



Hybrid Morning Worship
October 24, 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, October 24, 2021

Preaching Today	Dan Smith, <i>Senior Minister</i>
Assisting in Worship	Jaz Buchanan, <i>Pastoral Associate</i> Ebony West, <i>Ministerial Intern</i> Peter Sykes, <i>Director of Music</i> Rev. Jennifer Wilkes Stuart, <i>Community Minister</i> Meredith Quinn, <i>Ministry Moment for the Reparations Fund</i> Kevin Newell, <i>tech support</i>
Bulletin Cover Image	Gaylen Morgan, <i>First Church member</i>

Today's Programs and Events

10:15 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
11:00 a.m.	Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream
11:20 a.m.	Children's Worship with Sarah, Library
12:00 p.m.	After-Church on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour
12:30 p.m.	First Church Forum: Reparations at First Church, MJH and via Zoom
3:00 p.m.	Service of Ordination for Lexi Boudreaux, United Parish in Brookline and via United Parish's YouTube channel
7:30 p.m.	Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for 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.

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

VOLUNTARY

Fidelis

Percy Whitlock

*HYMN 86

The Lone, Wild Bird
For everyone's safety, please sing quietly or hum.

*GREETING

Jenny Stuart

L: Siblings in the Spirit from North, South, East and West,
gather now, and know the goodness of God's love!

C: **From generation to generation,
we gather in God's strength and presence!**

L: Gather, and receive the Spirit's grace, solace and healing.

C: **Gather, and know the gifts of this community of belonging and becoming!**

L: Let the Spirit hold our sins and our sorrow, our hopes and our joy.

C: **Let us open our hearts now, open our souls now,
and let us worship, giving God all thanks, glory, and praise!**

WORDS OF WELCOME

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

SUNG PRAYER

**Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart.**

In my heart, in my heart,

Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.

Please sing or hum quietly.

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

Staying in place and observing social distance, share this good news wherever you are! Send it back to us! Share it with a neighbor! Send it to the world! Children from preschool to 7th grade are now invited to join Sarah and a few volunteers in the Library for Children's Worship.

**You are invited to stand. Hymns preceded by a "C" are found in the beginning section of the hymnal. This section contains hymns written and composed by current and past members of First Church in Cambridge.*

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Ebony West

READING

Mark 10:46-52

SERMON

Dan Smith

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MINISTRY MOMENT

Meredith Quinn

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Jaz Buchanan

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



Give by Text



Give Online

OFFERTORY

Cantate Domino

Alexander Gretchaninoff

***DOXOLOGY**

For everyone's safety, please sing quietly or hum.

**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

***HYMN 444**

Lord of All Hopefulness

For everyone's safety, please sing quietly or hum.

***BENEDICTION**

VOLUNTARY

Canzona

Percy Whitlock

OPENING HYMN

86

The Lone, Wild Bird

1. The lone, wild bird in loft - y flight is still with you, nor
 2. The ends of earth are in your hand, the sea's dark deep and
 3. Each se - cret thought is known to you, the path I walk my
 4. In se - cret depths you knit my frame, be - fore my birth you
 5. O search me, God, my heart re - veal, re - new my life, my

leaves your sight. And I am yours! I rest in
 far - off land. And I am yours! I rest in
 whole life through, my days, my deeds, my hopes, my
 spoke my name; with - in my soul, as close as
 spir - it heal; for I am yours, I rest in

you. Great Spir - it, come, rest in me, too.
 you. Great Spir - it, come, rest in me, too.
 fears, my deep - est joys, my si - lent tears.
 breath, so near to me, in life, in death.
 you. Great Spir - it, come, rest in me, too.

WORDS: Sts. 1, 2, Henry Richard McFadyen, 1925, alt.; sts. 3 - 5, Marty Haugen, 1991
 MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. David N. Johnson, 1968

American Presbyterian minister McFadyen wrote stanzas one and two while a field worker for the Presbytery of Nashville. UCC poet and composer Haugen has added three additional stanzas. The entire text is based on Psalm 139.

PROSPECT
 LM

Words. sts. 1,2 © 1927 *The Homiletic and Pastoral Review*, admin. Ignatius Press
 sts. 3-5 © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc.
 Harm. © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*,
 by permission of Augsburg Fortress

CLOSING HYMN

444

Lord of All Hopefulness

1. Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2. Lord of all ea - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3. Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4. Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,

whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,

be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray, your
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray, your
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray, your
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray, your

bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for First Church Sexton Kimel Williams and his family. Kimel's sister Janet died recently, and the family continues to grieve the loss of Kimel's nephew Jesse Eason, who died recently from Covid-19.
- We pray for First Church Sexton George Williams, who is recovering from eye surgery.
- We pray for Abby Shuman's mother Jeri, who was hospitalized last week with two broken ribs and difficulty breathing as a result of a fall. She has been diagnosed with pneumonia, COPD, and the early stages of heart failure.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Pauline Fennel; Carol Wilson-Braun; 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 the people of Afghanistan, especially for women, children and all who are facing increased violence, terror, discrimination, and the constriction of human rights. We also pray for all who have served in the counter-terrorism efforts in Afghanistan, who are watching events unfold with particular grief and dismay.
- We pray for the 17 missionaries that are being held hostage for a ransom by gang members in Haiti.
- We pray for Haitian immigrants at the US southern border who have experienced violent and harsh treatment from border patrol agents. We pray that the US government may find a way to lead boldly in developing compassionate policies for those seeking refuge in our country.
- We pray for the family and community of Ahmaud Arbery as the trial for those accused of his murder begins in Georgia. We pray that our nation may continue to face the legacy of systemic racism that pervades our society and endangers Black lives.
- 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 who are acutely experiencing the effects of climate change, for all who live in paths of storms and wildfires, and especially for the poor, who are disproportionately affected by our inaction. 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.
- 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.

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

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC



After-Church on the Lawn or Zoom Coffee Hour
12:00ish p.m. on October Sundays

Choose how to meet up with First Church friends after worship, either by walking out to the lawn or Zooming in to a virtual gathering.



You can find the [Zoom link](#) on our calendar.



First Church Forum: Reparations at First Church Today at 12:30 p.m.

Hybrid: MJH and via Zoom

Grab a bite to eat after Hybrid Worship at home or on the church lawn (bring a bag lunch or pop into Harvard Square), and then join us for a forum about First Church's ongoing reparations work. We will offer a bit of background on the Reparations Fund approved by our Executive Council in June, as well as

information on the emerging collective of community members who will guide its use. Please bring your questions and ideas!

Ordination of Lexi Boudreaux

Today at 3:00 p.m. at United Parish in Brookline

Clergy are invited to arrive at 2:40 p.m. to robe and process.

Please wear red/Pentecost stoles.

It is with great joy that United Parish in Brookline extends to First Church a warm invitation to the Service of Ordination for our Transitional Minister Lexi Boudreaux! First Church called Lexi to this position by a unanimous vote at a Special Congregational Meeting last June, and now is the time to celebrate with Lexi as she becomes an ordained clergyperson in the United Church of Christ. The service will be a hybrid one, so you may choose to attend in person or online... [Read more](#)



FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

How We Are Gathering in October

Welcome back! And...welcome forward!

On Sunday, September 12, our annual Regathering Sunday, First Church flung wide its doors and resumed offering in-person worship to all. It was a joy-filled reunion and a chance to begin to experience our hybrid worshipping community in new ways. We are in-person, and we continue to live-stream indefinitely. Some of us are now coming to church. Some of us are choosing to join online. Some of us are taking it week-to-week. And many of you provided valuable feedback on your experiences in our Fall Regathering Survey. [See details of our Sunday Schedule for October 10, 17, 24, and 31 and read highlights from the survey.](#)



Mayoral Assembly

October 27th, 7pm
Boston Mayoral Candidates

Join GBIO to ensure our platform is heard
in City Hall!

Greater Boston
Interfaith Organization

Register for the Zoom Assembly here:
bit.ly/gbiomayor2

GBIO Mayoral Forum

Wednesday, October 27, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m.

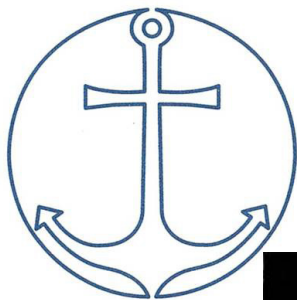
This fall, First Church and the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization have been hard at work bringing a new platform, built on the stories of 1,500 people across faith communities in Boston, to City Hall. We will gather via Zoom on Wednesday, October 27, for our second Mayoral Forum! We want to bring at least 30 First Church folks to the virtual gathering: register here: bit.ly/gbiomayor2 [Read more](#)

Fellowship Volunteer Opportunities

After an 18-month hiatus, the Fellowship Committee is gearing up again to provide food for Coffee Hour, after-church lunches, and our other community-building activities, and we couldn't be more excited about it. We wish we could feed our virtual worshippers, too. Fellowship at First Church is coordinated by a small group of Coordinators and supported by a modest church budget. First Church volunteers help us to stretch this budget by bringing goodies and pitching in with prep and cleanup. Thank you for helping to make worship nourishing in more ways than one! [Read more and sign up to help here.](#)



FALL AT FIRST CHURCH



**First Church Shelter presents the 2021 Mitch Snyder Awards
Sunday, October 31, 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.**

**Awards Ceremony via livestream,
Invitation-Only Reception in Margaret Jewett Hall**

The First Church Shelter will present the 2021 Mitch Snyder Awards in a brief ceremony to be livestreamed from the Sanctuary of First Church in Cambridge. This year's recipients are:



- Ms. Tehya Johnson, *Boston Healthcare for the Homeless*
- The Tuesday Meal Program, *First Parish in Cambridge*
- Mr. Joe Finn, *Massachusetts Housing & Shelter Alliance*
- The Harvard Square Meals Program, *Cambridge*
- The University Lutheran Church, *Cambridge*

The ceremony will be followed by an invitation-only reception (due to Covid) in Margaret Jewett Hall.

Our Whole Lives: Student Meetup and Parent Orientation

Sunday, October 31 at 1:15 p.m.

Church Playground and Sage Hall

After delaying the start of Our Whole Lives

(OWL) to observe and respond to Covid

concerns this fall, First Church in Cambridge and

Old South Church will launch the 2021-22 OWL program for 8th and 9th graders with a student meetup and a parent orientation meeting on October 31. Students will participate in a “get to know you” session with facilitators, who will introduce OWL values and goals for learning.

Parents will meet with Sarah Higginbotham and her OSC colleague for a required orientation to the curriculum. Weekly OWL sessions for students will begin on Sunday, January 9, 2022, 1:15 - 3:00 p.m. If you have questions about OWL at First Church, please [contact Sarah](#).



Youth Group: Pumpkin Carving

Sunday, October 31 at 2:15 p.m.

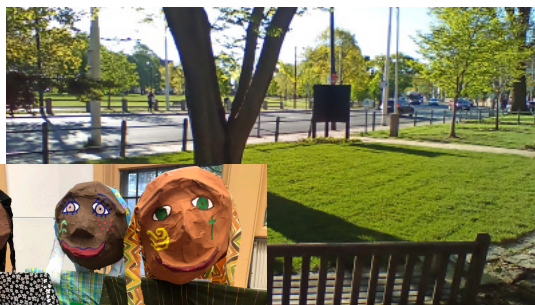
Church Lawn

The Youth Group will be meeting on the lawn to carve and paint pumpkins in celebration of All Souls Day and Halloween. Come in costume and bring your favorite kind of candy to share! Questions? Contact [Lexi Boudreaux](#).

FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

First Worship on the Lawn: All Saints Sunday Sunday, November 7 at 9:45 a.m.

Come celebrate All Saints Sunday at a 30-minute casual, family-friendly service for all, and especially for those who aren't yet ready to worship inside. We'll be joined by First Church's Saint Puppets, as we remember all those in the "communion of saints." We'll celebrate Communion and enjoy the sounds of our All Saints Band. Look for us under the blue tent by the Yellowwood tree!



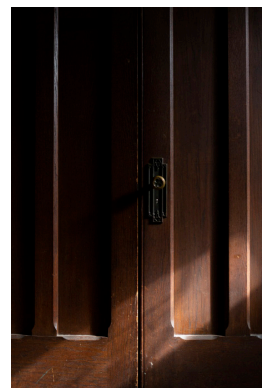
Peter Sykes's 35th Anniversary as First Church Music Director Sunday, November 7

On November 7, we will celebrate Peter Sykes's 35th anniversary as Music Director at First Church in Cambridge. In addition to offering Peter a blessing in worship and hearing him play the piece with which he auditioned for the job(!), we will host an in-person cake reception in Margaret Jewett Hall after worship (please plan to keep your masks on, except for when you are taking bites or sipping!). In advance of our Sunday celebration, plan to join us for a **B.Y.O.B. Zoom at 5:00 p.m. on Thursday, November 4**, where we will share stories and extend to Peter our thanks for the extraordinary gifts First Church has received from his presence among us for 35 years.

Welcoming Ministry Mini-Retreat Sunday, November 7, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

First Church Lawn or MJH (if weather requires)

Would you like to help us think more intentionally about how to welcome all into our midst? Please join us for a mini-retreat to check in about how our Welcoming Ministry is going at First Church. Help us consider how we can have fresh eyes to see and open hearts to carry Jesus' radical welcome to every body—that's people of every race, class, sexual orientation, gender, age, ability and political affiliation—every body! How do we continue to live out this commitment in community? If you would like to join the conversation, please RSVP to Lexi Boudreaux. [Read more](#)



FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

Fall Pilgrimages with First Church

Join us this fall as we embark on holy pilgrimages in prayer, quieting our minds and expanding our hearts to hear the Word of God across time and space.



image from nps.gov

Black Heritage Trail - Beacon Hill, Boston

Sunday, November 14 at 3:00 p.m.

rain date: November 28 at 3:00 p.m.

[Learn more and sign up here.](#)



image from cctvcambridge.org

African American Heritage Trail - Cambridgeport

Sunday, December 12 at 3:00 p.m.

rain date: December 26 at 3:00 p.m.

[Learn more and sign up here.](#)

Service of Ordination for Domenik Ackermann

Sunday, November 14 at 2:00 p.m.

Hybrid: Sanctuary and via livestream

First Church in Cambridge cordially invites you to the Service of Ordination for First Church member Domenik Ackermann. In a unanimous vote, Domenik was called by West Parish Church in Andover to be their Associate Minister for Education. Let us celebrate together with Dom as he becomes an ordained clergyperson in the United Church of Christ. There will be a cookie reception outside after the service, weather-permitting. [Read more](#)



SCAN ME

Do you want to follow the hyperlinks, but you're holding a paper bulletin in your hand? Use your phone's camera to hover over the QR code marked "scan me;" this will take you to the **Members & Friends** page of our website, where you'll find the bulletin online, as well as links to news, events, and more.

You can scan the codes below to connect with First Church via social media.





THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, October 25

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom
- 5:00 p.m. Exploring Reparations Faith & Life Group, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Council, via Zoom

Tuesday, October 26

- 6:00 p.m. "Exploring Our Relationship with the Bible" Faith & Life Group, via Zoom

Wednesday, October 27

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room
- 4:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room
- 7:00 p.m. GBIO Mayoral Forum, via Zoom

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.

Thursday, October 28

- 6:00 p.m. Weekly Bible Study, via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room

Friday, October 29

- 9:00 a.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room
- 12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall and the church lawn

Sunday, October 31

- 9:45 a.m. Outdoor Breakfast Celebration of Lexi Boudreaux, church lawn
- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship in the Sanctuary and via livestream
- 11:20 a.m. Children's Worship with Sarah, Library
- 12:00 p.m. After-Church on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour
- 1:00 p.m. First Church Shelter Presents the 2021 Mitch Snyder Awards, via livestream
- 1:15 p.m. Our Whole Lives Student Meetup, outdoor playground
- 1:15 p.m. Our Whole Lives Parent Orientation, Sage Hall
- 2:15 p.m. Youth Group: Pumpkin Carving, church lawn
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song in the Sanctuary and via livestream

First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC
11 Garden St. • Cambridge, MA 02138

617-547-2724 • info@firstchurchcambridge.org • www.firstchurchcambridge.org

 /firstchurchcambridge  /FirstChurchInCambridge  /c/FirstChurchInCambridge