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SUMMER WORSHIP  
HOLY COMMUNION  
July 4, 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 4, 2021

**Preaching Today** Lexi Boudreaux, *Pastoral Associate*  
**Leading Worship** Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Creative Worship & Arts*  
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*  
Moana Bentin, *Deacon*  
Kevin Newell, *tech support*  
**Bulletin Cover Image** Gaylen Morgan, *First Church member*

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### Today's Programs and Events

10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, [via livestream](#)  
11:30 a.m. Popsicle Hour 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/give](http://www.firstchurchcambridge/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](mailto:info@firstchurchcambridge.org)

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*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

*For those participating at home, we invite you to bring bread or crackers and juice, water, or wine to your home altar, so that you may participate in Holy Communion. All are welcome at the Table!*

### VOLUNTARY

Allein Gott in die Höh sei Ehr'

J. S. Bach

### \*HYMN 302

Come to me, O Weary Traveler

(see page 4)

### \*GREETING

Moana Bentin

L: Come home to the presence of God in this time,

**C: as we pause to drink in the comfort of community.**

L: Come home to the center of your spirit,

**C: resting in the stillness of prayer.**

L: Come home to the hope of expectation,

**C: and prepare our hearts for holy surprises.**

L: Come home to connection and resilience,

**C: for we are the body of Christ.**

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

## CONFESSING

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### SILENCE

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Together, let us confess to God what is weighing on our hearts:

**All: Before you, O God, and before one another,  
we confess the harm we have brought on our lives,  
the lives of others, and the life of the world.  
Forgive us, O God.**

**Renew us, and enable us to grow in love.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

### \*GREETING OF PEACE

## OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

Psalm 24: 1-10

SERMON

Lexi Boudreaux

## SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sarah Higginbotham

INVITATION TO OFFERING

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**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.**

## SHARING THE FEAST

INVITATION

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

**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.**

## **SHARING BREAD AND CUP**

*All who seek to follow Jesus' way of justice, compassion and love are invited to partake of this feast. Please take now and eat; if you are in the Sanctuary, please come forward and receive the elements at one of the stations and then proceed back to your seat.*

## **COMMUNION MOTET**

Amazing Grace  
*First Church Choir, 2018*

Traditional, arr. P. Sykes

## **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

L: Let us give thanks!

**C: Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus –  
for gladness in this bread and cup,  
for love that cannot die,  
for peace the world cannot give,  
for joy in the company of friends,  
for the splendors of creation,  
and for the mission of justice you have made our own.  
Give us the gifts of this holy communion –  
oneness of heart, love for neighbors,  
forgiveness of enemies,  
the will to serve you every day,  
and risen life that never ends.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

## **GOING FORTH**

**\*HYMN 374**

Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

*(see page 5)*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**VOLUNTARY**

Allein Gott in die Höh sei Ehr'

J. S. Bach

OPENING HYMN

# Come to Me, O Weary Traveler

The musical score is written for a three-part setting (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor/Bass) in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is primarily in the soprano part, with accompaniment in the alto and tenor parts. The lyrics are arranged in three lines, with the first line containing three numbered verses. The second and third lines contain the main body of the hymn, and the fourth line contains the concluding phrase.

1. Come to me, O wea - ry trav - eler; come to  
2. Take my yoke and leave your trou - bles; take my  
3. Rest in me, O wea - ry trav - eler; rest in

me with your dis - tress; come to me, you hea - vy  
yoke and come with me. Take my yoke, I am be -  
me and do not fear. Rest in me, my heart is

bur - dened; come to me and find your rest  
side you; take and learn hu - mil - i - ty.  
gen - tle; rest and cast a - way your care.

ORDS: Sylvia Dunstan, 1990  
USIC: William P. Rowan, 1992, adapt.

AUSTIN  
87.87

Sylvia Dunstan, whose text was inspired by Matthew 11:28-30, was an ordained minister of the United Church of Canada. William Rowan is a Roman Catholic director of music ministries in Lansing, Michigan.

Words © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.  
Music © 1993 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.

## CLOSING HYMN

# Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?

1, 6. Won't you let me be your ser-vant, let me be as Christ to you?  
2. We are pil-grims on a jour-ney, we are trav-'lers on the road;  
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you in the shad-ow of your fear;  
4. I will weep when you are weep-ing; when you laugh, I'll laugh with you.  
5. When we sing to God in heav-en we shall find such har-mo-ny,

Pray that I may have the grace to let you be my ser-vant, too.  
we are here to help each oth-er go the mile and bear the load.  
I will hold my hand out to you, speak the peace you long to hear.  
I will share your joy and sor-row till we've seen this jour-ney through.  
born of all we've known to-geth-er of Christ's love and ag-o-ny.

*repeat st. 1.*

WORDS: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.  
MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; harm. FCC, 1997

Text and tune writer Gillard, who lives in New Zealand, here writes of the Christian community in which we serve and are served.

SERVANT SONG  
87.87

Words, music © 1977 Scripture in Song  
(a div. of Integrity Music, Inc.)  
Harm. ©1998 FCC Houston TX

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Hilary Hopkins, who is recovering from a scheduled cardiac procedure that took place this past Thursday.
- 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 with joy for the birth of Poppy Renee Hurst, granddaughter of Brent and Poppy Coffin and daughter of Emily Coffin Hurst and TJ Hurst, born last week in Philadelphia.
- We pray for First Church sexton Rebecca LaFrance and the Emma family, as they mourn the loss of Rebecca’s cousin, who died unexpectedly at the age of 24.
- 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 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



### **Congratulations to First Church and to Lexi Boudreaux**

Good news, church! At a Special Congregational Meeting held after worship via Zoom on Sunday, June 27, First Church voted unanimously to call Lexi Boudreaux to be our full-time Transitional Minister for a designated term of two years. What a joy it will be to welcome and receive a full range of Lexi's extraordinary pastoral gifts as we begin to re-enter our building together, mark this next step in our staffing plan, and continue to live into our vision of being an antiracist church. Yet more good news is that this call will allow Lexi to be ordained as a

minister in the United Church of Christ! Stay tuned for a date for that joyful celebration. For now, heartfelt congratulations to Lexi and to us all! God is good!

### **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](#)



### **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](#)

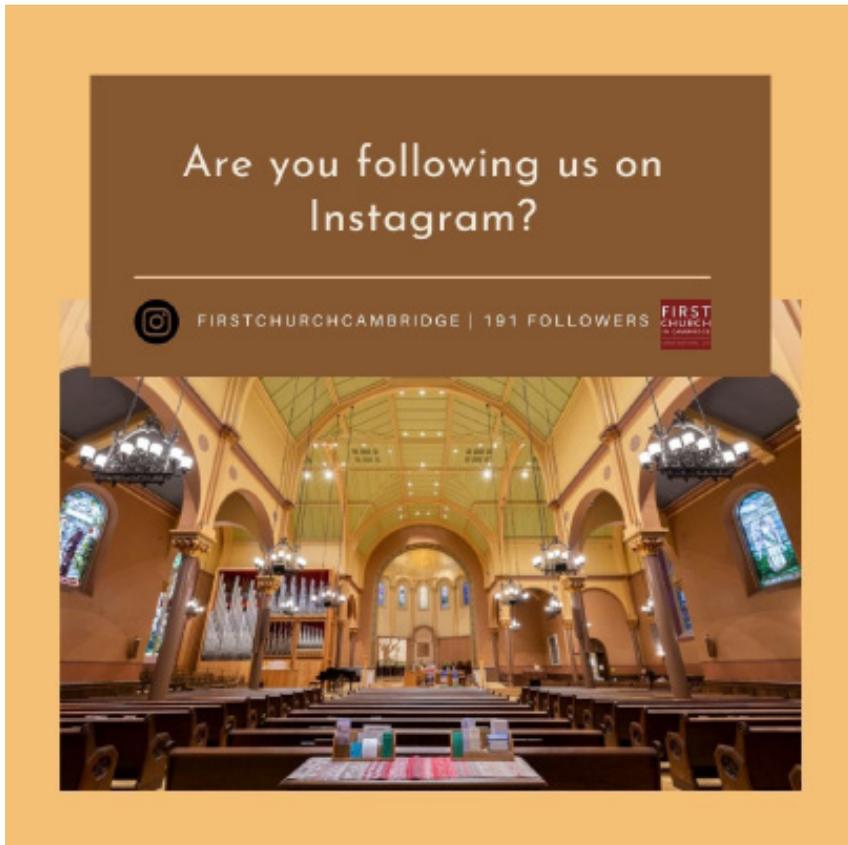
## STAYING CONNECTED TO FIRST CHURCH

### 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](https://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 5 - Church Office and Building Closed for Independence Day Holiday

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

## Wednesday, July 7

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

## Thursday, July 8

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

## Friday, July 9

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

## Saturday, July 10

- 4:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

## Sunday, July 11

- 10:00 a.m. Summer Worship, Karen McArthur preaching, via livestream
- 11:30 p.m. Popsicle Hour on the church lawn

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

Committee meeting links are provided to committee members via email.

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

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