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**EASTERTIDE**  
Hybrid Morning Worship  
**MAY 15, 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

## May 15, 2022

### Preaching Today Leading Worship

Ebony West, Ministerial Intern  
Lexi Boudreaux, Transitional Minister  
Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach  
Peter Sykes, Music Director  
Jim Rissling, liturgist  
Nancy O'Connell, Stewardship Committee  
Lee Prouty, tech support

**Bulletin Cover Image** Freddie Funck, youth group member

### Today's Programs and Events

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: Classes  
12:00 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour  
12:15 p.m. Acting for Re-entry with GBIO, Church Lawn  
1:15 p.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL), 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 at your home altar.  
For those gathering in the sanctuary, please remain masked while in Morning Worship.  
Masks are optional once you leave the Sanctuary.*

### VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C Major

J. S. Bach

### \*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 109

Fairest Lord Jesus

### \*GREETING

Jim Rissling

L: Siblings in the Spirit, grace and peace to you from God!

**C: From God the Merciful, peace to you!**

L: Together let us praise God in the presence of Love —

**C: Love divine, stronger than death!**

L: Together let us meet God in the companionship of the Risen Christ —

**C: Source of gentleness, who abides with us now!**

L: Together let us turn to God with worship, prayer, and praise!

### WORDS OF WELCOME

Jim Rissling and Lexi Boudreaux

### ANTHEM

Amazing Grace

Traditional, arr. Peter Sykes

## CONFESSING

### 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.**

*\*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.*

**\*EASTER PEACE**

*Children up through 7th grade are now invited to Church School classes. Godly Play (PreK-3rd grade) and Middler (4/5th grade) students can meet their teachers at the side door by the Children's Book Corner. Bible 101 (6/7th grade) students can meet their teachers in the Narthex. Caregivers can find the children in Hastings Common after worship.*

**\*HYMN 398**

God, Who Touches the Earth with Beauty

**OPENING THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING**

Kate Layzer

**READING**

Psalm 148

**SERMON**

Ebony West

**SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**MINISTRY MOMENT**

Covenant Dinners

Nancy O'Connell

**TEACHING MOMENT**

Peter Sykes

**PRAYERS FOR 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

**\*DOXOLOGY**

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

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**GOING FORTH**

**\*RECESSIONAL HYMN 51** All Creatures of Our God, Now Sing

**\*BENEDICTION**

**VOLUNTARY**

Fugue in C Major

J. S. Bach

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**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 to the right.



## Fairest Lord Jesus

109

1. Fair - est Lord Je - sus, rul - er of all na - ture,  
 2. Fair are the mead - ows, fair - er still the wood - lands,  
 3. Fair is the sun - shine, fair - er still the moon - light,

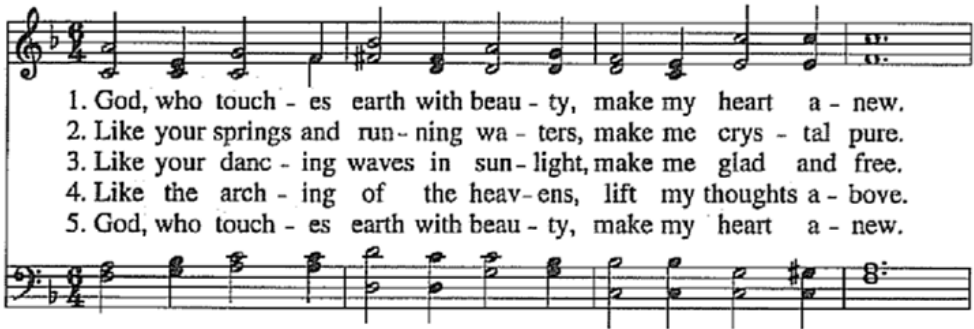
O thou of God to earth come down, thee will I cher - ish,  
 robed in the bloom - ing garb of spring: Je - sus is fair - er,  
 and all the twink - ling, star - ry host: Je - sus shines bright - er,

thee will I hon - or, thou, my soul's glo - ry, joy, and crown.  
 Je - sus is pur - er, who makes the woe - ful heart to sing.  
 Je - sus shines pur - er than all the an - gels heaven can boast.

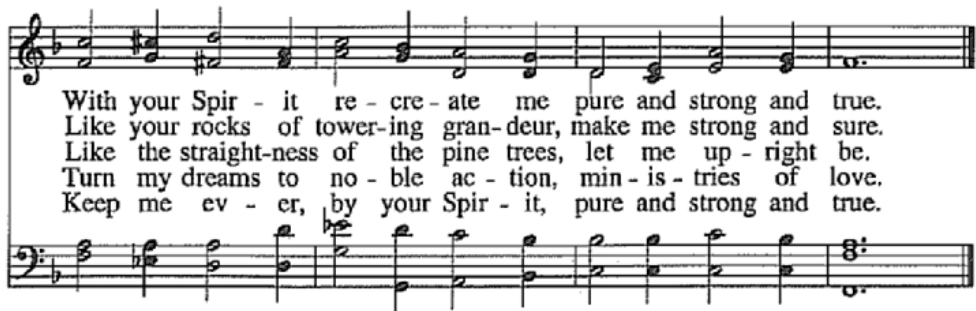
WORDS: Münster *Gesangbuch*, 1677; tr. *Church Chorals and Choir Studies*, 1850, alt. SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU  
 MUSIC: *Schlesische Volkslieder*, 1842; harm. Richard S. Willis, 1850 (St. Elizabeth) 568.558

The German text of this hymn, which first appeared in a 1662 manuscript, was combined with this Silesian folk tune in 1842. An English translation and this tune were introduced to the United States in 1850.

## 398 God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty



1. God, who touch - es earth with beau - ty, make my heart a - new.  
 2. Like your springs and run - ning wa - ters, make me crys - tal pure.  
 3. Like your danc - ing waves in sun - light, make me glad and free.  
 4. Like the arch - ing of the heav - ens, lift my thoughts a - bove.  
 5. God, who touch - es earth with beau - ty, make my heart a - new.



With your Spir - it re - cre - ate me pure and strong and true.  
 Like your rocks of tower - ing gran - deur, make me strong and sure.  
 Like the straight - ness of the pine trees, let me up - right be.  
 Turn my dreams to no - ble ac - tion, min - is - tries of love.  
 Keep me ev - er, by your Spir - it, pure and strong and true.

# RECESSIONAL HYMN

## All Creatures of Our God, Now Sing 51

*Unison*

1. All crea-tures of our God, now sing; lift up your voic-es, let them  
 2. O rush-ing wind with voice so strong, O clouds that sail in heaven a -  
 3. O flow-ing wa - ter, pure and clear, make mu - sic for your God to  
 4. Now we who are of ten-der heart, for - giv - ing oth-ers, take our  
 5. Let all things their cre - a - tor bless, and wor-ship God in hum-ble-

ring, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O burn - ing sun with  
 long, sing your prais - es Al - le - lu - ia! O ris - ing morn, in  
 hear, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O fire so mas - ter -  
 part sing - ing prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! To God we lift our  
 ness, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! O praise the One who

gold - en beam, O sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam,  
 praise re - joice, O lights of eve - ning, find a voice,  
 ful and bright, that gives to all both warmth and light, O sing prais - es,  
 pain and care, the bur - dened sor - rows that we bear,  
 gives us birth, re - deem - ing, giv - ing life its worth,

O sing prais - es, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: St. Francis of Assisi, 1225; tr. William H. Draper, 1925, alt.  
 MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, Cologne, 1623;  
 harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, *The English Hymnal*, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 88.44.88 w. alleluia

This hymn is based on St. Francis's 'Canticle of the Sun,'  
 considered to be the first religious poem written in Italian.

Tr. © 1923, ren. J. Curwen & Sons Ltd., admin. G. Schirmer



## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Carter West as he seeks treatment for an as-yet-undiagnosed neuropsychiatric condition.
- We pray for Perry Neubauer, who is recovering from heart valve replacement surgery that took place this past Monday.
- We pray for Karen Anne Zee as she transitions this week to another memory care unit and new home in Lexington, MA.
- We lift up prayers of thanksgiving and celebration for all who are graduating this weekend and in the coming weeks.
- As news emerges that a majority of the US Supreme Court may be preparing to overturn *Roe v. Wade*, we pray for those facing the possibility of losing vital reproductive rights, and all those who care about them. We also pray for compassion, wisdom, grace, and courage as the public discourse around abortion may cause each of us to wrestle with our own thoughts and feelings surrounding the complexities of this issue.
- 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 the passage of laws in multiple states limiting access to abortion care and trans-affirming health care.
- 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 indigenous communities whose ancestral homes and water supplies are threatened by pipelines, for those who have lost homes and loved ones to wildfires, floods, and tornadoes, and for those who strive to preserve living space for all of God's creatures.

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- 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 to the left marked "scan me;" this will take you to the **Members & Friends** page of our website, where you'll find the bulletin online, as well as links to news, events, and more.

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



## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

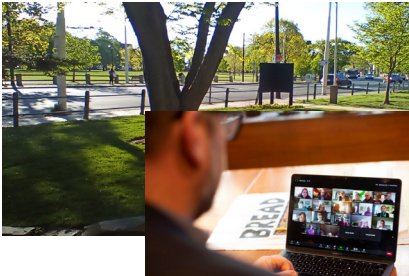
### An Invitation to Reconnect Before and After Worship

Have you been missing connecting to your church friends in a casual setting? Are you looking to meet new people as the weather gets warmer and you are doing more things in person? During the month of May you are invited to spend some time with your First Church community before and after worship outside on our lawn in good weather, inside in Hastings Common when raining or cold. We all are missing spending unstructured time together every week. Come enjoy a cup of tea or coffee and catch up with your church family and potentially form new friendships in the process!



### Refreshments on the Lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour Today at 12:00 p.m.

Join us after church today for coffee and refreshments 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.



### Acting for Re-entry with GBIO

Today, 12:15 - 1 p.m., Church Lawn

First Church and the other 62 members of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) have been working together to expand the rights of and eliminate the stigma surrounding people returning to society following incarceration. Join us for a discussion of the unique challenges to re-entry, led by a member of GBIO's Re-Entry Action Team. Come to listen, to share your story, and to learn how to win this critical racial justice issue.



### 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.

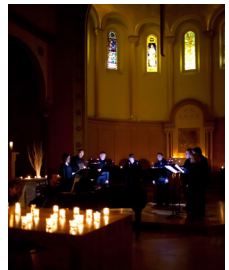


### Night Song

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

### 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!



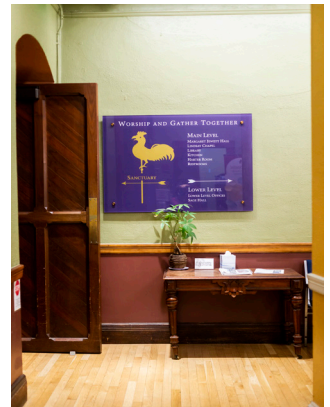
### Religion, Conflict, and Peacebuilding in Ukraine and Beyond Sunday, May 22, 12:15 p.m., Harter Room



How does religious identity, commitments, and political interests impact Russia's war in Ukraine, and how should we respond to those dynamics, and the conflict generally, in order to support just peace in Ukraine and beyond? Join Susie Hayward, FCC member and former director at the U.S. Institute of Peace, and Michelle Goldhaber, a current rabbinical student at Hebrew College and a longtime interfaith peacebuilder in Ukraine, as we wrestle with these questions together. [Read more on our website](#)

### Interested in Joining First Church 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? Membership at First Church involves joining the church through covenantal promises to be an active member of our community of faith and gives you the opportunity to vote at congregational meetings. If you would like to join the church during the 11 a.m. Sunday Morning worship service on May 22 the deadline for submitting your information and an introductory bio to be put in the bulletin is May 15. Registration form [here](#).



## UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



### Pipe Up!

A Campaign  
to Restore  
the Frobenius  
at Fifty

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC

### Save the Date

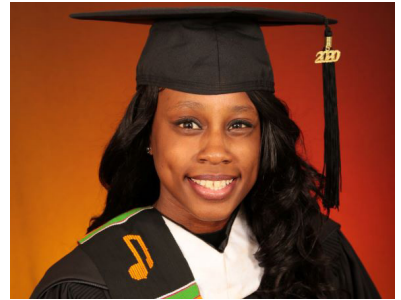
for Pipe Up Organ Concert celebrating the Frobenius  
Sunday, May 22, 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary and via [livestream](#)

Join us for a free concert celebrating the Frobenius organ at First Church in Cambridge and kicking off a fundraising campaign for a major refurbishment after fifty years of faithful service! The program will feature the Harvard Glee Club singing movements from Maurice Duruflé's gorgeous "Messe cum júbilo" conducted by Harvard's Director of Choral Activities, Andrew Clark, organist

Peter Sykes, Director of Music at First Church, and David von Behren, Nathan Peace, Jeongweon Lee, and Christopher Hodges, students of Peter Sykes at Boston University. Music of Max Reger, Louis Vierne, Petr Eben, James Woodman, and Johann Sebastian Bach will fill out the hourlong program. The concert is free. Please register [here](#).

### Blessing for Ministerial Intern Ebony West Sunday, May 22 during Morning Worship

Please come and share with us a special send-off blessing to our ministerial intern, Ebony West. She has spent the past nine months with us serving here at First Church in Cambridge, and has been especially involved with the young adults group and Friday Cafe, as well as taking part in Morning Worship and sharing her preaching gifts with us. We would love for you all to join in on blessing her and wishing her well as she departs from her intern position.



Greater Boston  
Interfaith Organization

**Housing; Mental Health, and Re-Entry  
from Incarceration.**

**Thursday, May 26, 7:00 - 8:30 p.m., Zoom**

When First Church joined with the 60+ other institutions of GBIO to listen last summer, these were the issues closest to our hearts. GBIO has been acting on all three, and will bring them together for our first ever hybrid action. [Register here](#). [Read more on our website](#).

### A Memorial Service for Cynthia Shoemaker

**Thursday, June 23 at 11:00 a.m.**

A memorial service will be held for beloved and longtime First Church member Rev. Cynthia Shoemaker, at 11:00 a.m. on Thursday, June 23 in the Sanctuary with an outdoor reception to follow, weather permitting. This service will also be livestreamed. Cynthia served as First Church's Minister of Christian Education in the 1980's and 90's. She died on April 21, 2021 following an extended struggle with Parkinson's Disease.

## NEWS FROM FIRST CHURCH AND THE UCC

### CALLING ALL COOKS!

With the advent of spring, the Friday Café is experiencing a surge in numbers. Help us keep up by signing up to prepare a casserole, stew, side dish, or dessert for an upcoming Friday! Cooking drop-offs happen Thursday evening or Friday morning at the door of the Tower Room. For more information, or to sign up, visit [here](#). Thank you!



### Invitation to Contribute to Coffee Hour

Please help us make worship as delicious as it is spiritually sustaining! For Coffee Hour each week we are looking for 2-4 households to bring 3 dozen cookies each, or the equivalent of snacks such as cheese & crackers or fruit. In general, the church has a No Nuts policy. Recently

some have requested a brief list of relevant ingredients for those with allergies, if at all possible. [Read more on our website](#) or [SIGN UP HERE IN JUST TWO CLICKS](#)

### Now Two Ways to Donate to the Food Pantry

First Church continues to donate to the food pantry now housed at St. James Episcopal church in Porter Square. The need is as great as ever, if not greater, as food prices rise. There are now TWO ways you can donate. First, as we did pre-Covid, you can bring your bagged items to church on Communion Sundays (first Sunday of each month); place them in the large basket in the narthex as you enter. Second, you can bring your donations at any time to the front porch of Hilary Hopkins' house, 30 Winslow St. in Cambridge, about half a mile up Garden Street from FCC, to the right just off Sherman St. at the firehouse. Place your items in the cooler on the porch and ring the Hopkins bell on the silver mailbox behind you, just to let us know there is something in the cooler. No need to wait for us. What should you donate? Cereal, granola, canned fruit and veggies, rice, proteins, condiments, hearty soups; diapers and feminine items also very welcome. **Please nothing opened and no perishables.** Many many thanks, especially to those who have been faithful donors during Covid. Your generosity is a gift to many.

### 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](http://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.](#)

WE STAND  
FOR PEACE.

WE STAND WITH  
UKRAINE.



# THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



## Monday, May 16

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

## Tuesday, May 17

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

## Wednesday, May 18

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room

## Thursday, May 19

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

## Friday, May 20

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

## Sunday, May 22

- 9:30 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, Chapel
- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship - Joining Sunday and Blessing for Ebony West, Sanctuary and via livestream
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes
- 12:00 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour
- 12:15 p.m. Religion, Conflict and Peacebuilding in the Ukraine and Beyond, Harter Room and via Zoom
- 3:00 p.m. Pipe Up Organ Concert celebrating the Frobenius, Sanctuary and via livestream
- 1:15 p.m. Our Whole Live (OWL), Harter Room
- 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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