



EASTERTIDE

Hybrid Morning Worship

MAY 29, 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 29, 2022

Preaching Today Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach
Leading Worship Dan Smith, Senior Minister
Peter Sykes, Music Director
Marianne Jensen, liturgist
Kevin Newell, 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: Creative Arts - Flower Planting
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 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

Psalm 139

Herbert Howells

*HYMN 404

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*GREETING

Marianne Jensen

- 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

ANTHEM

My Eyes For Beauty Pine

Herbert Howells

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Let us pray for healing, pardon and peace:
**C: Holy One, in the light of your risen glory
we see the harm we have done,
the suffering we have caused,
the good we have refused,
and the truth we have denied.
Heal us, we pray.
Wash us in your mercy,
and feed us with your grace,
so that we may follow in your way**

(continued...)

**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.*

and tell the good news of the gospel.
Amen.

***EASTER PEACE**

Children up through 7th grade are now invited to Church School: Planting flowers with Joanne Paul at the Garden Street entrance. Caregivers can find their children on the playground after worship.

***HYMN 428**

Christ Beside Me

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

John 17:20–26

SERMON

Kate Layzer

CANDLELIGHTING

RESPONSE OF FAITH

If Thoughts and Prayers Could Only...

Henry Lebedinsky

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Smith

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Resting in Stillness

HTL 52



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

*HYMN 380

We Are Not Our Own

*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

Fidelis

Percy Whitlock

A Note About Today's Response of Faith Hymn

Henry Lebedinsky, author of both text and tune of this hymn, received a MM in organ performance from the Longy School of Music in the early 2000's as a student of Peter Sykes, during which time he practiced daily on the Frobenius organ.

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.



404

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

1. Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, joy of heaven, to earth come down.
 2. Breathe, O breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - ery trou - bled breast;
 3. Come, al - might - y to de - liv - er, let us all thy life re - ceive;
 4. Fin - ish, then thy new cre - a - tion; pure and spot - less let us be;

fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy faith - ful mer - cies crown;
 let us all in thee in - her - it, let us find thy prom - ised rest;
 sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er - more thy tem - ples leave.
 let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect - ly re - stored in thee;

Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion, pure, un - bound - ed love thou art;
 take a - way the love of sin - ning; Al - pha and O - me - ga be;
 Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing, serve thee as thy hosts a - bove,
 changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry, till in heaven we take our place,

vis - it us with thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - ery trem - bling heart.
 end of faith, as its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.
 pray, and praise thee with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.
 till we cast our crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise.

428

Christ Beside Me

1. Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me, Christ be -
 2. Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand, Christ all a -
 3. Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me, Christ be on

hind me, Love of my heart. Christ with - in me,
 round me, shield in the strife. Christ in my sleep - ing,
 all tongues tell - ing of me. Christ be the vi - sion

Christ be - low me, Christ a - bove me, nev - er to part.
 Christ in my sit - ting, Christ in my ris - ing, Light of my life.
 in eyes that see me, in ears that hear me, Christ ev - er be.

380

We Are Not Our Own

Unison

1. We are not our own. Earth forms us, hu - man
 2. We are not a - lone. Earth names us: past and
 3. Through a hu - man life God finds us; dy - ing,
 4. There - fore let us make thanks - giv - ing, and with
 5. And if love's en - coun - ters lead us on a
 6. Let us be a house of wel - come, liv - ing

leaves on na - ture's grow - ing vine, fruit of man - y
 2. pre - sent, peo - ples near and far, fam - i - ly and
 liv - ing, love is ful - ly known, and in bread and
 4. jus - tice, will - ing and a - ware, give to earth, and
 way un - cer - tain and un - known, all the saints with
 6. stone up - hold - ing liv - ing stone, glad - ly show - ing

gen - er - a - tions, seeds of life di - vine.
 2. friends and stran - gers show us who we are.
 wine re - minds us: we are not our own.
 4. all things liv - ing, lit - ur - gies of care.
 prayer sur - round us: we are not a - lone.
 6. all our neigh - bors we are not our own!

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We celebrate with Peter Sykes his new faculty appointment to the organ department of the School of Music, Theatre and Dance of the University of Michigan. (He will commute from Boston!)
- 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 recent heart valve replacement surgery and is awaiting kidney stone surgery.
- We pray for the parents and loved ones of 19 children and 2 adults killed in the shooting at an elementary school in Uvalde, Texas this past week. We pray for all those impacted by the recent mass shootings, killing over a dozen people in Buffalo, Houston, Milwaukee, and Orange County. We lift up those who are feeling lost and worried to live in their skin, to go to their grocery stores, and their churches after witnessing these events. We pray for an end to this violence and the fear it instills.
- We lift up prayers of thanksgiving and celebration for all who are graduating this weekend and in the coming weeks.
- We pray for all those who serve in the armed forces and their families, and for all those whose lives have been lost in that service, whom we remember this Memorial Day weekend.
- 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. 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.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- 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.
- 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

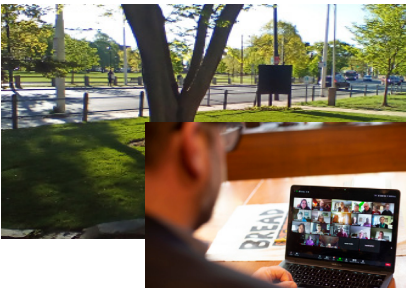
An Invitation to Reconnect Before and After Worship

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.



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.

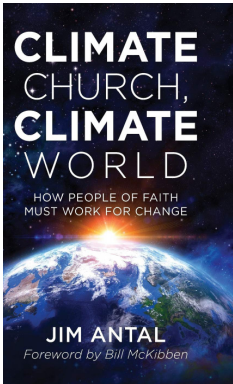
Learn more about Night Song [here](#).



PIPE UP Concert Recording and Sponsor-A-Pipe Opportunity

Last Sunday, First Church hosted an extraordinary concert kicking off a fundraising campaign for a major refurbishment of our beloved Frobenius after fifty years of faithful service! The program included the Harvard Glee Club singing movements from Maurice Duruflé's gorgeous "Messe cum júbilo" conducted by Harvard's Director of Choral Activities, Andrew Clark, Peter Sykes (of course!) as well David von Behren, Nathan Peace, Jeongweon Lee, and Christopher Hodges, recent students of Peter's at Boston University. For a partial recording of the concert, please visit [here](#). To Pipe up and Sponsor-A-Pipe, please click [here](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES



Ecofaith Book Gathering

Thursday, June 2, 5:00 - 6:00 p.m.

Join Earth Stewardship on Zoom on June 2nd at 5 p.m. for another Ecofaith book gathering! We will be reading Jim Antal's 2018 book titled *Climate Church, Climate World*. Many longtime members may remember Jim Antal when he was a beloved member of First Church. He now serves as a denomination leader, climate activist, author, and public theologian. To learn more about Rev. Jim Antal and his book, [click here](#).

PENTECOST WORSHIP

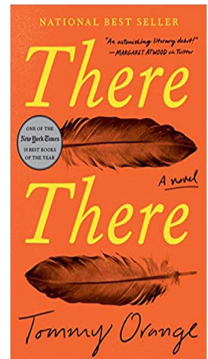
Sunday, June 5th at 11:00 a.m., Hybrid Worship

Join us for hybrid worship on Pentecost Sunday—a day where we celebrate the gifts of the Holy Spirit among us through movement and song, prayer and reflection. This Pentecost is extra special as it falls on a Communion Sunday! Come wearing something red if you'd like and celebrate the Spirit's presence in the body of Christ gathered for the nourishing feast of Communion.

Final Womens' Book Club Until the Fall

Tuesday, June 7, 6 - 7:30 p.m.

Please join us for our final book discussion until the fall. We will be reading *THERE, THERE* by Tommy Orange. As always, anyone who identifies as a woman is welcome--newcomers are urged to check us out! If you are unable to find the book, please let Susan Reynolds or Alex Steinert-Evoy know, and we will do our best to get you a copy. We look forward to having a wonderful discussion and welcoming the summer months.



Children's Sunday Worship

Sunday, June 12 at 11 a.m.

On the second Sunday of June, it is our tradition to mark the end of the program year with celebrations of things accomplished and gifts of gratitude for the many people who make our children's formation offerings so special. We give God thanks for the spiritual journeys of our youngest members and the caring companionship they receive from First Church folks walking alongside them. [Read more on our website](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Save the Date - 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.



Change of plans! Come together for a
DELEGATES ASSEMBLY
June 23 @ 7pm
In person and on zoom
@ Hyde Park Seventh Day Adventist Church
REENTRY - HOUSING - MENTAL HEALTH
Elevate & Accelerate GBIO Campaigns State-Wide
Celebrate GBIO Core Team Power
Big Impact on the Boston Budget
register at [bit.LY/JuneGBIO](https://bit.ly/JuneGBIO)

GBIO - Delegates Assembly on June 23 (formerly May 26)

Join GBIO to celebrate major wins in the Boston City Budget, and a successful campaign to provide state IDs for those returning from incarceration. First Church's core team will join with the other 63 member institutions in a hybrid Delegate's Assembly at 7 p.m. on 6/23 to ratify our state wide plans: acting for affordable housing, mental health and re-entry, grounded in shared stories and racial justice. Register [here](#) to attend virtually, or email Will Erickson (wericks2002@gmail.com) to join the group going in person to Hyde Park Seventh Day Adventist (seats are very limited.)

Greeters and Liturgists Needed!

Do you like helping people feel welcome and accepted? Are you looking to get out of your pew on Sunday mornings? Then the deacons would love to hear from you! We are seeking to expand our pool of people to be either greeters or liturgists on Sundays. Greeting involves providing a kind welcome to people as they enter, along with a bulletin, while liturgists help the staff lead the worship service. There is no long-term commitment and whether you have been at First Church for a day or many years, we would love to get you involved! You can express your interest in either or both roles by filling out this [brief form](#).

Please contact Adam Weiss (adamw@startmail.com) or Amy Matias (amy.matias@verizon.net) with any questions.

Our Legacy of Settler Colonialism: "Bounty" Film Screening and Discussion

Sunday, June 26 at 12:15 in the Harter Room and via Zoom

Bounty reveals the hidden story of the Phips Proclamation, one of many scalp-bounty proclamations used to exterminate Native people in order to take their land in what is now New England. In the film, Penobscot parents and children resist erasure and commemorate survival by reading and reacting to the government-issued Phips Proclamation's call for colonial settlers to hunt, scalp, and murder Penobscot people. On June 26, we will offer another opportunity to view this powerful 9-minute film which we premiered last year with filmmakers Mishy Leshner and Wampanoag leader, gkisedtanamoogk. Join us as we continue to engage this difficult and meaningful conversation and reckon with our history. If you are unable to attend, but would like to view the film and do some learning on your own, please visit www.upstanderproject.org.

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 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 30

First Church Office and Building Closed in observance of Memorial Day

4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Group, via Zoom

Tuesday, May 31

7:30 a.m. Space to Listen: Reflecting on the Gospel of Luke, via Zoom

Wednesday, June 1

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

7:00 p.m. Christian Formation Committee, via Zoom

Thursday, June 2

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, June 3

9:30 a.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room

12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)

Saturday, June 4

8:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, Harter Room

Sunday, June 5

9:30 a.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal, Chapel

10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH

11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Pentecost Sunday, Sanctuary and via Livestream

11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes

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

1:15 p.m. Our Whole Lives (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.

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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