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EASTER

FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE

Congregational 1633-1636  
United Church of Christ  
Garden and Mason Streets  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE  
CONGREGATIONAL  
**384 YEARS**  
ON THE WAY  
1 6 3 6 – 2 0 2 0

## WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

### Grounded in God • Growing in Community • Acting in Love

These past few weeks have brought home to all of us the vital importance of working together to slow and limit the spread of Coronavirus. We know we are called to be a community of faith, not fear. We also know we are called to care for the most vulnerable in our midst, to be good stewards of our staff and resources, and to be good citizens of the wider community.

Under normal circumstances, people of faith would care for each other by drawing close together. It's what we do. It's who we are. In times of loss or threat, we respond by coming together to pray and to sing, to hug and hold each other tight.

Pandemics are different. During an outbreak such as the one we are facing now, we are called to care for each other by moving farther apart, creating a holy buffer of social distance. We do this not only for our own safety and the safety of the people around us, but in loving stewardship to our wider world.

Even when apart, we are not alone. God is with us, in every heartbeat, every breath: strengthening, comforting, and upholding us. Christ is with us, walking beside us, sharing our trials, speaking peace to our fears. The Spirit is with us, uniting us one to another across the barrier of physical distance.

These are temporary measures only. They won't last forever. We will rejoice and celebrate all the more when we are able to come back together, to share stories of what it was like, to laugh, to cry, and to share hugs and handshakes again. Until then, day by day, let's hold one another in prayer.

#### WORSHIP LEADERS

April 12, 2020

#### Preaching Today

Dan Smith, Senior Minister

#### Leading Worship

Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts

Lexi Boudreaux, Pastoral Associate

Carlyle Stewart, Pastoral Associate

Peter Sykes, Music Director

Robinson Pyle, trumpet

*The photograph on the bulletin cover is by Gaylen Morgan.*

**VOLUNTARY**

Suite in D Major

George Frideric Handel

**\*HYMN 205**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

*(see page 4)***\*GREETING**

Sarah Higginbotham

L: Siblings in the Spirit, wherever you are, grace and peace to you this Easter Day!

**C: And to the whole word, peace, love and light.**

L: From shadow to sunrise,

**C: from despair to hope,**

L: from the hallowed silence of death

**C: to the trumpet sounds of new life,**

L: God is making a way out of no way, today!

**C: Wherever you are, God's love and presence surround you.**

L: Then, open your hearts and proclaim the ancient and new Easter declaration:

Christ is risen!

**C: Christ is risen, indeed!****All: Amen!****WORDS OF WELCOME**

Dan Smith

**ANTHEM**

Easter Proclamation

G. F. Handel

*First Church Choir and Children's Choir (2001)***EASTER GREETINGS FROM OUR CHILDREN****REVEALING THE ALLELUIA BANNER****\*EASTER PEACE**

L: Friends, God's love pours out from the grave of sadness.

Christ greets us with peace the world does not know,

and brings us peace the world cannot give.

The Risen One comes in light and truth that sets us free

and assures that no distance,

even the great divide between life and death,

will separate us from God's love

which abides across every time and place!

**C: Alleluia! Christ's peace is ours forever!**

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Carlyle Stewart

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 136: 1-9, 23-26

- L: O give thanks to God, for God is good,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever.
- C: **O give thanks to the God of gods,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever.**
- L: O give thanks to the Sovereign of sovereigns,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;
- C: **who alone does great wonders,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;**
- L: who by understanding made the heavens,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;
- C: **who spread out the earth on the waters,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;**
- L: who made the great lights,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;
- C: **the sun to rule over the day,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;**
- L: the moon and stars to rule over the night,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;
- C: **It is God who remembered us in our low estate,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;**
- L: and rescued us from our foes,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever;
- C: **who gives food to all flesh,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever.**
- ALL: **O give thanks to the God of heaven,  
for God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

READING

John 20:1-18

Lexi Boudreaux

SERMON

Dan Smith

EASTER GREETINGS FROM OUR FIRST CHURCH LEADERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS

## PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

L: God be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray... (*silence, intercessions, the Lord's Prayer*)

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(Please pray this prayer in words most meaningful to your heart.)*

**All: Our Creator, 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 trespasses  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO OFFERING

*You may give online from your bank account at [www.firstchurchcambridge.org](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org)  
(click on the word "Give" at the top of the landing page)  
or by text from your debit/credit card by texting the amount to 844-996-0982.*

## OFFERTORY

Air

Patricia Van Ness

## \*EASTER DOXOLOGY

**O Jesus, risen now to bless,  
do thou thyself our hearts possess;  
Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**That we may give thee all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise!  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### \*HYMN C-13

Christ, We Meet You On Our Way

*(see page 7)*

## \*BENEDICTION

## VOLUNTARY

Toccata

Giambattista Martini

## EASTER ZOOM FELLOWSHIP AND THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS

*Please join us on Zoom for a time of fellowship! See directions on page 11.*

OPENING HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,  
 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,  
 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led,  
 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say:  
 Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,  
 Praise to thee by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,  
 Dy - ing once, he all doth save,  
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 Made like him, like him we rise,  
 Thee we greet tri - umphant now,


Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:  
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?  
 Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,  
 Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

# EASTER PEACE HYMN

## Come and Taste of Resurrection




1. "Come and taste of Re - sur -  
 2. Who am I that you should  
 3. Yet you stand here watch - ing,  
 4. "Put a way then all your  
 5. Christ, your name is glo - ry,



rec - tion," speaks the voice so sweet and  
 love - me? Just a crea - ture made of  
 wait - ing, hold - ing out your arms to  
 griev - ing, free your heart from point - less  
 glo - ry; hope of ev - er - las - ting



clear: "Rise and take a new di - rec - tion; if you  
 earth. Ev - ery mor - tal frag - ment of me shrinks a -  
 me, si - lent an - swer em - an - at - ing—"Love lasts  
 strife. Be not fear - ful but be - liev - ing: Now be -  
 grace: Deep in this un - fold - ing sto - ry we have



trust me, have no fear."  
 way from such re - birth.  
 an e - ter - ni - ty."  
 gins e - ter - nal life."  
 glimpsed Love face to face.

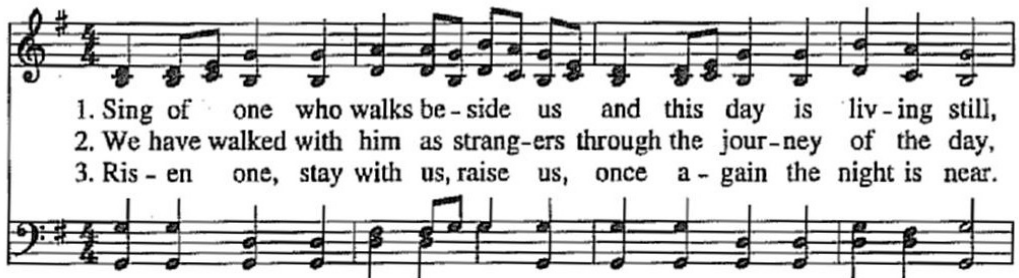
Our concept of healing is broad:

the love of God in us as  
 "earthen vessels"  
 bringing about wholeness of mind,  
 body and soul;  
 reconciliation with God,  
 with others,  
 with our deepest selves;  
 healing of the environment  
 and of the world's hurts.

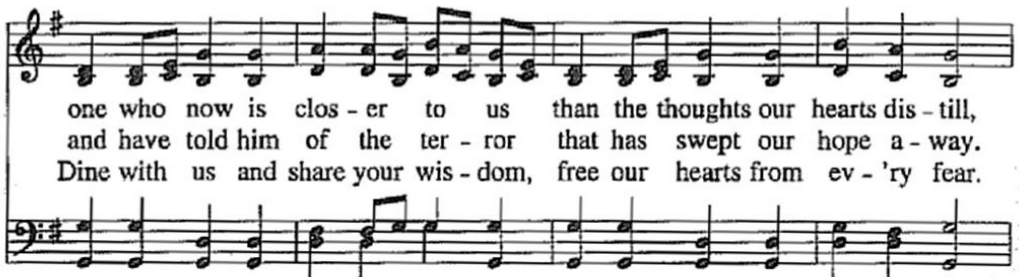
Marjorie Williams

SERMON HYMN

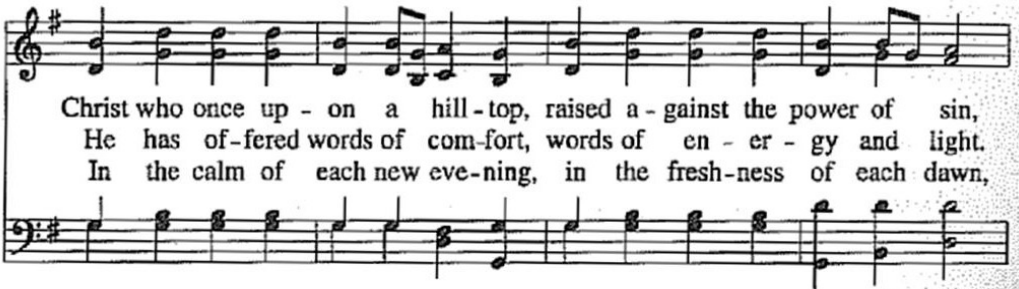
# Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us



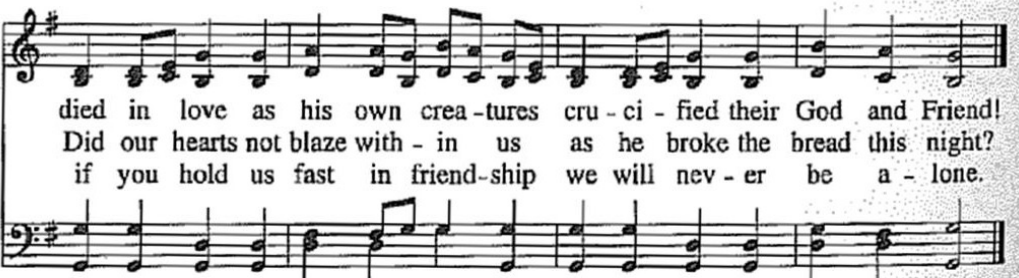
1. Sing of one who walks be-side us and this day is liv-ing still,  
2. We have walked with him as strang-ers through the jour-ney of the day,  
3. Ris-en one, stay with us, raise us, once a-gain the night is near.



one who now is clos-er to us than the thoughts our hearts dis-till,  
and have told him of the ter-ror that has swept our hope a-way.  
Dine with us and share your wis-dom, free our hearts from ev-'ry fear.



Christ who once up-on a hill-top, raised a-against the power of sin,  
He has of-fered words of com-fort, words of en-er-gy and light.  
In the calm of each new eve-ning, in the fresh-ness of each dawn,



died in love as his own crea-tures cru-ci-fied their God and Friend!  
Did our hearts not blaze with-in us as he broke the bread this night?  
if you hold us fast in friend-ship we will nev-er be a-lone.



# CLOSING HYMN

## Christ, We Meet You On Our Way

1. Christ, we meet you on our way: Al - le -  
2. Take our lives, our hopes, our dreams, Al - le -  
3. Join us in a bond of love, Al - le -  
4. Let your joy - ous songs be sung, Al - le -

lu - ia! Com - ing to re - deem the day, Al - le -  
lu - ia! Wash them in bap - tis - mal streams; Al - le -  
lu - ia! With saints here and saints a - bove, Al - le -  
lu - ia! In each place, by ev' - ry - tongue, Al - le -

lu - ia! Ris - ing out of dark - des - pair, Al - le -  
lu - ia! Now from e - vil and from death, Al - le -  
lu - ia! Chil - dren, strang - ers, ev' - ry - one, Al - le -  
lu - ia! Gen - tle Sov - ereign, Ris - en - Friend, Al - le -

lu - ia! You would claim a world so - fair, Al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia! Raise us with re - new - ing breath, Al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia! You for us the vic - t'ry won, Al - le - lu - ia!  
lu - ia! Liv - ing Spi - rit, with - out - end, Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Allen Happe

MUSIC: Robert Williams

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

- For Carlyle Stewart's family as they grieve the loss of Carlyle's grandmother Jean Marlene Stewart, who died on April 3 of complications related to COVID-19.
- For all those who are ill with COVID-19, and their families; and for all of us who are learning to navigate this strange new world, that we may receive God's comfort, strength, and peace.
- For Kelsey Peterson's penpal, TK, who is an inmate at the Massachusetts Treatment Center in Bridgewater where there have already been three deaths from COVID-19. We pray that he and other inmates everywhere remain healthy and that their souls are finding comfort under incredibly perilous circumstances.
- For all healthcare workers in clinics and hospitals and nursing homes. We pray also for all home health aides and all who are working on the front lines of this crisis. Prayers have been requested for First Church member Dewey Cyr, a nurse who has been assigned to a Covid-only floor at Brigham & Women's Hospital. May God give her and all First Church healthcare workers strength, knowledge and safety to ease suffering and come out on the other side.
- For all young families who are at home, living in close quarters, doing their best to work and parent at home without usual supports of school, daycare, playdates, and playgrounds. Prayers for strength and patience and grace and self-compassion!
- For African Americans and communities of color around the country that are facing disproportionately high rates of coronavirus death and infection, revealing entrenched inequalities in resources and access to healthcare.
- For all who are experiencing unemployment or underemployment during this crisis, including undocumented workers who cannot find a safety net in our government's response.
- In celebration with Peggy and Norm Bendroth, whose grandson Tycho was born on April 2.
- In celebration with Peggy and Mike Stevens, whose grandson Theo was born on April 3.
- In celebration with First Church member Katie Omberg, who has been newly called to be the Bridge Pastor at Saugus Congregational Church.
- For Alice Kidder, who is recovering at home after a recent hospitalization.

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

- For Dave McCann, whose Aunt Phyllis died recently at the age 99, just two months shy of a century.
- For Hilary Hopkins's nephew Jeff, his wife Julie, and his mother Heather, as Jeff struggles with advanced lung cancer.
- For ongoing strength for 12-year-old Ada Grace LaMaster and the LaMaster family. Ada is making progress in her therapy for transverse myelitis and has transitioned to an accessible apartment with her family.
- For all who are in treatment for cancer: Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn's mother; Mark Deck, Sarah Fujiwara's brother-in-law; Amy Golodet, Jonathan New's sister-in-law; Becky Collet, Karen Anne Zee's daughter; Stewart Bailey, Karen Anne Zee's son-in-law; and Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters.
- For the 14 men who are finding care and residence in our First Church Shelter and for the guests of the Friday Cafe. In this time of disruption caused by the Coronavirus, may they know warmth, compassion, and companionship.
- We pray for those who seek sanctuary in houses of worship around the country, including our partner University Lutheran Church in Harvard Square. We pray for tranquility for immigrants who live in constant fear and anxiety. And we pray for all who are working for a just and compassionate future for immigrants and asylum seekers.
- We offer up our fears and grief, and we pray for God's strength as we combat the realities of the climate crisis. May God empower us and our leaders to take bold steps, personally and politically, to care for God's creation and for the poor around the world who are most affected by our inaction.

*If you would like us to include a prayer request in the bulletin, please contact Dan Smith or Sarah Higginbotham by Tuesday morning,*

## EXTENDED FIRST CHURCH BUILDING CLOSURE

For a pastoral letter with an update about our building closures and other COVID-19-related changes, please see our website ([www.firstchurchcambridge.org](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org)) and click on the link in the yellow banner at the top of the page.

Church leaders and staff have decided that all First Church-sponsored worship, meetings, and events will be postponed, cancelled, or shifted to online formats through at least May 4. All wider community events that are hosted at First Church will also be postponed, cancelled, or shifted to online formats during this time period. We will be revisiting this plan regularly, revising as needed, and communicating updates weekly.

## IN CELEBRATION AND LOVING MEMORY

*On this Easter Sunday, as we celebrate with the Communion of all the Saints, we include this list of loved ones remembered with flower donations on Easter 2019.*

*We have added the names of several members and loved ones who have died since last Easter.*



Dennis Abbott  
Bonnie Adams  
Marie Halun Bloch  
Donald Beaty Bloch  
Frank Whitney Brigham  
Carol Wilcox Brigham  
Wilbur Buschmann  
Helen & Arthur Campbell  
Peter Charles Campbell  
Christina Carlucci  
Lincoln Clark Jr.  
Joanne Colson  
Joseph Paul Oscar Cyr  
Marie Theriault Cyr  
Paul Cyr  
Julia B. Defenderfer  
Rev. Robert C. Defenderfer  
Robert C. Defenderfer II  
Sarah Dixon  
Lois Gagnebin Dresser  
Hunter Dupree  
Justus John Fennel  
Gary S. Fujiwara  
Charles Lincoln Gagnebin  
Louis & Charlotte Gagnebin  
Ann Garnett

Jim & Cay Garnett  
Jean Howell Gates  
Wells Grogan Allen Happe  
Nelson Hardwick  
C. William Higginbotham  
Elizabeth Wood Holtzworth  
James W. Holtzworth  
Alyson Marie Hopkins  
Doris Keys Hopkins  
John Milton Hopkins  
Edie Howe  
Ruth Hsiao  
Ruth Goetz Israel  
Brian James  
Janice & Walter Jennings  
Laura & Harold Jensen  
Denise Karuth  
Audrey Wendelin Leinhos  
Wilder Daniel Leisher  
Carol F. Lowe  
William D. Lowe  
Jed Mannis  
Helen Ruth Wilcox Mestler  
Marvin Mestler  
Marva Digby McArthur  
William Reed McArthur

Judith McConnell  
Anne Folkes Miller  
Charles Bruce Miller  
Irene R. Morrill  
Anne & Arthur O'Brien  
Anne Remington O'Brien  
Karen Mary O'Brien  
Thomas Lyons O'Brien  
Harland Riker  
Albert A Smith  
Carlyle Stewart, Jr.  
Jean Marlene Stewart  
Mark Lewis Sykes  
Minnie Taylor  
Charles Webb  
Paul William Wendelin  
Margaret Goetz Wendelin  
Rev. Robert A. Wendelin  
Clarence Nesbitt Wilcox  
Mary Helen Wilcox  
Honora & David Willcutts  
George & Marjorie Williams  
Alyce Gowdy Wright

## STAYING CONNECTED TO FIRST CHURCH

**EASTER FELLOWSHIP VIA ZOOM Today, 12:15 p.m.** Join us for a virtual coffee hour today. **Use Zoom Meeting ID 445 110 271 (password: 017704) to enter.** You will be greeted in the Waiting Room, and we will experiment with assigning you to a break-out group for some time of conversation and connection. Then, we will gather as a large group at 12:45 to listen (and sing along to while muted!) the Hallelujah Chorus, recorded at our 2019 Easter service.

**EASTER NIGHTSONG RECORDING** Listen to last year's Easter NightSong service here:  
<http://nightsong.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NightSong20190421-Easter.mp3>

**FCC CONNECTION & PRAYER CALLS** Every weekday, First Church Staff offer a noontime Zoom call for connection and prayer. Join these thirty-minute (or so) virtual meet-ups to share a brief check-in, make prayer requests, and pray together.

- **Mondays at noon with Dan Smith**
- **Tuesdays at noon with Carlyle Stewart**
- **Wednesdays at noon with Dan Smith**
- **Thursdays at noon with Sarah Higginbotham**  
*(This is an all-ages call; children are especially invited to zoom in!)*
- **Fridays at noon with Lexi Boudreaux**

**PROGRAM OFFERINGS** In addition to our daily Connection & Prayer Calls, we are offering the following programs and conversations via Zoom:

- **PRAYING THE PSALMS Thursdays at 7:15 a.m.**
- **WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY WITH CARLYLE, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.**
- **SPIRITUAL PRACTICES WITH LEXI, Fridays at 8:00 a.m.**
- **STREET OUTREACH CHECK-IN Tuesdays at 4:00 p.m.**
- **FIRST CHURCH CHOIR CALL Thursdays at 7:45 p.m.**

**To find the Zoom links and passwords:** Please watch for an all-church email to be sent tomorrow, April 13, entitled: "First Church Zoom Links and Passwords." If you do not receive our church e-newsletter, sign up today by clicking on the e-newsletter button found at the bottom of our website's homepage.

**NEW BLOG: WATER IN THE WILDERNESS** Our new blog, [waterinthewilderness.org](http://waterinthewilderness.org), is a source of connection during this time. There you will find reflections, prayers, spiritual and practical resources, plus an online form to talk with one another! Sign up to receive email notifications for new posts and create a login to comment on posts and to use the forum. We welcome submissions for the blog. Contact Lexi Boudreaux for any questions.

**NEW FORMATION PROGRAMS** are beginning this week. See descriptions on pages 12-13.

## MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND CONNECTION

**FIRST CHURCH YOUTUBE LAUNCH** In the Easter season, we are pleased to announce that we are launching our First Church in Cambridge YouTube channel. This will be another great opportunity for us to stay connected. First Church staff and leaders will upload videos pertaining to their ministries or areas of interest. We will start with pre-recorded reflections and devotions, led by Pastoral Associate Carlyle Stewart, that will begin **tomorrow, Monday April 13**. We also look forward to begin live-streaming on our Youtube channel in the upcoming weeks. The recorded uploads will consist of scripture lessons, devotions, and reflections that explore how our faith tradition can inform us about current events and strengthen us throughout this challenging time. The link to the channel is: <https://tinyurl.com/ryac3av>

**ZOOM CALL FOR PARENTS WITH KIDS AT HOME Wednesday, April 15, 4:30 pm.** We know that juggling working from home and/or a lot of time with the kids we love can be really tough! So, we invite you to set your kids up with a pre-dinnertime video, game, or project that they can do on their own, and join Dan Smith and other First Church parents for a time of checking-in and spiritual grounding. Complaints about how hard this time is are more than allowed - they are encouraged. Together, we can share our burdens, ideas, and hopefully some laughter, too! ***The Zoom Meeting ID and Password will be provided in tomorrow's all-church email entitled "First Church Zoom Links and Passwords."***

**(ALMOST) EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT THE CHURCH YEAR Sundays, April 19 - May 17, 10:00 a.m., via Zoom** What is All Saints Day about anyway? Why don't we sing Christmas carols during the first few Sundays of Advent? Where did Maundy Thursday get its name? Beginning Sunday, April 19, and running through Sunday, May 17, Beth Spaulding, Deacon and liturgical year enthusiast, will lead a journey through the church year. We'll meet via Zoom from 10:00 a.m. to 10:50 a.m., giving us time for a stretch break before worship. If you are interested in joining this lively conversation, please email Beth at [bspaulding68@gmail.com](mailto:bspaulding68@gmail.com) by Friday, April 17. ***The Zoom Meeting ID and Password will be provided in tomorrow's all-church email entitled "First Church Zoom Links and Passwords."***

**"ASK THE MINISTER" SESSION Next Sunday, April 19, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom** Because of the unforeseen challenges of this time, virtual connection has been a gift and it has allowed us to come together online for worship, spiritual formation, and prayerful reflection together. We invite you to join a Zoom meeting after worship on April 19 to bring questions of faith, such as "How do we maintain or strengthen spiritual practices during this time? How can we become more involved with the work of the church?" Newcomers, First Church members, and any others are all welcome. Questions about how First Church has adapted as a community or any other questions pertaining to programming and your topics of interest are encouraged. ***The Zoom Meeting ID and Password will be provided in tomorrow's all-church email entitled "First Church Zoom Links and Passwords."***

## MORE OPPORTUNITIES FOR SPIRITUAL FORMATION AND CONNECTION

### ***THE CROSS AND THE LYNCHING TREE, REVISITED* Sunday, April 19 and 26, 2:00 p.m., via Zoom**

As we began Lent together, we experienced several powerful sessions exploring themes from James Cone's book, *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*. Sadly, these in-person sessions were curtailed by our need to stay at home. Though initially a Lenten Study, the themes of this book are just as important now, as we see black and brown families and communities facing a disproportionately higher impact of COVID-19-related illness, death, and economic distress. Please join Lexi, Dan, and Carlyle for two Zoom followup sessions the next two Sunday afternoons, when we will continue our ongoing conversation. ***The Zoom Meeting ID and Password will be provided in tomorrow's all-church email entitled "First Church Zoom Links and Passwords."***

**THE CHRISTIAN FORMATION COMMITTEE INVITES YOU** to contribute to our new blog, ***Water In The Wilderness*** ([waterinthewilderness.org](http://waterinthewilderness.org)). What has moved you, cheered you, strengthened you in this time? What little stories would you like to share, from past or present, that may move, cheer, or strengthen us at this time? What have been your challenges? Where have you found clarity or wonder? How did you find God today? Any and all, of all ages, are invited to write (or draw) about your experiences and reflections. Send your [short] contribution to Lexi at [lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org) or submit directly at [waterinthewilderness.org](http://waterinthewilderness.org).

## GIVING TO AND RECEIVING FROM OUR FIRST CHURCH DEACONS' FUND

**THE FIRST CHURCH DEACONS' FUND** is one of the many ways in which our community cares for one another. Church members in need of financial assistance for a one time or short-term emergency may make a confidential request to one of the deacons or clergy. In these times of unexpected financial hardship and job loss, we hope people will take advantage of this aid.

This fund belongs to us and relies on our contributions. You are also invited to make a gift (beyond your pledge) to the Deacons' Fund, if able. One donor recently made a large donation with the following invitation:

*"Extraordinary times require extraordinary responses. If you are one who is also able to help, please consider making your own donation to the First Church Deacons' Fund to help individuals and families in our own church community."*

You may contribute online to the Deacons' Fund, or text "\$xxx Deacons" to 844-996-0982. If you like to mail a check, please email Karen McArthur.

## WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR HOMELESS MINISTRIES

**SUPPLIES NEEDED FOR THE FIRST CHURCH SHELTER** In response to the Coronavirus outbreak, the Shelter has expanded into Sage Hall to allow for greater social distancing, and is now open to guests around the clock, thanks to additional funding from the Commonwealth. They would very much welcome donations of the following supplies: coffee, sugar, canned goods, beverages (large containers preferred), and personal hygiene supplies such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, and deodorant. They are also looking for donations of night stands, if anyone has one they can spare! Donations can be dropped off at the Shelter door any day between 2:00–5:00. Contact Jim Stewart at (617) 694-7894.

**THANK YOU FROM FIRST CHURCH HOMELESS MINISTRIES** The Friday Café and First Church Shelter are truly grateful for the outpouring of help in response to our bagged lunch and casserole signups. Thanks to all of you, as well as caring neighbors, we are in great shape for the next few weeks! We will publish those links again as the need arises.

## WAYS TO SUPPORT THE WIDER COMMUNITY

### **SUGGESTED WAYS TO DONATE FROM THE MISSIONS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE**

Looking for ways to support our community during this unprecedented time of need? The Missions and Social Justice Committee has compiled and vetted a short list of organizations looking for assistance to aid in their work in the COVID-19 response - locally, regionally, and internationally. Please go to: <https://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/news/ways-to-help>

**GBIO LETTER TO GOVERNOR BAKER RE: CORONAVIRUS JUSTICE CONCERNS.** Over 50 clergy and faith leaders in the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (of which First Church is an active, dues-paying member) sent a letter this week to Governor Baker advocating around three areas of urgent concern to our communities:

**Housing** — protecting homeowners and tenants from foreclosures/evictions/bad credit reporting because of late payments, and pressing for additional funding for emergency rent support.

**Criminal Justice** — immediately lowering the population of incarcerated persons behind bars to reduce the spread of the virus and prevent predictable deaths among them, and/or personnel.

**Healthcare** — making sure our frontline hospital persons have enough supplies for PPE, and that there is no price gouging on much needed supplies. We will also continue with our Healthcare Campaign because, now more than ever, we need accessible affordable healthcare.

To read the full letter, please visit <https://www.gbio.org/news> and stay tuned for updates on this and other GBIO campaigns.



## WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

**FOOD PANTRY CLIENTS NEED YOU** and your generous donations now more than ever! Leave items in the box on Hilary's front porch at 30 Winslow St., Cambridge, any time between now and May 8. Hilary is .75 mile from First Church, just off Sherman St. where it diverges from Garden St. She will see that your donations are delivered when the pantry is open. Needed: cereal, canned fruit and veggies, proteins, pasta and sauce, also feminine products, and, maybe, even some cookies. Thank you.

**DONATE YOUR OLD DEVICE TO VINFEN** First Church member Steve LaMaster supports 7 DMH-funded clubhouse programs that have closed their sites and converted their operations to virtual and food outreach for people with psychiatric disabilities in 7 municipalities. He is looking for used laptops with cameras or Android/ iPhones that could be used by outreach staff to call, text, and connect to vulnerable clients. Please contact Steve at lamasters@vinfen.org if you can help.

## CALL TO A CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Notice is hereby given that a Congregational Meeting of First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, United Church of Christ, will be held in its 385th year at 12:30 p.m., Sunday the 26th of April, 2020, via teleconference (Zoom) meeting from the Sanctuary at 11 Garden Street in Cambridge, Massachusetts, for the following purposes:

1. To approve the purchase and installation of upgraded high-efficiency boilers in the summer of 2020, and that the church finance the project by borrowing a seven-year interest-free loan, and the church repay the loan by funds drawn from the church's Capital Reserve at a rate of \$30,000 per year over seven years as recommended by Executive Council.
2. To receive an update about staffing.
3. To consider any other business that may legally come before the meeting.

By direction of the Executive Council  
23 March 2020

## HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Hal-lelujah! Hal-lelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Halle-lujah! Hal-lelujah!  
Hal-lelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Halle-lujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Halle-lu-jah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Halle-lu-jah!

The kingdom of this world  
is become  
the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,  
and of his Christ;

And He shall reign for ever and ever  
For ever and ever  
And He shall reign and He shall reign  
For ever, for ever, for ever, for ever and ever For  
ever, for ever and ever,

King of Kings,  
For ever and ever,  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And Lord of Lords,  
For ever and ever,  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,  
For ever and ever,  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And Lord of Lords,  
For ever and ever,  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,  
For ever and ever,  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And Lord of Lords,  
King of Kings,  
And Lord of Lords,

And He shall reign, And He shall reign for  
ever and ever.

King of Kings  
For ever and ever!  
And Lord of Lords  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign for ever, for ever and  
ever.

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,  
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,

And He shall reign for ever and ever,

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

\*WAIT and WATCH\*

HAL – LE – LU – JAH!

## LOOKING AHEAD

### **Sunday, April 12 - Easter**

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, via live-stream

12:30 p.m. Easter Fellowship, via Zoom

### **Monday, April 13**

12:00 p.m. FCC Connection & Prayer Call with Dan Smith

after noon "Manna in the Morning," via FCC YouTube Channel

### **Tuesday, April 14**

12:00 p.m. FCC Connection & Prayer Call with Carlyle Stewart

4:00 p.m. Street Outreach Call with Kate Layzer

### **Wednesday, April 15**

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, via Zoom

12:00 p.m. FCC Connection & Prayer Call with Dan Smith

4:30 p.m. Parent Zoom Call with Dan Smith

6:30 p.m. Missions & Social Justice Committee, via Zoom

7:00 p.m. Christian Formation Committee, via Zoom

### **Thursday, April 16**

7:30 a.m. Praying the Psalms, via Zoom

12:00 p.m. FCC Connection & Prayer Call for All Ages with Sarah Higginbotham

6:00 p.m. Bible Study, via Zoom

7:45 p.m. Choir Call, via Zoom

### **Friday, April 17**

8:00 a.m. Spiritual Practices with Lexi Boudreaux, via Zoom

12:00 p.m. FCC Connection & Prayer Call with Lexi Boudreaux

1:00 p.m. Friday Café lunch bag pickup, Front Lawn

3:00 p.m. Buildings and Grounds Committee, via Zoom

### **Sunday, April 19**

10:00 a.m. Adult Formation: The Liturgical Year with Beth Spaulding, via Zoom

11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, via live-stream

12:30 p.m. "Ask a Minister" Session, via Zoom

2:00 p.m. *The Cross and the Lynching Tree*, Revisited, via Zoom

## THE STAFF AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

### Senior Minister

Rev. Dan Smith  
617-547-2724 ext.23  
dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org

### Minister of Stewardship & Finance

Rev. Karen McArthur  
617-547-2724, ext. 22  
karenmc@firstchurchcambridge.org

### Minister of Street Outreach

Rev. Kate Layzer  
617-851-5074  
kate@thefriday.cafe

### Pastoral Associate

Lexi Boudreaux  
lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org

### Pastoral Associate

Carlyle Stewart  
carlyle@firstchurchcambridge.org

### Director of Music

Peter Sykes  
617-645-0833  
psykes@aol.com

### Director, Creative Worship & Arts

Sarah Higginbotham  
617-547-2724, ext. 42  
shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org

### Staff Composer

Patricia Van Ness  
www.patriciavanness.com

### Poet-in-Residence

Jean Dany Joachim  
jeandany@gmail.com

### Shelter Director

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### Director of Operations

Kirsten Manville  
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### Facilities Manager

Kris McQuage-Loukas  
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### Office Assistant

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### Sextons

Douglas Casey, Rebecca LaFrance,  
George Williams, Kimel Williams  
617-642-3980

Would you like to give to  
First Church in Cambridge?  
Here are easy ways to do it:



Text \$ \_\_ to 1-844-996-0982



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE  
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