 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.

OLD FIRST IS HOSTING AN ANTI-RACIST READING GROUP! We will discuss ways that we, as individuals and as a community of Jesus, can work to dismantle racism in ourselves and in society. Our first meeting will be on Sunday, July 19 at 3:00 p.m. We'll discuss pages 1-39 of *White Supremacy and Me* by Layla Saad. Please join us even if you aren't able to get the book by then - we will share relevant passages so that everyone is able to participate. Register using the link below or contact Margaret Kearney (kearney.margaret@gmail.com) for more information.

[Click here](#) to register for the meeting
(You will receive a reminder and login link in advance of the event.)

[Click here](#) to order the book from Old First's local partner Community Bookstore
(Note that the book is currently out of stock at most stores as it is awaiting a publisher reprint, but the folks at Community are happy to order it for you for shipping or curbside pickup, and can let you know as soon as it is available!)

iii. Schedule

This week
Sunday, July 12

Sunday Worship - 11:00 a.m., online
Monday, July 13th
Deacons – 7:00 p.m., online
Elders – 7:00 p.m., online
Wednesday, July 15
Vespers - 9:00 p.m., online

Looking ahead

Sunday, July 19
Sunday Worship – 11:00 a.m., online
Monday, July 20th
Consistory – 7:00 p.m., online

iv. Roster

Staff

Maureen Doyle, Finance & Operations Director (917) 428-0395
Aleeza Meir, Music Director (917) 902-0793
Abraham Barrios, Sexton (718) 638-8300

Consistory

<u>Elders</u>		<u>Deacons</u>	
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

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

Contact: Steve Lappert (718) 230-0448.

Sunday School Teachers: Joanna Franchini, Matt LeBreux, Jessica Stockton Bagnulo, 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

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

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

Instagram: www.instagram.com/oldfirstbrooklyn/