



OLD first REFORMED CHURCH

E BULLETIN FOR 7TH PENTECOST SUNDAY, JULY 19, 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 *Andante cantabile* W. A. Mozart **Aleeza Meir**

WELCOME AND INSTRUCTIONS

VOTUM AND SALUTATION

HYMN 14 **This is my Father's world, and to my listening ears
all nature sings, and round me rings the music of the spheres.
This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
of rocks and trees, of skies and seas; his hand the wonders wrought.**

**This is my Father's world: the birds their carols raise,
the morning light, the lily white, declare their Maker's praise.
This is my Father's world: he shines in all that's fair;
in the rustling grass I hear him pass, he speaks to me everywhere.**

**This is my Father's world: oh let me ne'er forget
that though the wrong seems oft so strong, God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world: the battle is not done;
Jesus who died shall be satisfied, and earth and heaven be one.**

COLLECT OF THE DAY (*In unison*)

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

Almighty God, the fountain of all wisdom, you know our necessities before we ask and our ignorance in asking: Have compassion on our weakness, and mercifully give us those things which for our unworthiness we dare not, and for our blindness we cannot ask; through the worthiness of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

FIRST READING

Genesis 28:10-19a

Lector: **Jim Harvey**

Jacob left Beer-sheba and went toward Haran. He came to a certain place and stayed there for the night, because the sun had set. Taking one of the stones of the place, he put it under his head and lay down in that place. And he dreamed that there was a ladder set up on the earth, the top of it reaching to heaven; and the angels of God were ascending and descending on it. And the LORD stood beside him and said, "I am the LORD, the God of Abraham your father and the God of Isaac; the land on which you lie I will give to you and to your offspring; and your offspring shall be like the dust of the earth, and you shall spread abroad to the west and to the east and to the north and to the south; and all the families of the earth shall be blessed in you and in your offspring. Know that I am with you and will keep you wherever you go, and will bring you back to this land; for I will not leave you until I have done what I have promised you." Then Jacob woke from his sleep and said, "Surely the LORD is in this place—and I did not know it!" And he was afraid, and said, "How awesome is this place! This is none other than the house of God, and this is the gate of heaven." So Jacob rose early in the morning, and he took the stone that he had put under his head and set it up for a pillar and poured oil on the top of it. He called that place Bethel.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 139: 1-11, 22-23

Lector: **Jim Harvey**

Lord, you have searched me out and known me;
you know my sitting down and my rising up;
you discern my thoughts from afar.
You trace my journeys and my resting-places
and are acquainted with all my ways.
Indeed, there is not a word on my lips,
but you, O Lord, know it altogether.
You press upon me behind and before
and lay your hand upon me.
Such knowledge is too wonderful for me;
it is so high that I cannot attain to it.
Where can I go then from your Spirit?
where can I flee from your presence?
If I climb up to heaven, you are there;
if I make the grave my bed, you are there also.
If I take the wings of the morning
and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea,
Even there your hand will lead me
and your right hand hold me fast.
If I say, "Surely the darkness will cover me,
and the light around me turn to night,"

Darkness is not dark to you;
the night is as bright as the day;
darkness and light to you are both alike.

Search me out, O God, and know my heart;
try me and know my restless thoughts.

Look well whether there be any wickedness in me
and lead me in the way that is everlasting.

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 8:12-25

Lector: **Jim Harvey**

So then, brothers and sisters, we are debtors, not to the flesh, to live according to the flesh-- for if you live according to the flesh, you will die; but if by the Spirit you put to death the deeds of the body, you will live. For all who are led by the Spirit of God are children of God. For you did not receive a spirit of slavery to fall back into fear, but you have received a spirit of adoption. When we cry, "Abba! Father!" it is that very Spirit bearing witness with our spirit that we are children of God, and if children, then heirs, heirs of God and joint heirs with Christ-- if, in fact, we suffer with him so that we may also be glorified with him. I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory about to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the children of God; for the creation was subjected to futility, not of its own will but by the will of the one who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to decay and will obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. We know that the whole creation has been groaning in labor pains until now; and not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the first fruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly while we wait for adoption, the redemption of our bodies. For in hope we were saved. Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what is seen? But if we hope for what we do not see, we wait for it with patience.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Lector: **Lynn Min**

Jesus put before the crowd another parable: "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to someone who sowed good seed in his field; but while everybody was asleep, an enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and then went away. So when the plants came up and bore grain, then the weeds appeared as well. And the slaves of the householder came and said to him, 'Master, did you not sow good seed in your field? Where, then, did these weeds come from?' He answered, 'An enemy has done this.' The slaves said to him, 'Then do you want us to go and gather them?' But he replied, 'No; for in gathering the weeds you would uproot the wheat along with them. Let both of them grow together until the harvest; and at harvest time I will tell the reapers, Collect the weeds first and bind them in bundles to be burned, but gather the wheat into my barn.'" Then he left the crowds and went into the house. And his disciples approached him, saying, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds of the field." He answered, "The one who sows the good seed is the Son of Man; the field is the world, and the good seed are the children of the kingdom; the weeds are the children of the evil one, and the enemy who sowed them is the devil; the harvest is the end of the age, and the reapers are angels. Just as the weeds are collected and burned up with fire, so will it be at the end of the age. The Son of Man will send his angels, and they will collect out of his kingdom all causes of sin and all evildoers, and they will throw them into the furnace of fire, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Let anyone with ears listen!"

The Gospel of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

The Spiritual Discipline of Being Childlike (Matthew 19:13-15)

Guest preacher: **Lynn Min**

ASCRPTION OF GLORY AND SILENCE

HYMN 20

**Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer for all things
living you have made good: harvest of sown fields,
fruits of the orchard, hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.**

**Bless thou the labor we bring to serve you, that with our
neighbor we may be fed. Sowing or tilling,
we would work with you, harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**Father providing food for your children, your wisdom
guiding bids us to share one with another,
so that rejoicing, sister and brother may know your care.**

**Then will your blessing reach every nation, people con-
fessing your gracious hand. Where your will reigns, no
mortal will hunger; your love sustains, so fruitful the land.**

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
Virtual Coffee Hour
Interim Minister
Brooklyn Relief Kitchen / Cooking for CHiPS
Other Announcements

TESTIMONY: from the Belhar Confession

Jabe Ziino

5. We believe

- that, in obedience to Jesus Christ, its only head, the church is called to confess and to do all these things, even though the authorities and human laws might forbid them and punishment and suffering be the consequence

Jesus is Lord.

To the one and only God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be the honor and the glory for ever and ever.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Kelly Greene

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 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.”

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 29

**God who stretched the spangled heavens infinite in time and space,
flung the suns in burning radiance through the silent fields of space,
we thy children, in thy likeness, share inventive powers with thee:
great Creator, still creating, teach us what we yet may be.**

**Proudly rise our modern cities, stately buildings, row on row:
yet their windows, blank, unfeeling stare on canyoned streets below,
where the lonely drift unnoticed in the city's ebb and flow,
lost to purpose and to meaning, scarcely caring where they go.**

**We have conquered worlds undreamed of since the childhood of our race;
known the ecstasy of winging through uncharted realms of space,
probed the secrets of the atom, yielding unimagined power,
facing us with life's destruction, or our most triumphant hour.**

**As thy new horizons beckon, Father, give us strength to be
children of creative purpose, thinking thy thoughts after thee,
till our dreams are rich with meaning, each endeavor, thy design;
great Creator, lead us onward till our work is one with thine.**

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

Allegretto grazioso

W.A. Mozart

Aleeza Meir

ii. Announcements

We welcome our guest preacher, Lynn Min.



Lynn Min, M.Div., LMHC

Lynn is a licensed mental health counselor and certified life coach in midtown, NYC. After completing her Masters in Counseling, Lynn worked towards an M.Div from Alliance Theological Seminary in Nyack, realizing that mental health and spirituality go hand-in-hand. Having grown up a pastor's kid, in different areas of church ministry for over two decades, she is convinced that salvation is practically lived out when we are whole -- mentally, emotionally, spiritually, physically and relationally. Her last seven years in private practice have been devoted to creating spaces where individuals, couples and groups can be radically honest, shed some light into their hearts, and connect with God and others to experience the healing and freedom they need. She is currently shifting her practice to include spiritual communities in the virtual space and online classes that teach people how to heal deeply and reconnect with their divine source within.

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

THE PRAYER TEAM OF OLD FIRST meets at 9pm on Thursdays, to pray for the needs of our congregation, our community, and our world. If you would like to request prayer, for yourself or anything/anyone else, please email prayerrequests@oldfirstbrooklyn.org. If you would like to join the prayer team or learn more, please email Jessica Bagnulo, jsbagnulo@gmail.com.

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-Sat 10 a.m.-2 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 19

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

Monday, July 20

Consistory – 7:00 p.m., online

Looking ahead

Sunday, July 26

Sunday Worship – 11:00 a.m., online

Wednesday, July 29

Vespers – 9:00 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

Elders

Jessica Stockton Bagnulo	2021
Jeff Cribbs	2021
Ken Nieuwenhuis	2022
Wayne Adams	2023
Jabe Ziino	2023

Deacons

Kent Adams	2021
Margaret Kearney	2022
Susan Snyder	2022
Philip Alexander	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/