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**SUMMER WORSHIP**  
August 1, 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, August 1, 2021

**Preaching Today** Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*  
**Leading Worship** Lexi Boudreaux, *Pastoral Associate*  
Dean Eaton, *liturgist*  
Issa Bibbins, *piano*  
Wendy Jones, *guitar and vocals*  
**Bulletin Cover Image** Gaylen Morgan, *First Church member*

### Today's Programs and Events

- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, [via livestream](#)
- 11:30 a.m. Popsicle Hour on the church lawn
- 11:45 a.m. Summer Learning and Advocacy Check-In, Margaret Jewett Hall and via [Zoom](#)
- 2:00 p.m. Young Adults Gathering: Decorate a Birdhouse, First 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](http://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](mailto: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

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

### VOLUNTARY

#### \*HYMN (insert)

Let us Break Bread Together

#### \*GREETING

Dean Eaton

- 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

Dean Eaton and Lexi Boudreaux

### ANTHEM

Beautiful Lord

Leeland

### 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 78:23-29

**READING**

Exodus 16:2-4, 9-15

**REFLECTION**

Dan Smith

**SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**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**

**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 or if you are in the sanctuary please come forward and receive the elements at one of the stations, and then proceed back to your seats.*

## MUSICAL MEDITATION

God I Look to You

Bethany Wohrle

## \*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 (insert)

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

## \*BENEDICTION

## VOLUNTARY

# OPENING HYMN

## Let Us Break Bread Together

1. Let us break bread to- geth-er on our knees; (on our knees)  
2. Let us drink wine to- geth-er on our knees;  
3. Let us praise God to- geth-er on our knees;

Let us break bread to- geth-er on our knees; (on our knees)  
Let us drink wine to- geth-er on our knees;  
Let us praise God to- geth-er on our knees;

*Refrain*

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris- ing sun,

O Lord, have mer- cy on me. (on me)

WORDS: African-American spiritual

MUSIC: African-American spiritual, arr. Carlton R. Young, 1964, adapt.

LET US BREAK BREAD  
10 10 w. refrain

The earliest version of this spiritual consisted of stanza three, used to call slaves in Virginia to secret, unlawful meetings. The communion stanzas were added after the Civil War.

Arr. © 1965 Abingdon Press, admin. The Copyright Co.

## CLOSING HYMN

### Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this  
2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing  
3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy  
stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my  
fears sub - side; lead me on through death's de - struc - tion, land me safe on

power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,  
jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,  
Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.  
be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.  
I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

WORDS: William Williams, 1745; st. 1, tr. Peter Williams, 1771; sts. 2,3, tr. William Williams, 1772, alt.  
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

Williams, an evangelist with the Calvinistic Methodist Church of Wales, wrote more than eight hundred hymns in Welsh.

CWM RHONDDA  
87.87.877

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Linda Ziebell, who is recovering at home after a recent hospitalization.
- We pray for Kirsten Manville's father Keith Manville, who was hospitalized with blood pressure issues and is recovering at home.
- We pray for Anne McClintock, who was hospitalized with a bone infection and is now recovering from surgery at home.
- We pray for the family of former First Church member Helen Grogan, who died peacefully on Cape Cod at the age of 94. Helen was married to former First Church Senior Minister Wells Grogan.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Pauline Fennel; Carol Wilson-Braun; Joanne Paul; Dave Kidder's sister Lucinda Kidder; 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 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 state and federal legislators, who are locked in partisan battles over issues of voting rights and discrimination based on gender identity. May our democratic system of government withstand efforts to dismantle the rights of its people to live freely and equally together, while allowing every voice of every color to be heard at the ballot box.
- We pray for all who are affected by the recent surge of COVID-19 diagnoses due to the Delta variant and the lower levels of vaccination in parts of the US and around the world. 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 all impacted by wildfires on the West Coast, as well as those experiencing severe flooding elsewhere. We pray for all who are acutely experiencing the effects of climate change, especially for the poor, who are disproportionately affected by our inaction. 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 renewed commitment on the part of all levels of every government, corporations, and each of us to make necessary changes to sustain our planet for this and future generations.

*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!

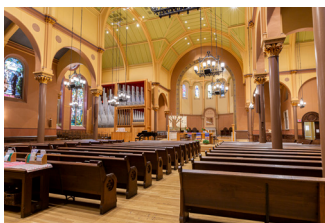


Here's some of what we have in store for this summer at First Church. Please join us for any or all of it!

- 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 Walk -- [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 at 7:00 p.m.
- [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



### **Our Current Thinking on Our Reopening Plan**

We at First Church have been tracking the news of the Delta variant of the COVID-19 virus, and likely you have been, too. The headlines describing upticks in cases around the country, and even here in Massachusetts, reflect the sober reality that we are not yet free of this pandemic... [Read more](#)

### **Pastoral Care Cards at Popsicle Hour**

**11:30 a.m. on Summer Sundays**

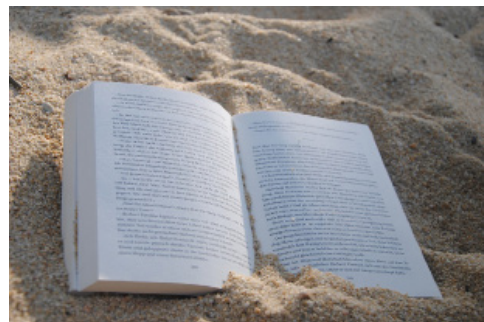
Our Pastoral Care Teams have the summer off, but each Sunday in July and August, there will be an opportunity for anyone at First Church to write cards. Come to Popsicle Hour and write cards to your fellow members who need care or have joyous news. Or take note of the prayer concerns in each week's bulletin and write cards at home. If there are urgent needs for care, all Pastoral Care Team members will be contacted by the church office. Grateful blessings to our faithful team members. If you are interested in joining this ministry, please contact Susie Neubauer at [susieneubauer@gmail.com](mailto:susieneubauer@gmail.com).



### **Summer Learning and Advocacy Check-In Today, August 1, 11:45 a.m.**

**Hybrid: in-person in MJH and via [Zoom](#)**

This fall, our Beloved Community, Christian Formation, and Missions & Social Justice groups are teaming up to offer a range of opportunities to learn more about the living legacy of settler colonialism. In June, we offered some options for learning on our own and in conversation with members of local indigenous tribes.



Please join us for our first hybrid session at 11:45 a.m. today, either in-person in Margaret Jewett Hall or via Zoom. This will be a time of sharing what we have learned so far and looking ahead to fall opportunities.

### **Young Adults Gathering: Decorate a Birdhouse**

**Today, 2:00 - 4:00 p.m.**

**First Church lawn**

Come make your own tiny sanctuary for birds! We'll bring the decorations and the kits for making luxurious bird homes; you bring creative flair!

Questions? Email: [youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org)

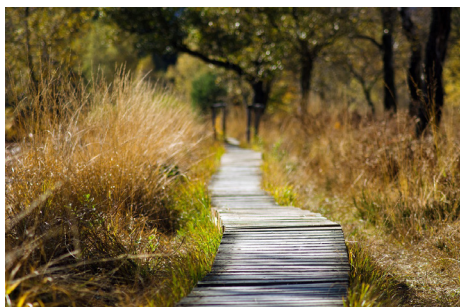


## FIRST CHURCH NEWS AND EVENTS

### 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, [Read more](#)



### A Summer Walk with First Church Friends

Saturday, August 7, 2:00 - 3:30 p.m.

Mt. Auburn Cemetery

Meet Hilary Hopkins at Mount Auburn Cemetery (in front of the chapel at the main entrance) for a leisurely stroll (mostly flat!) of about an hour or so around the grounds; no agenda except our lovely selves. Probably a water bottle would be a good idea. You can park on any road that does NOT have green lines on it. Welcome one and all!

### GBIO Delegates' Assembly

Thursday, August 12, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., via Zoom

After hearing 1500+ stories across sixty member institutions during the our Listening Campaign, the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) is preparing to launch its platform for the next two years. The platform needs ratification! Come represent First Church proudly!

Register here: <https://bit.ly/gbioaugust12>

Reach out to [Phil Jones](#) or [Will Erickson](#) with any questions.



### 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."



# THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



## Monday, August 2

- 4:00 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom
- 4:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room
- 7:30 p.m. GBIO Core Team Meeting, via Zoom

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

## Wednesday, August 4

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

Committee meeting links are provided to committee members via email.

## Thursday, August 5

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

## Friday, August 6

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

## Saturday, August 7

- 2:00 p.m. A Summer Walk with First Church Friends, Mt. Auburn Cemetery

## Sunday, August 8

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

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

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