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Stewardship Sunday  
Hybrid Morning Worship  
November 14, 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, November 14, 2021

<b>Preaching Today</b>	Karen McArthur, <i>Minister of Stewardship &amp; Finance</i>
<b>Assisting in Worship</b>	Dan Smith, <i>Senior Minister</i>
	Lexi Boudreaux, <i>Transitional Minister</i>
	Sarah Higginbotham, <i>Director of Creative Worship &amp; Arts</i>
	Peter Sykes, <i>Director of Music</i>
	Nancy O'Connell, Joanne Paul, Stephen Weller, Winnie Yip, <i>liturgists</i>
	Chris Reynolds, <i>Clerk</i>
	Kindle Williams, <i>Stewardship testimony</i>
	Rev. Homer Royer, <i>grandfather of Sylvester Ackermann</i>
<b>Bulletin Cover Image</b>	Chris Reynolds

### Today's Programs and Events

10:15 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
11:00 a.m.	Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and <a href="#">via livestream</a>
11:20 a.m.	Children's Worship with Sarah and Jaz, Library
12:00 p.m.	After-Church on the Lawn and <a href="#">Zoom</a> Coffee Hour
12:30 p.m.	Budget Q&A, Harter Room and <a href="#">via Zoom</a>
12:30 p.m.	Environmental Stewardship Meeting, via Zoom
2:00 p.m.	Ordination Service for Domenik Ackermann, Sanctuary and <a href="#">via livestream</a>
7:30 p.m.	Night Song, Sanctuary and <a href="#">via livestream</a>

### 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](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

*Masks will be lowered by worship leaders when speaking at their discretion.*

### SILENT MEDITATION

A blessing for the journey...

If you could see  
the journey whole,  
you might never  
undertake it,  
might never dare  
the first step  
that propels you  
from the place  
you have known  
toward the place  
you know not.

—Jan Richardson, from *Circle of Grace*

### VOLUNTARY

Christ our Lord Came to the Jordan

J. S. Bach

### \*HYMN 244

Like a Tree Beside the Waters (verses 1 and 2)  
*For everyone's safety, please sing quietly or hum.*

### \*GREETING

Stephen Weller

L: On the riverbank, we have gathered

**C: to listen for God's word to us.**

L: At the lakeshore, we hear Jesus calling us by name

**C: to join him in his ministry of compassion and justice.**

L: From the seaside beach, we scan the distant horizon,

**C: wondering what challenges and gifts this new day will bring.**

L: So come, from wherever you are, and let us worship together.

### WORDS OF WELCOME

## CONFESSING

### INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Winnie Yip

### SILENCE

*\*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.*

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray for healing, pardon and peace:

**C: God of Justice, when we settle for the way things are,  
instead of the way you would have them be, forgive us.  
When we are immobilized by fear or limited in vision,  
increase our trust in you.  
When we offer charity, but fail to work for justice,  
show us what your love requires.  
When we walk ahead or behind, instead of with our neighbor,  
open our eyes to their humanity.  
When we tire of the struggle, and tomorrow feels overwhelming,  
restore our hope and renew our courage.  
In the name of Jesus, our brother, we pray. Amen.**

## 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!*

## INVITATION TO CHILDREN

Sarah Higginbotham

## CELEBRATING THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

## INVITATION

Dan Smith and Homer Royer

## ADDRESS

## BAPTISMAL VOWS

### \*CONGREGATION'S PROMISES

L: Jesus Christ welcomes everyone who desires new life into the faith and family of Christ. Do you who witness this sacrament promise this child your love, support and care?

**C: We do!**

L: Will you help him grow in faith and witness with him to the love and mercy of Christ?

**C: We will, with the help of God!**

L: Do you renew your own promises to live in the freedom of Christ and to resist the power of evil?

**C: We do, with the help of God!**

## BLESSING OF THE WATER AND BAPTISM

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

### \*FINAL BLESSING

L: Siblings, let us ask God for a blessing!

**All: Holy God, Creator of us all,  
give to this child strength for life's journey,  
courage in the time of trial, the joy of faith,  
the freedom of love, and the comfort of everlasting life.  
And may the grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all forevermore. Amen.**

*Young children are now invited to join Sarah and Jaz for Children's Worship in the Library.*

## OPENING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Nancy O'Connell

### READING

Luke 5:1-11

### SERMON

Karen McArthur

## SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Joanne Paul

### CALL TO FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Chris Reynolds

### PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD

Lexi Boudreaux

L: May 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.

**STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY & INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Kindle Williams



**Give by Text**



**Give Online**



**I've Given Already**

**OFFERTORY**

Down to the River to Pray

Traditional, arr. Robert Lee

**\*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 (insert)**

**You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore**  
*For everyone's safety, please sing quietly or hum.*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**VOLUNTARY**

Come, Holy Spirit

J. S. Bach

OPENING HYMN

244

Like a Tree Beside the Waters

verses 1 and 2 only

→ 1. Like a tree be-side the wa-ters, nur-tured by your lov - ing care,  
 → 2. Like a tree be-side the riv er, draw-ing life from ho - ly streams,  
 3. We, be - side the liv-ing wa-ters, drink from your e - ter - nal life.

we, O God, your sons and daugh-ters, your en-dur-ing wit - ness bear.  
 fill us with your love for - ev - er; re - cre - ate our hopes and dreams.  
 Give to all, your sons and daugh-ters, faith that ris-es o - ver strife.

In each pass - ing gen - er - a - tion may your voice of love be heard.  
 Through the storms of life sus-tain us by the wis-dom of your grace.  
 Ev - er - liv - ing God, most glo-rious, strength-en us for life to - day.

Bless, we pray, this con-gre-ga - tion with your ho - ly, liv - ing Word.  
 May the chang-ing of the sea-sons find us in your warm em-brace.  
 By the hope of time-less prom-ise guide your church up - on the Way.

WORDS: James F. D. Martin, 1992, alt.  
 MUSIC: Roy Hopp, 1989, adapt.

Rev. James Martin wrote this text at the invitation of Campbellsport, Wisconsin,  
 UCC for the celebration of its 125th anniversary year in 1993.

SILVER CREEK  
 87.87D

Words © 1994 James F. D. Martin  
 Music © 1990 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.



# CLOSING HYMN

verse 1 in Spanish, then  
verses 1 and 4 in English

## Tú has venido a la orilla (You Have Come down to the Lakeshore)

*Mat. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; Luke 5:1-11*

*Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1979; alt*

*Transl. Madeline Fovell Marshall, 1989; alt*

→ 1 Tú has ve - ni - do a la o - ri - lla, no has bus -  
 2 Tú sa - bes bien lo que ten - go: en mi  
 → 1 You have come down to the lake - shore seek - ing  
 2 You know full well my pos - ses - sions. Nei - ther

ca - do ni a sa - bios, ni a ri - cos, tan só - lo  
 bar - ca no hay o - ro ni es - pa - das; tan só - lo  
 nei - ther the wise nor the wealth - y, But on - ly  
 trea - sure nor weap - ons for con - quest, Just these my

*Estríbillo (Refrain)*

quie - res que yo te si - ga. Je -  
 re - des y mi tra - ba - jo. O  
 ask - ing for me to fol - low.  
 fish - nets and will for work - ing.

sús, me has mi - ra - do a los o - jos;  
 Je - sus, you have looked in - to my eyes;

*One of the most popular hymns to emerge from the 1970s revival of religious songs in Spain, this text has been translated into nearly eighty languages. The Spanish composer-author was a parish priest known for his work among youth.*

Tune: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES  
 8.10.10, with refrain  
 Cesáreo Gabaráin, 1979  
 Harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1987

Copyright © 1979, 1987, Cesáreo Gabaráin. Published by OCP Publications.



## CLOSING HYMN, CONT'D.



A7
D

son - ri - en - do,                      has di - cho mi nom - bre;  
 kind - ly smil - ing,                      you've called out my name.



D7
G
F#m

en la a - re - na                      he de - ja - do mi bar - ca;  
 On the sand I                      have a - ban - doned my small boat;



B7
Em
A7
D

jun - to a ti                      bus - ca - ré o - tro mar.  
 now with you                      I will seek oth - er seas.

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <p>3. Tú ne-ce-si-tas mis ma-nos,<br/>mi can-san-cio que a o-tros des-can-se,<br/>a-mor que quie-ra se-guir a-man-do.<br/><i>Estrillo</i></p>        | <p>3. You need my hands, my ex-haus-tion,<br/>work-ing love for the rest of the<br/>wea-ry—<br/>A love that's will-ing to go on lov-ing.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p>                |
| <p>4. Tú, Pes-ca-dor de o-tros ma-res,<br/>an-sia e-ter-na de al-mas que es-pe-ran.<br/>A-mi-go bue-no, que a-sí me lla-mas.<br/><i>Estrillo</i></p> | <p>→ 4. You who have fished oth-er wa-ters;<br/>you, the long-ing of souls that are<br/>yearn-ing;<br/>As lov-ing Friend, you have come<br/>to call me.<br/><i>Refrain</i></p> |

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We give thanks for the baptism of Sylvester Ackermann this morning and join with his family to celebrate this sacrament, as well as the ordination of Sylvester's father Domenik this afternoon!
- We pray for Ally Palmer, who is recovering at home after emergency gall bladder surgery last weekend.
- We pray for Kirsten Manville's father Keith, who is recovering at home after being hospitalized with a bacterial infection.
- We offer prayers of celebration for Katie Omberg, who is the new Bridge Interim Minister at Second Church in Newton.
- We pray for Ida Peterson (age 2) and her moms Kelsey and Tori, as Ida recovers from a third cardiac surgery.
- We pray for Patty Van Ness as she grieves the loss of her mother Marjorie, who died last week. We pray also for Patty's father Charles, who recently entered hospice care.
- We pray for Abby Shuman and her family as they mourn the loss of Abby's mother Jeri, who died recently of heart failure.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Pauline Fennel; 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 impacted by the rapidly deteriorating crisis at "Mass and Cass" in Boston, especially for those whose makeshift tents and homes have been uprooted by the City of Boston. We pray for creative and compassionate solutions that honor the dignity of all.
- We pray for the city of Boston as they welcome a newly elected Mayor.
- We pray for all who are affected by COVID-19 diagnoses and the lower levels of vaccination in parts of the US and around the world. We give thanks that children 5-11 can now be vaccinated, and we pray for all who are awaiting vaccines, globally and locally. 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 celebrate with those experiencing long-awaited reunions as international borders begin to open.
- 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. Following the recent 2021 United Nations Climate Conference in Glasgow, we pray for renewed collective commitment that faithfully stewards our planet and all of God's creation.
- 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.

## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

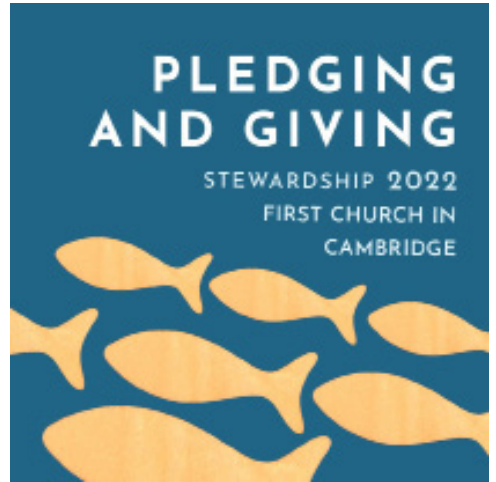
### Today is Stewardship Sunday ABUNDANT TRUST

*Jesus said to Simon,*

*“Put out into the deep water and let down your nets for a catch.” Simon answered, “Master, we have worked all night long but have caught nothing. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.”*

*When they had done this, they caught so many fish that their nets were beginning to break.*

—Luke 5:4-6



November is Stewardship season — when we think together about the year ahead and how we will pool our resources to support our mutual ministry and mission. This year, for 2022, we are again thinking boldly — with faith, trust, and gratitude — beyond what is sufficient to what will prepare our congregation to thrive as we continue our work in anti-racism and environmental stewardship.

Watch for our emails, and [check the website](#) for updates, so that you can submit your pledges (both [financial](#) and [time](#)) by next Sunday, November 21.

*Susie, Nancy, Joanne, Meredith, Stephen and Winnie  
your Stew Crew*



### After-Church on the Lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour Today at 12:00ish

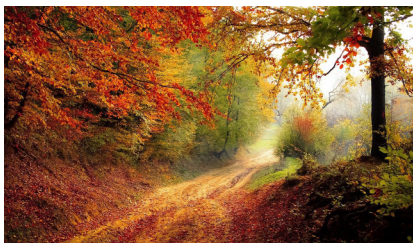
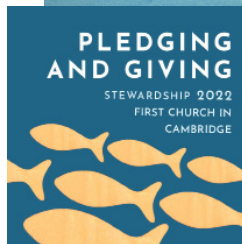
Join us after 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Worship—in person or online—for fellowship with friends, old and new.

## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

### Budget Q&A

Today, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.,  
Harter Room and via Zoom

First Church Treasurer Rich Goode will present the proposed 2022 budget, as recommended by the Executive Council, and will answer any questions, large or small. Come to hear about our 2021 projected income and expenses, along with how 2022 fits into our intertwined goals of financial sustainability and calling a second senior-level minister who is a person of color. The 2022 budget will be presented for the congregation's approval at our Fall Congregational Meeting on November 21.



### Meet with the Environmental Stewardship Team! Today at 12:30 p.m., via Zoom

Whether you have been on the Environmental Stewardship committee for years or you just have the slightest interest in exploring the relationship between Christianity and climate crisis work, come join us!

### Service of Ordination for Domenik Ackermann

Today 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](#)



image from nps.gov

### Fall Pilgrimage: Black Heritage Trail - Beacon Hill, Boston Today at 3:00 p.m.

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

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

## CALL TO FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING



Notice is hereby given that a Special 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 21st of November, 2021, in Margaret Jewett Hall and via Zoom, for the following purposes:

1. to introduce a First Church Land Acknowledgment,
2. to review and vote on the proposed 2022 annual budget of the Congregation as recommended by Executive Council, and
3. to receive an update about recent communications efforts and improvements at First Church.

No other business may legally come before the meeting.

By direction of Executive Council,  
Chris Reynolds, Clerk



### **Stewardship Chowder Luncheon**

**Sunday, November 21, 12:00 - 12:30 p.m., church lawn**

As we celebrate our Stewardship Campaign and our net full of fish, join us for a cup of hot chowder and goldfish crackers on the church lawn before our Fall Congregational Meeting. There will also be a non-fish and non-dairy alternative for those so inclined.



## MORE UPCOMING EVENTS



### **Young Adults: Variety Show at the Lilypad Wednesday, November 17 at 10:00 p.m. 1353 Cambridge St. (Inman Square)**

You're invited to the Lilypad Variety Show (open mic) at [the Lilypad](#) in Cambridge. Come and enjoy fellowship as we enjoy the talents of others, or even get up and show yours! Masks on inside, please!  
Questions? Contact [Ebony West](#) or Phil Jones at: [youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org).

### **First Church Walk**

**Sunday, November 28 at 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.**

### **Fresh Pond Reservation**

Join First Church member Susan Ohman for an easy walk at Fresh Pond Reservation. Walk 1-2 miles through Lusitania Meadows, the butterfly Meadow, and along the main path by Fresh Pond to Maher Park and Blacks Nook... [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 these codes to connect with First Church via social media:



*Already Here, Not There Yet*

# ADVENT 2021 AT FIRST CHURCH

Sunday, November 28

12:30 p.m. *Advent Crafting & Gathering*

Sunday, December 5

12:30 p.m. *Lukan Bible Study Kickoff*

Saturday, December 11

9:30 a.m. *Women's Advent Retreat*

Sunday, December 12

11:00 a.m. *Guest Preacher Bishop Brian Green*

Tuesday, December 21

7:00 p.m. *Longest Night Service*

Morning Worship will continue as a hybrid experience, while other programs will be virtual.

[firstchurchcambridge.org/events](https://firstchurchcambridge.org/events)





# THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



## Monday, November 15

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, via Zoom

## Tuesday, November 16

- 7:30 p.m. Shelter Oversight Committee, via Zoom

## Wednesday, November 17

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room
- 4:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room
- 7:30 p.m. Missions & Social Justice Committee, via Zoom

## Thursday, November 18

- 5:00 p.m. EcoFaith Faith & Life Group, via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Weekly Bible Study, via Zoom

## Friday, November 19

- 12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall and the church lawn

## Sunday, November 21 - Thanksgiving & Pledge Dedication Sunday

- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 10:45 a.m. Sanctuary doors open
- 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. Stewardship Chowder Luncheon, church lawn
- 12:30 p.m. Fall Congregational Meeting, MJH and via Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song in the Sanctuary and via livestream

See our [Events Calendar](#) for Zoom links and details.  
Sign up [here](#) to receive our weekly e-newsletter.

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