



FF 2022

Lent
Hybrid Morning Worship
March 6, 2022

**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

386 YEARS

ON THE WAY

1 6 3 6 – 2 0 2 2

Sunday, March 6, 2022

Preaching Today Leading Worship

Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*
Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*
Ebony West, *Ministerial Intern*
Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Creative Worship & Arts*
Yoo Kyung Kim, *guest organist and choir director*
Adam Weiss, *liturgist*
Kevin Newell, *tech support*

Bulletin Cover Image Freddie Funck, *Youth Group member*

Today's Programs and Events

- 9:30 a.m. Contemplative Prayer, [via Zoom](#)
- 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. Church School: Pastoral Care Sunday, MJH
- 12:00 p.m. [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour
- 12:15 p.m. Hybrid Adult Formation: Jesus, Our Center, MJH and [via Zoom](#)
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group: Worship/Service, Chapel
- 1:15 p.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 8/9th graders, Harter Room
- 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. 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

For those participating at home, we invite you to bring a candle, as well as 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!

A TIME FOR QUIET REFLECTION AND PREPARATION

As we begin our Lenten worship, we invite you to light a candle and to pray for peace in our hearts and in Ukraine.

VOLUNTARY

Vater unser im Himmelreich

Georg Böhm

*GREETING AND CANDLE LIGHTING

Sarah Higginbotham

L: Friends, grace and peace, and welcome!
(Candles are lit.)

Now is the needed time

C: to let God's love and light surround us,

L: to let Jesus be our center,

C: to let the Spirit give us courage and peace.

L: In every sound and silence,

C: in every heart and hurt,

L: in quiet kindness, in bold witness,

C: God's presence meets us here, wherever we are.

*LENTEN OPENING SONG

Jesus, Won't You Come By Here

Traditional

**Jesus, won't you come by here, Jesus, won't you come by here,
Jesus, won't you come by here?**

For now is the needed time, now is the needed time.

Jesus, won't you come by here?

WORDS OF WELCOME

Adam Weiss

CONFESSING

ANTHEM

Kyrie

Vincenzo Pellegrini

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

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.

**All: God of love and grace, show us what you would have us see
when we bring Jesus near to our hearts.
Teach us to surrender to his love and mercy.
Release us from our self-centered longings.
Transform us and recenter our lives in your love:
for ourselves, our neighbors, our enemies, and our world. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

GREETING OF PEACE

Children up through 7th grade are now invited to Church School: Pastoral Care Sunday in Margaret Jewett Hall. Children will return to worship in time for Communion.

*HYMN 100

By Gracious Powers

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

Luke 4:1-13

HOMILY

Dan Smith

SILENCE

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Lexi Boudreaux

INVITATION TO OFFERING



Give by Text



Give Online



I've Given Already

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine
Demands my soul, my life, my all! Amen.**

SHARING THE FEAST

*INVITATION AND PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Ebony West

REMEMBERING AND GIVING THANKS

- L: Now, O God, we fall silent, and remember Jesus,
the one who came because words were not enough.
(silence)
- L: We remember that he called us friends.
- C: He told us everything you placed in his heart.**
- L: We remember that he gave us peace,
- C: a peace nothing else can give.**
- L: We remember that he did not leave us bereft.
- C: He sent us a Helper – the Spirit who dwells in our hearts!**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

- L: Come, Holy Spirit.
By this bread connect us more closely with you,
and with our neighbors near and far.
- All: Bless this bread, we pray.**
- L: May this fruit of the vine remind us of the interconnectedness
of people around the world.
- All: Bless this cup, we pray.**
- L: May this simple meal enlighten the eyes of our hearts
and bring us into union with you, your people and your world
united in the Body of Christ as one.
We do this in the name of Jesus, our friend and companion,
who taught us to pray:

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 THE 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 exit your pew to the right and approach one of the stations in the front or back to receive the elements. Please step away from the server before lowering your mask to consume the elements. You may leave your empty bread cup and juice glass on the tray before returning to your pew from the left.

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

L: Let us give thanks!

**All: Thank you, God, for the 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 life that never ends.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

GOING FORTH

***HYMN 417**

All My Hope on God Is Founded

***BENEDICTION**

VOLUNTARY

Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten

J.S. Bach



First Church Land Acknowledgment

We, gathered here, acknowledge that we are meeting on land which has been the traditional ancestral homeland of the Massachusetts people. We acknowledge that this land is unceded and remains sacred to the Massachusetts, and to their close neighbors and relatives, the Nipmuc and Wampanoag peoples.



You can find a longer version of this acknowledgment [here](#) or by scanning the QR code.

PEACE HYMN

100

By Gracious Powers

Unison

1. By gra-cious powers so won-der-ful-ly shel-tered,
 2. Yet is this heart by its old foe tor-ment-ed,
 3. And when this cup you give is filled to brim-ming
 4. Yet when a-gain in this same world you give us

and con-fi-dent-ly wait-ing, come what may,
 still e-vil days bring bur-dens hard to bear;
 with bit-ter suf-f'ring, hard to un-der-stand,
 the joy we had, the bright-ness of your sun,

we know that God is with us night and morn-ing,
 O give our fright-ened souls the sure sal-va-tion
 we take it thank-ful-ly and with-out trem-bling,
 we shall re-mem-ber all the days we lived through,

and nev-er fails to greet us each new day.
 for which, O God, you taught us to pre-pare.
 out of so good and so be-loved a hand.
 and our whole life shall then be yours a-lone.

WORDS: Dietrich Bonhoeffer, 1944; tr. Fred Pratt Green, 1972
 MUSIC: Herbert G. Hobbs, 1976; harm. Jan Helmut Wubbena, 1976

BONHOEFFER
 11 10.11 10

This text was written, with serene confidence, in the Gestapo jail cell from which theologian and leader of the German opposition Bonhoeffer would emerge only for his 1945 execution.

Tr. © 1974 Hope Publishing Co.
 Music © 1976 Herbert G. Hobbs
 Harm. © 1976 Jan Helmut Wubbena

CLOSING HYMN

417 All My Hope on God Is Founded

1. All my hope on God is found-ed, who does all my trust re-new.
 2. Day by day the al-might-y giv-er boun-teous gifts on us be-stows;
 3. Still from earth to God e-ter-nal hymns of grate-ful praise be sung,

Safe through change and chance God guides me, on-ly good and on-ly true.
 with de-light our souls are nour-ished, plea-sure leads us where we go.
 high a-bove all prais-es prais-ing for the gift of Christ the Son.

God un-known, One a-lone seeks to claim my heart as home.
 Love does stand at God's hand; joy a-waits each new com-mand.
 Hear Christ's call one and all; those who fol-low shall not fall.

WORDS: Joachim Neander, c. 1680; para. Robert Bridges, 1899, alt.
 MUSIC: Herbert Howells, 1930, 1977

MICHAEL
 87.87.337

Self-taught in music composition, Howells earned a scholarship at the Royal College of Music in London where he later taught. MICHAEL is named for Howells' son who died in childhood.

Music © 1982 Novello & Co., Ltd.,
 admin. Shawnee Press, Inc.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Hilary Hopkins’s Ukrainian family, especially Yaroslav Zapotichniy and his family, who live in Lviv, Ukraine.
- We pray for Katie Omberg, who has been called to serve as the Interim Minister at Melrose Highlands Congregational Church.
- We continue to pray for Alice Kidder, who is in a rehab hospital recovering from a recent treatment for internal bleeding.
- We pray for Nancy Kilburn’s mother Penny Kilburn, who is in rehab following a recent hospitalization for heart issues.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Pauline Fennel; Amy Matias’s mother Linda, 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; Beth and Polly, Ann McCann’s sisters; and Keith Peterson, brother of Friday Café volunteer Neil Peterson.
- We pray for the people of Ukraine and surrounding regions amid Russian military escalation and invasion. We pray for all troops and civilians, and for bordering countries receiving refugees; and that diplomatic measures, sanctions, and peace prevail.
- We pray for our LGBTQ+ siblings around the country as state leaders and lawmakers in Florida, Texas, and elsewhere push for laws that threaten their civil rights and basic freedoms.
- We pray with relief in our hearts at the verdict that declared Ahmaud Arbery’s murder a hate crime. We pray for all impacted by ongoing violence and threats of violence against persons of color and for all who have endured the painful experience of watching such trials and their media coverage.
- We pray for all who are affected by COVID-19—those experiencing symptoms, those grieving the loss of loved ones, and those awaiting vaccines. We pray with and for anxious hearts, and especially for educators, healthcare personnel, and other essential workers.
- When we encounter worrisome or troubling feelings in the face of the climate crisis, we pray for the courage to plant seeds of God’s justice, grace, and hope. We pray for divine wisdom to help nourish these seeds, so that they may grow into holy kin-doms where all God’s creation may flourish.
- 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



Contemplative Prayer

Sundays in Lent, 9:30 - 10:00 a.m., [via Zoom](#)

Join us as we begin our Sundays with a time of quiet spiritual practice. We'll start with a scripture, then introduce simple guidelines for centering prayer before entering into a time of shared silence. Choir members in the building for rehearsal are invited to find a quiet place where they can connect to this offering with their own devices.

Zoom Coffee Hour, Today at 12:00 p.m.

Hop on the Coffee Hour [Zoom](#) immediately following the service for a time of connection, sharing of joys and concerns, and Q&A about all things First Church. Bring your own coffee or beverage of choice!



Hybrid Adult Formation: Jesus, Our Center

Sundays in Lent, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m., MJH and [via Zoom](#)

Join a conversation about the morning's themes. The preacher for the morning will offer a brief frame with a "living question" or two, and then we will divide into small groups for a time of sharing our faith and struggles, with Jesus as our center!

Youth Group: Worship/Service

12:30 - 2:00 p.m., Chapel (OWL students leave at 1:15 p.m.)

The Youth Group (8th-12th graders) gathers each first Sunday of the month for a time of worship and service to our community. We reflect on what it means to care for one another and ourselves as people of faith in this time. A short informal worship takes place from 12:30 to 1:00 p.m., with a check in afterwards. Those participating in OWL transition to the Harter Room at 1:15 p.m., while the remaining folks gathered contribute to First Church's pastoral care ministry by writing cards to those on our prayer list.



Our Whole Lives (OWL) Today, 1:15 - 3:00 p.m., Harter Room

8th and 9th graders from First Church, Old South Church, and the community meet for our denomination's sexuality education curriculum.



LENT AT FIRST CHURCH

This Lent, join us as we explore what it means to hold Jesus at the center of our faith and lives.

- How might focusing on Jesus' life and teachings ground and clarify our conversations about how we hold the loneliness, anger, and grief of these times?
- How might focusing on *his* story help us to feel more centered, as we come through this pandemic together and as we live and shape *our* stories?

Each week, we'll offer a different scripture and related theme of daily living, along with several opportunities for weekly prayer and reflection. Themes and scriptures we'll be exploring together include:

- Feb 27: **Jesus, Our Center** Introduction of our theme
- Mar 6: **Jesus and Solitude** Luke 4:1-11
- Mar 13: **Jesus and Anger** Luke 13:31-35
- Mar 20: **Jesus and Creation** Luke 13:1-9
- Mar 27: **Jesus and Loss** Luke 15:1-2, 11-32
- Apr 3: **Jesus and Trust** John 12:1-8
- Apr 10: **Jesus and Courage** Luke 19:28-40

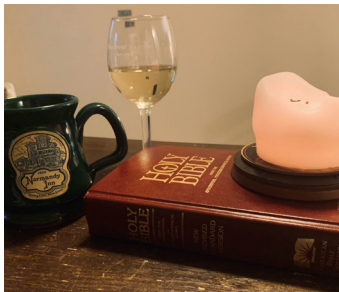
Wednesdays in Lent



Midweek Contemplative Prayer

8:00 - 8:30 a.m., [via Zoom](#)

Want to explore centering prayer as a spiritual practice? Discern a word or phrase that helps you ground yourself in the love of God as you start your day? Pastoral Associate Jaz Buchanan leads a time for prayer and silence (and maybe some gentle music!).



Midweek Small Group: Hanging out with God

5:30 - 6:15 p.m., [via Zoom](#)

Join Lexi Boudreaux and Jaz Buchanan weekly on Wednesdays during Lent for some theological reflection. We'll dive into lectionary readings for the week and consider any questions that are on our hearts with a refreshing drink (cocktail, mocktail, tea, coffee, juice - any drink of your choice!). Come just as you are—in your evening best or in some cozy pajamas—as we center ourselves and our lives in the Word of God.

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Food Pantry Donations Needed

The food pantry to which First Church donates is serving more and more families. Please consider a donation of proteins, canned fruit and veggies, cereal, cooking oil, or diapers and feminine items. Your contributions can be left at any time in the box on Hilary's front porch, 30 Winslow St., Cambridge. Just ring the bell on the silver mailbox behind you labeled Hopkins to let us know to come get your donations. Your generosity is deeply appreciated, and many thanks to those of you who are regular donors!

Earth Stewardship Meeting

Monday, March 7, 6:00 - 7:00 p.m., [via Zoom](#)

Join First Church's Earth Stewardship group for a meeting with [Emma Brewer-Wallin](#), the Southern New England Conference United Church of Christ (SNEUCC) Minister for Environmental and Economic Justice. This gathering is an opportunity for us to learn more and discern how First Church may wish to engage in the SNEUCC's Green Congregational Challenge. All are welcome!



Young Adults: Faith on Tap Returns!

Wednesday, March 9, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Bow Market, Somerville

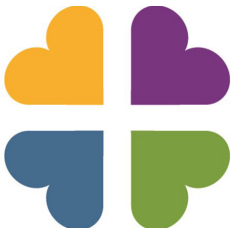
All young adults (post high school) are invited to come sip a warm beverage and share some fellowship at the fire pits outdoors in Bow Market, Somerville. It's a great way to meet other late-teen and 20-somethings, while enjoying a meal. Contact Phil with questions: 585-610-7919

SNEUCC Super Saturday

Saturday, March 19, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Register [here](#) by March 13

The Southern New England Conference's Super Saturday is a day filled with a variety of virtual workshops, a marketplace, and plenty of networking. Meet other people from the UCC in the New England area, worship, and attend as many or as few workshops as you like!



The theme this spring is ***A Future With Hope: Relevant, Prophetic and Transformative***, and the keynote speaker is Rev. Sarah Drummond, Founding Dean of Andover Newton Seminary at Yale Divinity School. [Super Saturday registration](#) is now open! Contact treasurer@first-churchcambridge.org to be reimbursed for your registration fees. See all the workshop offerings [here](#).

UCC OFFICERS SHARE A PRAYER FOR UKRAINE

The following prayer was posted on the UCC's social media and [website](#) on the first day of Russia's invasion of Ukraine:

Holy God,

Hear our prayers for all those who will die today because of war in Ukraine and other war-torn countries all over this world. Grant them an end to the suffering of this world and eternal peace that is only found in You.

We pray for the people of Ukraine, Russia, and all nations — that war and bloodshed can be avoided and a new, just peace can be forged out of this crisis. We ask that God grant wisdom to the leaders of nations, calling them to end provocation on all sides and invest instead in “the things that make for peace” as called for in all our faith traditions (Luke 19:41-2).

We pray for an end to the deep insecurity and mistrust on all sides, and call on leaders to build trust, based not on military might or alliances, but on the basis of our shared future and common humanity. Now is a time in which past harm should be acknowledged and addressed, and new partnerships can be envisioned.



We pray for and call on our leaders to have the courage to take small, verifiable, and independent steps toward peace, inviting others to reciprocate. Now is time to invest in conflict resolution, diplomacy and international cooperation — not more weapons which only escalate tension in the region.

Be with those suffering in ways that we cannot. Protect them from devastation in ways those positioned in authority will not. Shield and comfort them as they confront the terror of violence that surrounds them. Hold them close to your heart and stay the hand of the enemies against them. Give us the courage and the strength to cry aloud against wickedness in high places that dare to harm others made in your image. Comfort the children and heed their cries to be saved from harm in this world.

Make us a people who love our children, all of our children, more than we love greed, power, and control. Overturn governments of tyranny wherever they are found. Disrupt the intentions of evil and give us power to stand against demonic forces of greed and control. Grant that peace and justice come to warring nations by the hands of those courageous enough to stand and study war no more. Let Thy kin-dom come on earth as it is in heaven, we pray.

In Jesus' name, Amen.

The Rev. John C. Dorhauer, *General Minister and President*

The Rev. Traci A. Blackmon, *Associate General Minister*

The Rev. Karen Georgia Thompson, *Associate General Minister*



THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, March 7

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Earth Stewardship Meeting, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. "Telling our White Stories" Faith & Life Group, via Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. GBIO Core Team Meeting, via Zoom

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

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

Tuesday, March 8

- 7:30 a.m. Space to Listen: Reflecting on the Gospel of Luke, via Zoom
- 3:00 p.m. Aging with Grace and Dying Well, via Zoom
- 4:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. "Troublesome Attitudes and Antidotes" Faith & Life Group, via Zoom

Wednesday, March 9

- 8:00 a.m. Midweek Contemplative Prayer, via Zoom
- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room
- 4:00 p.m. Gifts Discernment Committee, via Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. Midweek Small Group: Hanging Out with God, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Young Adults: Faith on Tap, Bow Market, Somerville

Thursday, March 10

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

Friday, March 11

- 9:30 a.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room
- 12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH) and the church lawn

Sunday, March 13 - Second Sunday of Lent

- 9:30 a.m. Contemplative Prayer, via Zoom
- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes for PreK - 7th graders
- 12:00 p.m. Zoom Coffee Hour
- 12:15 p.m. Hybrid Adult Formation: Jesus, Our Center, MJH and via Zoom
- 1:15 p.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 8/9th graders, Harter Room
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song, 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

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