



EASTER
Hybrid Morning Worship
April 17, 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

Easter Sunday, April 17, 2022

Preaching Today Leading Worship

Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*
Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*
Kate Layzer, *Minister for Street Outreach*
Jaz Buchanan, *Pastoral Associate*
Ebony West, *Ministerial Intern*
Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Creative Worship & Arts*
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*
Leslie Pelton-Cairns, *liturgist*
Robinson Pyle, *trumpet*
Andy Clark, *conducting the Hallelujah Chorus*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*

Bulletin Cover Image Freddie Funck, *Youth Group member*

Today's Programs and Events

9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Easter Proclamation, Breakfast Potluck, and Egg Hunt, Church Lawn
11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
12:00 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour
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: 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 gathering in the Sanctuary, please remain masked while in Morning Worship.
Masks are optional once you leave the Sanctuary.*

VOLUNTARY

Suite in D Major

George Frideric Handel

*HYMN 205

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

*GREETING

Leslie Pelton-Cairns

L: Siblings in the Spirit, wherever you are,
grace and peace to you this Easter Day!

C: And to the whole world, peace, love, and light.

L: From shadow to sunrise,

C: from despair to hope,

L: from the hallowed silence of death to the trumpet sounds of new life:

C: God's love is stronger than our fears,

L: more lasting than every earthly empire,

C: more powerful than death itself!

L: Weaving our hearts, our hopes, and our voices together as one,
in words ancient and new, let us joyfully proclaim: Christ is risen!

C: Christ is risen, indeed!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Amen!

WORDS OF WELCOME

Ebony West and Lexi Boudreaux

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S GRACE

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sarah Higginbotham

*EASTER PEACE

L: ... How do we accept this gift? Our only response can be "Alleluia!"
Rejoice, and say it with me:

C: Alleluia! Christ's peace is ours forever!

*HYMN 215

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

**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

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

L: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures forever!

C: Let Israel say, "God's steadfast love endures forever."

L: The Holy One is my strength and my might;
God has become my salvation.

**C: There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:
"The right hand of the Holy One does valiantly;**

L: the right hand of the Holy One is exalted;
the right hand of the Holy One does valiantly."

C: I shall not die, but I shall live, and recount the deeds of my God.

L: God has punished me severely, but did not give me over to death.

**C: Open to me the gates of righteousness,
that I may enter through them and give thanks to God.**

L: This is the gate of the Holy One; the righteous shall enter through it.

C: I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

L: The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

C: This is God's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.

All: This is the day that God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

ANTHEM

Chanticleer's Carol

Vernon Hoyle

Verses 1, 2: William Austin (d. 1633)

Verse 3: Kate Layzer (2022)

READING

Luke 24:1-12

Jaz Buchanan

SERMON

Dan Smith

*HYMN C-22

Come and Taste of Resurrection

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kate Layzer

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

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



I've Given Already

OFFERTORY

Prayer of St. Gregory

Alan Hovhanness

*EASTER DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**O Jesus, risen now to bless, do thou thyself our hearts possess;
Alleluia! Alleluia!
that we may give thee all our days, the willing tribute of our praise!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GOING FORTH

*THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS

from *Messiah*

Handel

*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

Toccata in C

Giambattista Martini



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.

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,
 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led,
 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say:
 Where, O death, is now thy sting?
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,
 Praise to thee by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 Dy - ing once, he all doth save,
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise,
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now,

Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?
 Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,
 Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

215



1. Joy dawned a - gain on East - er Day, the sun shone
 2. O Je - sus, source of gen - tle - ness, come now your -
 3. O Sav - ior, now with us a - bide in this our



out with fair ar - ray, when to their long - ing eyes re -
 self our hearts pos - sess that we may give you all our
 joy - ful East - er - tide; from ev - ery wea - pon death can



stored, the a - pos - tles saw their ris - en Lord.
 days - the will - ing trib - ute of our praise.
 wield your own re - deemed for ev - er shield.



SERMON HYMN

C-22 Come and Taste of Resurrection

1. "Come and taste of Re - sur -
 2. Who am I that you should
 3. Yet you stand here watch - ing,
 4. "Put a - way then all your
 5. Christ, your name is glo - ry,

rec - tion," speaks the voice so sweet and
 love me? Just a crea - ture made of
 wait - ing, hold - ing out your arms to
 griev - ing, free your heart from point - less
 glo - ry; hope of ev - er - las - ting

clear: "Rise and take a new di - rec - tion; if you
 earth. Ev - ery mor - tal frag - ment of me shrinks a -
 me, si - lent an - swer em - an - at - ing—"Love lasts
 strife. Be not fear - ful but be - liev - ing: Now be -
 grace: Deep in this un - fold - ing sto - ry we have

trust me, have no fear."
 way from such re - birth.
 an e - ter - ni - ty."
 gins e - ter - nal life."
 glimpsed Love face to face.

Our concept of healing is broad:

the love of God in us as
 "earthen vessels"
 bringing about wholeness of mind,
 body and soul;
 reconciliation with God,
 with others,
 with our deepest selves;
 healing of the environment
 and of the world's hurts.

Marjorie Williams

WORDS: Kate Layzer
 MUSIC: Peter Sykes

Come and Taste of Resurrection was commissioned by and is
 dedicated to Paula Stanley, Deacon of First Church,
 who for many years coordinated healing services.

HALLELUJAH CHORUS

Hal-le-lujah! Hal-le-lujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Halle-lujah! Hal-le-lujah!
Hal-le-lujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Halle-lujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Halle-lu-jah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Halle-lu-jah!

The kingdom of this world
is become
the Kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ,
and of his Christ;

And He shall reign for ever and ever
For ever and ever
And He shall reign and He shall reign
For ever, for ever, for ever, for ever and ever
For ever, for ever and ever,

King of Kings,
For ever and ever,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And Lord of Lords,
For ever and ever,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,
For ever and ever,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And Lord of Lords,
For ever and ever,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

King of Kings,
For ever and ever,
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And Lord of Lords,
King of Kings,
And Lord of Lords,

And He shall reign, And He shall reign for
ever and ever.

King of Kings
For ever and ever!
And Lord of Lords
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

And He shall reign for ever, for ever and
ever.

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,
King of Kings, and Lord of Lords,

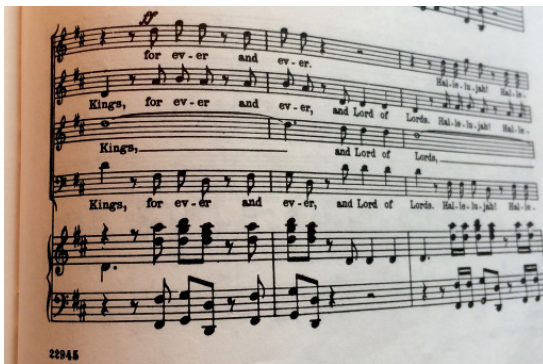
And He shall reign for ever and ever,

King of Kings, and Lord of Lords, Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

WAIT and WATCH

HAL – LE – LU – JAH!

LEARNING MORE ABOUT HANDEL'S MESSIAH



Today, as on Easter's past, we joyfully sing out a beloved masterpiece that for many is synonymous with Easter celebration: the famous "Hallelujah Chorus" of Handel's *Messiah*.

This year, however, we do so with an awareness that this piece has a complex history. As we are learning, some scholars believe *Messiah* contains elements of anti-Jewish hostility. The "Hallelujah Chorus" has come under particular scrutiny, leading to [symposia](#) and [media coverage](#) on the possible undertones of the piece, given where it falls in the oratorio. In the coming year, we will offer opportunities for teaching and learning about these matters.

Even as we sing out with joy today, we are committed to learning more and considering how we can hold a painful and complex legacy alongside our appreciation of artworks from the past.

EASTER FLOWERS

*Today's Easter flowers are given
in celebration and in loving memory of:*

*Paul and Mildred Atkins
Carol & Frank Brigham
Lincoln and Nancy Clark
Duane and Lois Dresser
Charles Lincoln Gagnebin
Louis & Charlotte Gagnebin
Wells and Helen Grogan
Paul W. Guglietti
Barbara van der Hart
C. William Higginbotham
Mary Louise Hoff
Elizabeth & James Holtzworth
Edie Howe
Richard Hsiao
Ruth Yu Hsiao
Harold & Laura Jensen
David Campbell Johnson*

*Virginia Caird Ludwig
Phil & Ann Matthews
Allen Happe & Judy McConnell
Betty Ann Paul
Paul Rawate
Joan & Jack Reddy
Jeri Eisenberg Shuman
Albert A Smith
Mark Lewis Sykes
Minnie Taylor
Julie Thompson
Fiona Tolhurst
Ernie Triplett
Janet Wanger
George & Marjorie Williams
Camilla & Edward Wood
Hing-Chung Yip
Mr. & Mrs. Y.J. Yu*



*And in memory of
all Cantabrigians lost to
Covid-19.*

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Peggy Stevens’s husband Mike as he recovers from back surgery.
- We pray for Karen Korn’s husband Charles as he recovers from a recent heart attack. We pray for Karen, Giselle, Allison and Christina as they support him through his recovery.
- We pray for Alexander Hanna, age 7, who broke his tibia and is in a full leg cast, limiting his mobility. We pray for his parents Erika and Matt, as well as his brother Zachary, as they support him through his recovery.
- We pray for safety, strength, and courage for Moana Bentin’s daughter Kalo Daley, who is joining the crews of the *Hikianalia* and the *Hokulea*, to sail in a canoe from Oahu to Hilo, and on the open waters of the Pacific from Tahiti to Hawaii, with the Polynesian Voyaging Society.
- We pray for Devin Hansen as she awaits medical testing and results.
- We pray for 2-year-old Ida Peterson and her moms Kelsey and Tori, as Ida recovers from a recent hospitalization.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Pauline Fennel; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones’s mother; Abby Shuman’s uncle Barry; Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn’s mother; 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 as they face a full-scale Russian assault, and in light of further horrific reports of war crimes against civilians. We pray for people in war-torn areas around the world. We pray for all troops and civilians, and for bordering countries receiving refugees. We pray that diplomatic measures, sanctions, and peace prevail in Ukraine and all places experiencing war.
- We pray for all those impacted by mass shootings, especially after the subway shooting in the Sunset Park neighborhood of Brooklyn, NY. We pray for the political courage and moral will of legislators to enact common-sense gun laws to help prevent such tragedies.
- We pray for all those impacted by the passage of laws in multiple states limiting access to abortion care and trans-affirming health care.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray in celebration of last week’s historic confirmation of Ketanji Brown Jackson to the United States Supreme Court.
- We pray for all who are affected by COVID-19—those experiencing symptoms, those grieving the loss of loved ones, and those awaiting vaccines and boosters. We pray with and for anxious hearts, especially for educators, healthcare personnel, and other essential workers.
- We pray for food security for island peoples whose homelands are threatened by climate-induced storms and rising sea level, and for all sea animals and plants stressed by warming ocean temperatures. God, give us the fortitude to work with intention for climate justice.
- 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.



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:



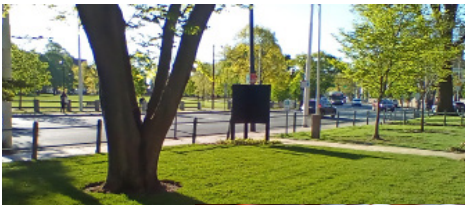
TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

Easter Proclamation, Breakfast Potluck, and Egg Hunt Today at 10:00 a.m., Church Lawn

Come proclaim “Alleluia” that “Christ is Risen” with us! We’ll eat together and celebrate the joy of the morning with an Easter Egg hunt for our youngest First Church friends. The congregation is invited to bring a quiche, fruit, baked goods, or another brunch side (the ovens will be available to warm dishes brought from home). Fellowship will be providing some offerings as well,



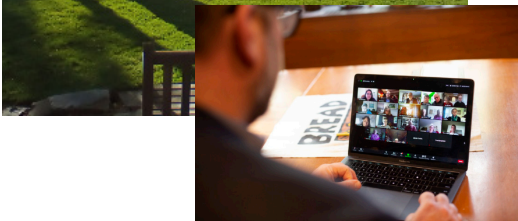
so know that you are welcome with or without a dish to contribute. If you have a half hour to help out before or after the meal, we invite you to pick up a job card from Caitlin Anderson when you arrive and pitch in with a set-up or clean-up task.



Refreshments on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour Today at 12:00 p.m.

Join us after church today for coffee and refreshments and for a continuation of our Easter celebration on the Lawn! It has been such a joy to see so many faces in

person, and we welcome this chance to connect with friends, old and new! For those joining online, [Zoom Coffee Hour](#) will launch at the end of worship.



Night Song

Sundays at 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)

Night Song is a weekly, hour-long meditation featuring sublime choral music and transformational instrumental accompaniment in our quiet, candle-lit sanctuary.

Learn more about Night Song [here](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



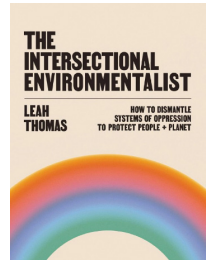
Young Adults: Open Book Night Monday, April 18, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Home of Phil Jones

Join other First Church Young Adults (18-early 30's) for our second "Open Book" night! Bring a well-loved book, and read aloud a passage from it. It's a cool way of sharing opinions and

values with each other and getting some good reading recommendations, too. Food and drink provided; please [RSVP to Phil](#) for the address!

EcoFaith Book Group, Thursday, April 21, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m., via Zoom (with a second meeting in early June TBD)

All are welcome to join First Church's EcoFaith Book Group for the reading and discussion of [The Intersectional Environmentalist by Leah Thomas](#). Thomas explores the link between environmentalism, racism, and privilege, and promotes awareness of the fundamental truth that we cannot save the planet without uplifting the voices of its people. Questions? Please contact [Jim Brown](#).



Earth Sunday Hybrid Morning Worship April 24 at 11:00 a.m., Sanctuary and via livestream

Next Sunday, we are dedicating our Hybrid Morning Worship to Earth Day! Come join us in person or via livestream, as together, we lean into the wisdom of interconnection that God teaches us through animals, birds, fish, and the very earth herself. What can our scripture teach us about our relationship to all God's creation? What does it mean to be created in God's image? As we move into Eastertide and remember the

resurrected Jesus welcoming his disciples with the words "receive the Holy Spirit," we might ask ourselves: What kind of divine responsibility are we holding amidst a climate crisis and various environmental injustices? All questions, doubts, fears, joys, and hope are welcome.

A Blessing on the Lawn

Next Sunday, April 24 at 12:00 p.m.

Join us after worship next Sunday for refreshments and a blessing on the lawn. At about 12:15, we will bless our bikes, Charlie Cards, canes, wheelchairs, walkers—all the many resources we use to move in this world to proclaim God's love, justice, and peace for all of creation. If it rains, we will offer the blessing in Margaret Jewett Hall. After the blessing, join us in Margaret Jewett Hall to enjoy Henry Gates's paintings entitled "GENESIS: the Seven Days."



UPCOMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES

Newcomers Meet and Greet

Next Sunday, April 24, 12:00 - 12:30 p.m., Church Lawn

Those feeling new to First Church, or interested in meeting (in person!) someone new to our community, are warmly invited to meet up directly after worship in Hastings Common (the open space between the Sanctuary side door and the Kitchen). Some of what you can expect: friendly faces, new friends?, questions answered, snacks, and an informal atmosphere for conversation. Directly following the Meet and Greet, those interested in exploring membership at First Church are invited to meet in The Landing for the first of a series of New Member sessions.



Harvard and Legacy of Slavery Film and Discussion Sunday, May 1 at 9:30 a.m., Harter Room and via Zoom; and 12:15 p.m., MJH and via Zoom

On April 29, the Radcliffe Institute of Advanced Study and the Harvard and Legacy of Slavery Initiative will be hosting a free day long conference entitled: [“Telling the Truth about All This: Reckoning with Slavery and Its Legacies at Harvard and Beyond.”](#)

The day will include panels and presentations by renowned scholars including Tracy K. Smith, Ruth Simmons, Henry Louis Gates, Ibram X. Kendi, and more, and will be centered around the

late April release of a robust report on Harvard’s history with recommendations for reparative action. Given First Church’s historic connection to this legacy, Dan Smith has been a member of the faculty committee guiding this initiative. We will engage in learning and reflection on this work at First Church starting on May 1 at 9:30 a.m., when we will view a 25-minute film about Harvard’s legacy. We will also hold an after-worship discussion about the committee’s report and recommendations. Please join us!

Young Adults: Brunch after Church

Sunday, May 1, 12:30 - 2:30 p.m.

RSVP for address

Join other First Church Young Adults (18-early 30’s) at the home of Robb Morgan and Claire Hunt for a late brunch and social time after church. Carpooling is very much encouraged, so please [RSVP](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Service of Ordination for Katie Omberg

Sunday, May 1 at 3:30 p.m., Sanctuary and via livestream

First Church in Cambridge cordially invites you to the Service of Ordination to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament for First Church member Katie Omberg. Katie was called by Melrose Highlands Congregational Church to be their Interim Minister. Let us celebrate together with Katie as she becomes an ordained clergyperson in the United Church of Christ! There will be a cake reception outside after the service, weather-permitting.

Young Adults: Faith on Tap

Wednesday, May 4, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Trina's Starlite Lounge, Somerville

The Young Adults continue their Faith on Tap Series at Trina's Starlite Lounge in Somerville. Join other 20- and 30-somethings for some casual fellowship and some extravagant hot dogs, Trina's specialty. Can't make this one, but want to keep up on other YA events? Reach out to [Phil Jones!](#)



An Invitation to Covenant Dinners, May 20 and 21

Would you like to reconnect with old friends, meet new friends, and take a moment to reflect on what it means to be a part of our church community? Would you like to share conversation, food, and drink with interesting people over a potluck dinner? Now that we can more safely gather outside, the Stewardship Committee is revitalizing the Covenant dinner tradition. If you are interested in participating, either as an attendee or a host, on Friday, May 20, or Saturday, May 21, please let us know by completing this [sign-up form](#); the Stewardship Committee will follow up to confirm the date, time, location, and to coordinate a potluck sign-up. If you would be willing to host, you simply need an outdoor space that can accommodate a group of about 8-10 people and provide plates and silverware. The Stewardship Committee will make sure to take care of the rest!

BECOMING A MEMBER OF FIRST CHURCH

Preparing for Joining Sunday, May 22

Have you been thinking about exploring membership at First Church in Cambridge?

Do you have a growing sense that First Church is where you belong?

Have you recently joined or enjoy meeting new folks in our community and are looking to support others in this process?

You are in luck! Please save the dates for our upcoming opportunities to explore membership and to build deeper connections with one another as we prepare for a Joining Sunday. For more details on New Member sessions or our Newcomers community events in general, please be in touch with the staff liaison to the Welcoming Team, Lexi Boudreaux.

Sunday, April 24

12:00 p.m.

Meet & Greet after Worship, Church Lawn

12:30 p.m.

New Members Session 1, The Landing and via Zoom

Sunday, May 1

12:15 p.m.

New Members Session 2, The Landing and via Zoom

Sunday, May 15

Deadline to give notice to join on Joining Sunday

Deadline for submission of bios & address info
for Parish List

Sunday, May 22 - Joining Sunday

9:30 a.m.

New Members Breakfast, Front Lawn

(rain location: Hastings Common)

11:00 a.m.

Joining New Members in Covenant in Morning Worship



NEWS FROM FIRST CHURCH AND THE UCC

First Church Shelter News

We celebrate good news from the First Church Shelter: a Shelter guest has moved out of the Shelter into a shared living situation, and the City has committed funds to the First Church Shelter through 2023. These funds will be used for showers, additional hours to operate the Shelter, and for staff to help First Church Shelter guests access state and city resources. We celebrate this good news alongside Shelter Director Jim Stewart.



WE STAND
FOR PEACE.

WE STAND WITH
UKRAINE.

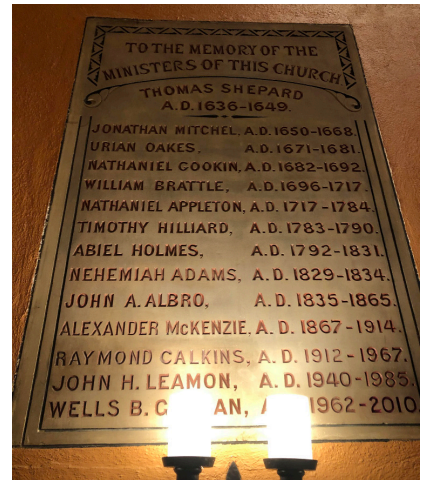
United Church of Christ (UCC) Appeal Tops \$1 Million to Help Ukrainians

Learn how our denomination is directing much needed aid to Ukraine and to surrounding countries, where refugees are fleeing from the war. The full article by Connie Larkman on ucc.org provides updates on how the United Church of Christ is using our donations to plan for the long term needs.

[Read the full article to learn how you can contribute.](#)

News from the First Church Archives

Joining us for worship today is Virginia Calkins, a great-great-niece of Rev. Raymond Calkins, who was Minister of First Church from 1912 to 1940. Virginia, who lives in San Francisco, is in town to run her first Boston Marathon tomorrow. Her extended family has recently given First Church Archives a trove of sermons and other records of the ministry of First Church's eleventh pastor.





THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, April 18

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Young Adults: Open Book Night, home of Phil Jones

Tuesday, April 19

- 7:30 a.m. Space to Listen: Reflecting on the Gospel of Luke, via Zoom
- 4:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Committee, via Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. Shelter Oversight Committee, via Zoom

Wednesday, April 20

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room
- 4:00 p.m. Frobenius @ Fifty Planning Meeting, via Zoom

Thursday, April 21

- 5:00 p.m. EcoFaith Book Group, via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room
- 6:00 p.m. Drop-in Bible Study, via Zoom

Friday, April 22

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

Sunday, April 24 - Earth Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Creative Arts Workshop, Church Lawn
- 12:00 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour
- 12:00 p.m. Newcomers Meet and Greet, Church Lawn
- 12:15 p.m. A Blessing on the Lawn
- 12:30 p.m. New Members Session 1, The Landing
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song, 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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