



FF 2022

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Lent  
Hybrid Morning Worship  
April 3, 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, April 3, 2022

### Preaching Today Leading Worship

Ebony West, *Ministerial Intern*  
Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*  
Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*  
Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Creative Worship & Arts*  
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*  
Nora Willcutts, *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](#)
- 9:30 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
- 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](#)
- 12:15 p.m. Frobenius @ 50 Planning Meeting, Harter Room
- 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: [www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give) or by texting “\$ \_” to: 1-844-996-0982.

### Contact a Pastor or Staff Member

Find [contact information](#) for our ministerial, program, and building staff on our website. For general information and inquiries: [info@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:info@firstchurchcambridge.org)

Have a church program or event to promote?  
Complete the [First Church Communications Request](#) form.

Have an edit or update for our website? Complete the [FCC Website Changes](#) form.

## GATHERING

*For those participating at home, we invite you to have a candle and bring bread or crackers and water, juice, or wine to your home altar, so that you may participate in Holy Communion.*

*All are welcome at the Table!*

*For those gathering in the sanctuary, please remain masked while in Morning Worship.*

*Masks are optional once you leave the Sanctuary.*

## 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

Nora Willcutts and Lexi Boudreaux

## CONFESSING

## ANTHEM

Kyrie

Josef Rheinberger

*Kyrie eleison, Christe eleison.*

*Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy.*

*\*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.*

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### SILENCE

### 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

#### \*HYMN 94

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You

*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.*

### OPENING THE WORD

### PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

### READING

John 12:1-11

### HOMILY

Ebony West

### SILENCE

### SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Smith

### INVITATION TO OFFERING



Give by Text



Give Online



I've Given Already

## \*DOXOLOGY

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.

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### SHARING THE FEAST

## \*INVITATION

Lexi Boudreaux

## PRAYER OF PREPARATION

### 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 325

Now Let Us from This Table Rise

### \*BENEDICTION

### VOLUNTARY

Wer nur den lieben Gott lässt walten

J. S. Bach

PEACE HYMN

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You 94

1. If you will trust in God to guide you, with hope-ful heart through  
 2. On - ly be still, and wait God's plea-sure in cheer-ful hope, with  
 3. Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv-ing; go, live your own part

all your ways, you will find strength, with God be - side you,  
 heart con - tent, trust-ing that grace which knows no mea-sure  
 faith - ful - ly, and trust God's word, though un - de - serv-ing,

to bear the worst of e - vil days; for those who trust God's  
 will by un - bound - ed love be sent; know that our in - most  
 there find the truth to set you free; nev - er for - sak - en

change - less love build on the rock that will not move.  
 wants are clear to One who holds us al - ways near.  
 is the need of souls that trust in God in - deed.

WORDS: Georg Neumark, 1641; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.;  
*The New Century Hymnal*, 1995, alt.

MUSIC: Georg Neumark, 1657

NEUMARK  
 98.98.88

Robbed of his college tuition money by highway marauders during the dread Thirty Years' War, Neumark penned these words of gratitude when he found employment as a tutor to tide himself over the crisis.

Word alts. © 1993 The Pilgrim Press, alt.

CLOSING HYMN

325

Now Let Us from This Table Rise

1. Now let us from this ta - ble rise, re - newed in  
 2. With minds a - lert, up - held by grace, to spread the  
 3. To fill each hu - man house with love, it is the  
 4. Then give us grace, Com - pan - ion - God, to choose a -

bod - y, mind and soul; with Christ we die and live a -  
 Word in speech and deed, we fol - low in the steps of  
 sac - ra - ment of care; the work that Christ be - gan to  
 gain the pil - grim way, and help us to ac - cept with

gain, his self - less love has made us whole.  
 Christ, at one with all in hope and need.  
 do we hum - bly pledge our - selves to share.  
 joy the chal - lenge of to - mor - row's day.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1968

MUSIC: Melody, *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609;  
 harm. George R. Woodward, 1910

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR  
 LM

First used at the Pilgrim Church, Plymouth, England, in 1964,  
 Kaan's phrase 'the sacrament of care' was used as the theme  
 of an international conference in 1984.

Words © 1968 Hope Publishing Co.

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Peggy Stevens’s husband Mike as he undergoes back surgery this Tuesday and begins an extended period of recovery.
- We pray for Karen Korn’s husband Charles as he recovers from a sudden heart attack Saturday night and is moved from the cardiac ICU to a regular hospital floor. We pray for Karen, Giselle, Allison and Christina as they support him through his recovery and await further testing.
- 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 the Funck Hendren family as they mourn the loss of Sara Hendren’s uncle Bill Hays.
- We pray in celebration with Kindle Williams, who successfully defended her PhD thesis in Chemical Engineering at MIT.
- 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 for people in all war-torn areas of our world. We pray for all troops and civilians, and for bordering countries receiving refugees. We mourn the loss of life and pray for those grieving amidst death and destruction. We pray that diplomatic measures, sanctions, and peace prevail in Ukraine and all places experiencing war.
- We pray for peacemakers in Russia and around the world. Keep them safe. May their work and their spirit be contagious.
- 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 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.
- 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.

## 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... [Read more](#)

### 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

Today, 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.

### 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.



### Changes to Masking Guidelines at First Church in Cambridge

On March 14, we lifted our indoor mask requirements, except during communal worship and church choir rehearsals, where masks are still required. Outside of worship, we encourage people to make their own decisions about whether to mask, honoring what they feel is best for them and the wider community. ***Due to an expected increase in the number of people worshipping in person, as well as our plan for robust singing, we will continue masking in the Sanctuary through Easter.*** [Read the full announcement here.](#)

WE STAND  
FOR PEACE.

WE STAND WITH  
UKRAINE.

Please consider supporting the  
[United Church of Christ Appeal to Aid Those Unable to Leave Ukraine.](#)

[Read more and donate here.](#)

## 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

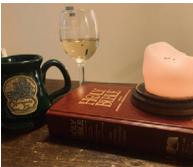
### *Wednesdays in Lent*



#### **Midweek Contemplative Prayer**

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

Want to explore centering prayer as a spiritual practice? [Read more](#)



#### **Midweek Small Group: Hanging out with God**

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

Join Lexi Boudreaux and Jaz Buchanan weekly on Wednesdays during Lent for some theological reflection... [Read more](#)

### **Memorial Flowers for Easter**

If you wish to donate memorial flowers for loved ones this Easter, please send the names of those to be remembered to [Kirsten Manville](#) in the First Church office by April 10. Contributions of \$20 to help defray the cost of flowers can be made [online](#) (check off the Easter Flowers category) or can be included in the offering baskets found at the front and back of the Sanctuary (checks payable to First Church in Cambridge, with a memo line of "Easter Flowers"). On Easter Sunday, the congregation is invited to take a plant to a homebound parishioner to spread the joy of Easter.

## LOOKING AHEAD TO HOLY WEEK

Our 40-day journey with Jesus, Our Center, culminates as we turn toward Jerusalem and to the powerful, somber, mysterious, yet ultimately joy-filled events of Holy Week. This year, we pay special attention to blessing the ties that bind us together and weave us into one community in Christ!

Each of the stories we read—from Palm Sunday through Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter—include powerful references to fabric and thread. We plan to “weave” this symbol into our Holy Week liturgies and rituals, and we look forward to offering everyone a simple hemp bracelet to be worn throughout the week. We hope the bracelet can be a symbol of your connection to First Church and your Holy Week intentions. ***Bracelets will be available to everyone next Sunday.*** If you are unable to join us either outdoors or in our building on Palm Sunday, please email [Sarah Higginbotham](mailto:sarah@firstchurch.org) by this Tuesday, April 5, to arrange pick up or mailing of your bracelet.



### **Palm Sunday, April 10**

*Many people spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut in the fields. —Mark 11: 8*

10:15 a.m. Palm Sunday Gathering & Processional on the Lawn

11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary & via livestream

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

### **Maundy Thursday, April 14**

*After that, Jesus poured water into a basin and began to wash his disciples' feet, drying them with the towel that was wrapped around him. —John 13:5*

6:15 p.m. Multigenerational Foot Washing Ritual,  
Sanctuary and via livestream

7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service with Communion and Tenebrae,  
Sanctuary and via livestream

### **Good Friday, April 15**

*Then Jesus cried again with a loud voice and breathed his last. At that moment the curtain of the temple was torn in two, from top to bottom. —Matthew 27:51-52*

7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service, via Zoom

### **Easter Sunday, April 17**

*Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened. —Luke 24:10-12*

10:00 a.m. Easter Proclamation, Breakfast, and Egg Hunt on the Lawn

11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream

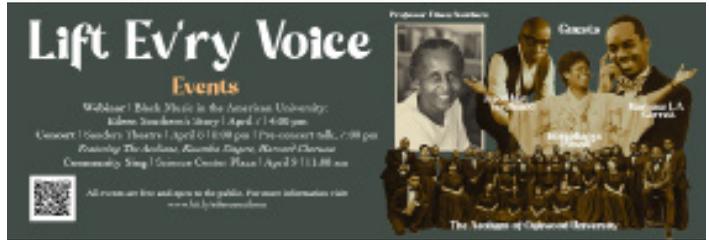
Find details at [Holy Week and Easter at First Church.](#)

## UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

### Lift Ev'ry Voice: Celebrating the Music of Black Americans April 8 Concert and April 9 Community Sing, Harvard University

First Church member Andy Clark, who is the Director of Choral Activities at Harvard, extends a warm invitation to

a Concert and a Community Sing taking place as part of [“Lift Ev'ry Voice: Celebrating the Music of Black Americans”](#) across the Cambridge Common next weekend. Admission to both events is free. Concert tickets are available at the [Harvard Box Office](#). Please read the COVID-19 Guidelines prior to attending. A livestream link will be provided at: [bit.ly/eileensouthern](https://bit.ly/eileensouthern) for those unable to attend in person... [Read details of both events here.](#)



### **Bounty: Film Screening and Conversation**

**Tuesday, April 12, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.**

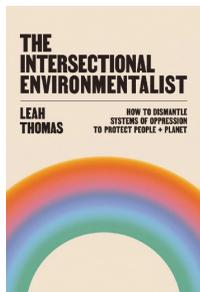
**Old South Meeting House, Boston and online**

In early October 2021, First Church hosted a special preview of the 9-minute documentary *Bounty*, released soon after by the award-winning [Upstander Project](#). We engaged in a difficult and mean-

ingful conversation about this history; we hope to continue this discussion later this spring. On Tuesday, April 12, you are invited to watch *Bounty* and then join a conversation... [Read more and find the link to register here.](#)

### **Sarah's Sabbatical**

Director of Creative Worship & Arts Sarah Higginbotham will be on a two-month sabbatical from Monday, April 18, until Tuesday, June 21. She's looking forward to a bit of travel and lots of time for self care! Her responsibilities for children & family programming and communications will be taken up by others on staff during her absence. We will offer Sarah a blessing for her time away during worship on Palm Sunday, April 10.



### **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](#).



# THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



## Monday, April 4

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting, 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, April 5

- 7:30 a.m. Space to Listen: Reflecting on the Gospel of Luke, via Zoom
- 4:00 p.m. First Church Professional Caregivers Call, via Zoom
- 6:15 p.m. Stewardship Meeting, home of Winnie Yip
- 7:00 p.m. 5th Century Fund Team Meeting, via Zoom

## Wednesday, April 6

- 8:00 a.m. Midweek Contemplative Prayer, via Zoom
- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room
- 5:30 p.m. Midweek Small Group: Hanging Out with God, via Zoom

## Thursday, April 7

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

## Friday, April 8

- 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 10 - Palm Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 10:15 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
- 10:15 a.m. Palm Sunday Gathering and Processional, Church Lawn
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes for PreK-7th graders, MJH
- 12:00 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour
- 1:15 p.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 8/9th graders, Harter Room
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

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