



SUMMER WORSHIP
July 11, 2021

**FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE**
Congregational 1633-1636
United Church of Christ
Garden and Mason Streets
Cambridge, Massachusetts

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

Grounded in God • Growing in Community • Acting in Love

We're glad you are worshiping with us today! First Church is a vibrant, multi-generational, engaged, urban church. We care a lot about each other and what's happening in the world around us. Wherever you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome here.

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

Sunday, July 11, 2021

Preaching Today	Karen McArthur, <i>Minister of Stewardship & Finance</i>
Leading Worship	Dan Smith, <i>Senior Minister</i> Peter Sykes, <i>Music Director</i> Rich Goode, <i>liturgist</i> Kevin Newell, <i>tech support</i>
Bulletin Cover Image	Gaylen Morgan, <i>First Church member</i>

Today's Programs and Events

- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, [via livestream](#)
- 11:30 a.m. Popsicle Hour and Landscaping Party on the church lawn

New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for online worship? Consider filling out this [“virtual visitor card”](#) so that we might reach out and connect with you about our community.

Give to First Church

You can give online at www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give or by texting “\$___” to: 1-844-996-0982.

Contact a Pastor or Staff Member

Find [contact information](#) for our ministerial, program, and building staff on our website. For general information and inquiries: info@firstchurchcambridge.org

*Have a church program or event to promote?
Complete the [First Church Communications Request](#) form.*

*Have an edit or update for our website?
Complete the [FCC Website Changes](#) form.*

GATHERING

SILENT MEDITATION

*But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.*
—Amos 5:24

VOLUNTARY

Pastorale, BWV 590

J.S. Bach

CANDLELIGHTING

*HYMN 238

The Church's One Foundation

(see page 4)

*GREETING

Rich Goode

- L: Come home to the presence of God in this time,
C: as we listen for God's wisdom, which is beyond time.
L: Come home to the center of your spirit,
C: as we rest in the embrace of prayer.
L: Come home to the hope of expectation,
C: as we open our eyes to all that is possible.
L: Come home to connection and resilience;
C: the heartbeat of life.
L: Come home to this space of belonging and becoming,
C: for God's presence is here in this sacred time and space.

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Bwana Awabariki
First Church Choir, 2019

Swahili hymn

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Together, let us pray for healing, pardon, and peace:
**All: For our careless thoughts,
our thoughtless deeds,
our actions that hurt others,**

our over-working and under-producing,
forgive us, O God.
Turn us away from our self-centered convictions
to a world of connections.
Renew us, and enable us to grow in love.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING Amos 7:4-9, 14-15

READING Mark 6:14-16

SERMON Perspective. Perspective. Perspective. Karen McArthur

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS Dan Smith

PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

L: God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray... (*silence, intercessions, and 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

***DOXOLOGY**

**Praise God, the source of life and birth,
Praise God, the Word who came to earth,
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame,
All glory, honor to God's name! Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

GOING FORTH

SABBATICAL BLESSING FOR KAREN McARTHUR

***HYMN 505**

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

(see page 5)

***BENEDICTION**

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

Thuma Mina
First Church Choir, 2019 and 2021

South African traditional song

VOLUNTARY

Pastorale, BWV 590

J.S. Bach

OPENING HYMN

The Church's One Foundation



1. The church's one foun - da - tion is Je - sus Christ, our Lord;
2. E - lect from ev - ery na - tion, yet one o'er all the earth,
3. 'Mid toil and trib - u - la - tion, and tu - mult of our war,
4. Yet we on earth have un - ion with God, the Three - in - one,



we are his new cre - a - tion by wa - ter and the word;
our char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth,
we wait the con - sum - ma - tion of peace for ev - er - more;
and mys - tic sweet com - mun - ion with those whose rest is won.



from heaven he came and sought us, for us was cru - ci - fied;
one ho - ly name pro - fess - ing, we share one ho - ly food,
till with the vi - sion glo - rious, our long - ing eyes are blest,
O hap - py ones and ho - ly! Lord, give us grace that we



with his own blood he bought us, and for our life he died.
and to one hope still press - ing, with ev - ery grace en - dued.
and the great church vic - to - rious shall be the church at rest.
like them, the meek and low - ly, on high may dwell with thee.



WORDS BY...

CLOSING HYMN

Let Justice Flow Like Streams

1. Let jus - tice flow like streams of spark - ling
2. Let righ - teous - ness roll on as oth - ers'
3. So may God's plumb line, straight, de - fine our

wa - ter, pure, en - a - bling growth, re -
cares we heed, an ev - er - flow - ing
mea - sure true, and jus - tice, right, and

fresh - ing life, a - bun - dant, cleans - ing, sure.
stream of faith trans - lat - ed in - to deed.
peace per - vade this world our whole life through.

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features three systems of music. Each system consists of a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one flat (B-flat major or D minor), and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, with the first system containing three numbered verses. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support for the vocal line, using chords and moving bass lines.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Hilary Hopkins, who is recovering from a scheduled cardiac procedure.
- We pray for Andy Clark, who is recovering from a badly broken patella following a bicycle accident.
- We pray for for Mary Ellen Geer, Philip LaFollette, and their family, who are mourning the loss of Mary Ellen’s mother, Barbara Geer. She passed away peacefully on June 28 at the age of 96.
- We pray for Sarah Fujiwara’s brother-in-law Mark Deck and his family as Mark recovers from a from a serious injury to his spinal cord due to a recent bicycle accident.
- We pray for Susie and Chuck Longfield and Chuck’s mother Anne Longfield and their family as they grieve the loss of Chuck’s sister Dianne Totten, who died recently of cancer.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Pauline Fennel; Carol Wilson-Braun; Joanne Paul; Sarah Robinson, daughter of Mary Robinson and Mary Martha Thiel; Abby Shuman's uncle Barry; Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn’s mother; Amy Golodet, Jonathan New’s sister-in-law; Karen Anne Zee’s daughter Becky Collet, and her sons-in-law, Denis Collet and Stewart Bailey; and Beth and Polly, Ann McCann’s sisters.
- We pray for all who are receiving hospice care, including Rich Goode’s mother Donna Goode.
- We pray for the people of Haiti after the shocking assassination of President Jovenel Moïse. We pray for healing for his wife Martine Moïse, who was injured in the attack.
- We pray for all those impacted by the building collapse in Surfside, FL, especially for loved ones of all who have died and are missing, and for search and rescue personnel who have been working tirelessly.
- We pray for all those affected by the recent stabbing of a Rabbi outside a Jewish school in Brighton, and we decry all hateful acts of anti-Semitism.
- We pray for the families and loved ones of those killed in an alleged hate crime in Winthrop this past week. We pray for the City of Winthrop and all impacted by this tragic violence.
- We pray for the 14 men who are finding sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter, and we pray for the guests of the Friday Café, who are finding food and listening ears. We pray for all who are experiencing deprivation and hardship in these uncertain times.
- We pray for all who are awaiting vaccines, globally and locally, especially families with young children—may there be a swift, hassle-free, and equitable distribution for all. We continue to pray for all who are grieving the loss of loved ones to COVID-19 and for the “long-haulers.”
- We pray for those demonstrating against the Line 3 tar sands pipeline in Minnesota, which threatens indigenous tribal lands and promotes climate change. We pray for our nation and our world as we experience the effects of the climate crisis. We pray especially for the poor, who are disproportionately affected by our inaction.

Join the [First Church List](#) to see and offer up more community prayer requests.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

Summer Opportunities for Connection and Learning

Summer is upon us, and what a different summer it will be from the last one! We hope and pray you find extra time...

- for gathering with friends and family, in-person and in places near or far-away;
- to be outside, and mask-free, whether in a city park, on a mountaintop, at a campground, or at the beach;
- to keep reading up and/or acting up in ways that make God's love and justice real;
- in quiet reflection about what a wild year-plus it has been;
- to give thanks to God!



Here's some of what we have in store for this summer at First Church. Please join us for any or all of it!

- 10:00 a.m. [Live-Streamed Worship](#) in July and August*
- [Popsicle Hour](#) on the Lawn and time for prayer in our sanctuary, every Sunday after church (weather permitting)
- Summer Antiracist Learning and Advocacy
 - Find a lengthy resource list on our [Racial Justice page](#) (*scroll down to "Our Current Work" and click on "Summer Learning On Your Own"*)
 - Hybrid [Check-ins](#) on Sundays, August 1 & 29 at 11:45 a.m.
- *Sarah's Long Walk* [Summer Book Group](#) --Wednesdays, July 7 - August 18 at 7:00 p.m.
- Summer Walks -- [Saturday, July 17](#); [Saturday, August 7](#); [Sunday, August 15](#)
- ["A Call to Return" Part 2](#) with Carlyle Stewart (starting in August, dates TBD)
- Greater Boston Interfaith Organization Summer Delegates Assembly (Thursday, August 12)
- [Contemplative Practices Group](#) (Every Monday at 4:00 p.m.)
- [Thursday Bible Study](#) (Every Thursday at 6:00 p.m.)

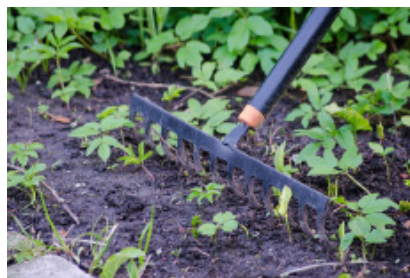
*Please [sign up here](#) if you'd like to be a part of helping us pivot to our in-person and live-streamed reopening service on Regathering Sunday, September 12!

FIRST CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS

Landscaping Party after Worship Today, 11:30 - 2:00 p.m.

You are invited by the Building and Grounds Committee to help with some basic landscaping at the church. We will be weeding and pruning after worship, beginning at 11:30 a.m. (assuming the weather cooperates). We'll stick around for a few hours, probably until 2:00-ish. Note that the beginning of this window coincides with Popsicle Hour, so you can come help with landscaping work and grab a popsicle to cool off!

If you wish to join, feel free to bring lunch to eat outside. We'd also appreciate any additional tools to assist in the efforts (gloves, pruners, hand shovels), but these are not required; feel free to just bring yourself, and stay for as long as you like!



UCC General Synod 33 Begins Today

This bi-annual meeting for the United Church of Christ is a chance to connect in covenant for worship, keynote addresses, learning, and justice-making with siblings in the Spirit across the country. The three worship services are available for all, without the need to register, at ucc.org. Scholarships are available to help cover the registration cost if you wish to attend workshops; you can register [here](#). Learn more about General Synod [here](#).

Summer Book Group: *Sarah's Long Walk*

Wednesdays, July 7 - August 18

7:00 - 8:15 p.m., via Zoom

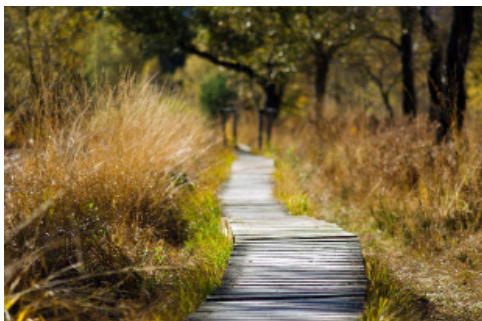
The Christian Formation Committee invites you to a summer book group. Join Hilary Hopkins in reading and discussing, in leisurely fashion, *Sarah's Long Walk: The Free Blacks of Boston and How Their Struggle for Equality Changed America* by father and son Stephen and Paul Kendrick. We will read several chapters a week and then meet for an hour or so to discuss what we learned and our reactions, thus working our way through this fine book in six meetings. To register for the group or for more information, please contact Hilary Hopkins at: hopkinsjh@verizon.net [Read more](#)



Summer Learning On Your Own — Antiracist Resources

Check out our [Racial Justice](#) page on our website to find a lengthy resource list to guide you. Scroll down to "Our Current Work" and click on "Summer Learning On Your Own."

FIRST CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS



A Summer Walk with First Church Friends Saturday, July 17, 11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Fresh Pond Reservation

Meet Susan Ohman (617-388-9811) at the entrance to Fresh Pond Reservation on Concord Ave. Park in the lot on Alewife Brook Parkway where Trader Joe's/Circle Furniture is located, at the end near TD Bank. Walk across Wheeler St. at Carewell Urgent Care, then across Concord Ave. at the crosswalk/traffic light in front of Carewell Urgent Care. We will meet at the end of that crosswalk at the entrance to Fresh Pond Reservation. It's an easy walk on flat ground, both paved and packed dirt, mostly under trees and shady. We will cover 1 - 2 miles, depending on the wishes of the group. We will walk through Lusitania Meadows, where we can enjoy summer wildflowers and birds, then through the Butterfly Meadow. From there, we may enjoy walking on the main path along Fresh Pond. We can include a loop back to the start if some wish to return to their cars. Another option is to go to Maher Park and Black's Nook. Some benches are available to rest. All are welcome!

A Call to Return, Part 2, August and September, dates TBD

In the Fall of 2020, our Community Minister for Racial Justice Carlyle Stewart hosted a series entitled "Call to Return: Spiritual Reflections on Racial Justice." In those sessions, participants learned about the intersection between Christian theology and racial theories that have been very harmful throughout history. They learned that the call to "return" to the God of justice involves confronting not only the racism that has been perpetuated and, in some cases, condoned by the American Christian church, but also their own personal ideas, prejudices, and biases about race and white privilege. In this "Call to Return Part 2" series, First Church will have the opportunity to recreate a holy space to learn about relationship building, mutual commitments, and relationships. **Sign up by July 26 to participate... [Read more](#)**



Find What You Need on the Members & Friends Page of Our Website

- Looking for an old bulletin or the Parish List?
- Wondering who is currently serving on the Executive Council?
- Wanting to sign up for *First Glance* or the First Church List?
- Hoping to review the minutes from our last Congregational Meeting?

Go to firstchurchcambridge.org/members to find it all, and more! Our "Members and Friends" page is a little like "one-stop shopping" on our website: see the latest news items, find quick links to all our communications, or dive into the church's by-laws—it's all there for you.



THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, July 12

- 4:00 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom
- 4:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

Wednesday, July 14

- 4:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room
- 6:30 p.m. Investment Committee, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. *Sarah's Long Walk* Book Group, via Zoom

Thursday, July 15

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

Friday, July 16

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café lunch bag pickup, Tower Room

Saturday, July 17

- 11:00 a.m. Summer Walk with First Church Friends, Fresh Pond Reservation
- 4:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

Sunday, July 18

- 10:00 a.m. Summer Worship with Reflections from the Contemplative Practices Group, via livestream
- 11:30 p.m. Popsicle Hour on the church lawn

Sign up [here](#) to receive our weekly e-newsletter.

See our [Events Calendar](#) for Zoom links and details.

Committee meeting links are provided to committee members via email.

First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC
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