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Hybrid Morning Worship  
June 26, 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

## June 26, 2022

### Preaching Today Leading Worship

Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*  
Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*  
Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Creative Worship & Arts*  
Abby Shuman, *liturgist*  
Bruce Hoppe, *offering Ministry Moment*  
Issa Bibbins, *guest musician*  
Nola Hood, *guest musician*  
Kevin Newell, *tech support*

**Bulletin Cover Image** Freddie Funck, *First Church youth*

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### Today's Programs and Events

- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship: Mental Health Sunday Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
- 12:00 p.m. Refreshments on Lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour
- 12:15 p.m. Our Legacy of Settler Colonialism: *Bounty* Film Screening & Discussion Hybrid: Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

### 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)

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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

### \*HYMN (insert)

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms

### \*GREETING

Abby Shuman

L: Beloved of God, the Spirit is with us even now, gathering us in.

**C: Then let us be held in God's presence, courage,  
strength, and love. The Spirit meets us wherever we are!**

L: Her love is poured out in abundance—  
where tears and hope are mingled together,  
where anger cries out for justice and peace.

**C: Receive her power and wisdom, through works of mercy  
and healing and liberation.**

L: Come, then, let us worship God.

## WORDS OF WELCOME

Abby Shuman and Sarah Higginbotham

## ANTHEM

## CONFESSING

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

## SILENCE

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us ask 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,  
feed us with your grace, and give us new direction,  
so that we may follow in your ways of love and peace.  
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.*

# DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

## \*GREETING OF PEACE

## \*HYMN

The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow  
Like a ship that's tossed and driven, battered by an angry sea;  
When the storms of life are raging, and their fury falls on me,  
I wonder what I have done, that makes this race so hard to run;  
Then I say to my soul, take courage, the Lord will make a way somehow.

*Refrain:*

**The Lord will make a way somehow, when beneath the cross I bow,  
She will take away each sorrow, let Her have your burdens now;  
When the load bears down so heavy the weight is shown upon my brow,  
There's a sweet relief in knowing the Lord will make a way somehow.**

Try to do the best in service, try to do the best you can;  
When I choose to do the right thing evil's present on every hand;  
I look up and wonder why that good fortune passed me by;  
Then I say to my soul, be patient, the Lord will make a way somehow.

Often there's misunderstanding, out of all the good I do;  
Go to friends for consolation, and I find them complaining, too;  
So many nights I toss in pain, wondering what the day will bring;  
Then I say to my heart, don't worry, the Lord will make a way somehow.

## OPENING THE WORD

## PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

## READING

Luke 9: 51-56

## SERMON

Dan Smith

## SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

## MINISTRY MOMENT

Bruce Hoppe

## PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Lexi Boudreaux

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 and address God 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

Love Lifted Me

James Rowe

## \*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, the source of life and birth,  
Praise God, the Word who came to earth,  
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame,  
All glory, honor to God's name! Amen.**

## \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## GOING FORTH

## \*HYMN 427

My Life Flows On in Endless Song

## \*BENEDICTION

## VOLUNTARY

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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.



OPENING HYMN

Leaning on the Everlasting Arms 133

1. What a fel-low-ship, what a joy di-vine, lean-ing on the ev - er -  
 2. O how sweet to walk in this pil-grim way, lean-ing on the ev - er -  
 3. What have I to dread, what have I to fear, lean-ing on the ev - er -

last - ing arms; what a bless-ed-ness, what a peace is mine,  
 last - ing arms; O how bright the path grows from day to day,  
 last - ing arms? I have bless-ed peace with my Lord so near,

*Refrain*

lean - ing on the ev - er - last - ing arms. Lean - ing,  
 Lean-ing on Je - sus,

lean - ing, lean -  
 lean-ing on Je - sus, safe and se-cure from all a-larms; lean -  
 lean-ing on

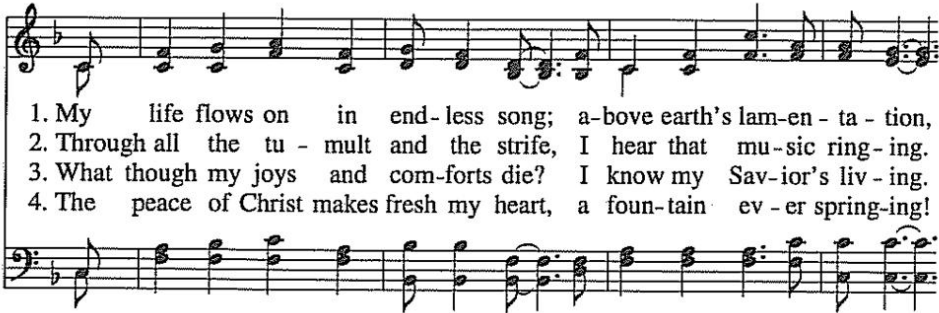
ing, lean - ing,  
 Je - sus, lean-ing on Je - sus, lean-ing on the ev - er - last-ing arms.

WORDS: Elisha A. Hoffman, 1887 (Dt. 33:27)  
 MUSIC: Anthony J. Showalter, 1887

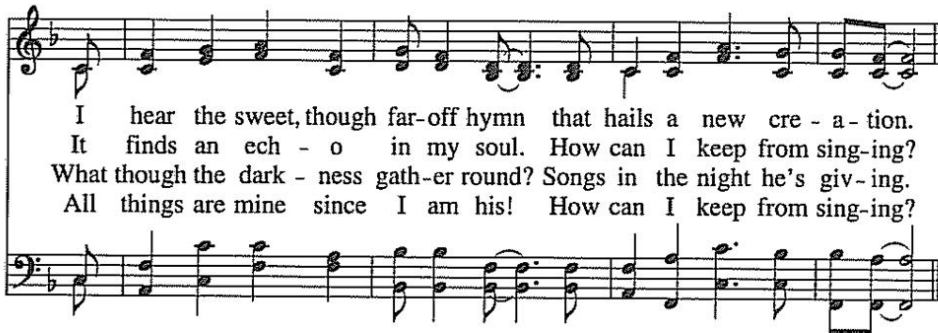
SHOWALTER  
 10 9.10 9 with Refrain



My Life Flows On in Endless Song 427

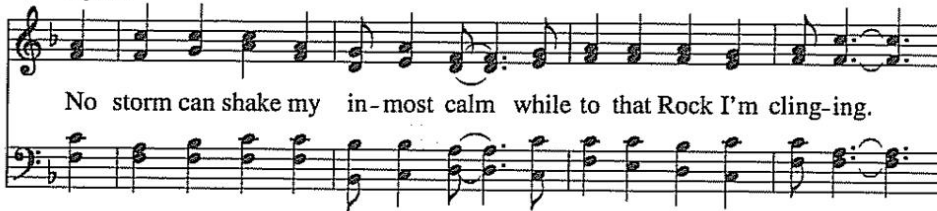


1. My life flows on in end-less song; a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion,  
 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu-sic ring-ing.  
 3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav-ior's liv-ing.  
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

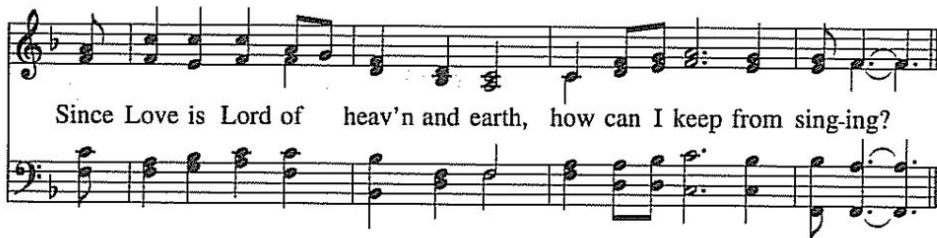


I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.  
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?  
 What though the dark - ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he's giv-ing.  
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

*Refrain*



No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.



Since Love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?

WORDS and MUSIC: Robert Lowry, 1869, alt.

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING  
 87.87 w. refrain

Baptist minister and educator Lowry was editor of Sunday School song books for Biglow & Main, one of the largest publishers of hymnals.

## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray with grateful hearts for First Church's very own Kalo Daley and the crews of the Polynesian vessels *Hikianalia* and *Hokule'a* for successfully completing over 60 days of voyaging almost 5,000 miles of open ocean from Hawaii to Tahiti and back. Well done, and big faamalo (congratulations) to Kalo and her crewmates! Learn more in this [video news coverage](#) of the crew's return.
- We pray for the family and friends of Rev. Jane Heckles, UCC minister and dearest friend of Wendy Vander Hart, who died last weekend after a short battle with pancreatic cancer.
- We pray for Susie Hayward's parents, Ed and Ellie, who are both struggling with medical issues.
- We pray for Perry Neubauer, who is recovering from recent heart valve replacement surgery and is awaiting kidney stone surgery.
- 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 all who are facing severe, dangerous heat in the midwest and southwest and for all who are impacted by unprecedented flooding in Yellowstone National Park. God, give us the divine wisdom and the fortitude to address climate change and work for environmental justice that this world so desperately needs.
- We pray for the people of southeast Afghanistan, who experienced a 5.9 magnitude earthquake this past week that killed over 1,000 people and injured many more.
- We pray for all those impacted by recent mass shootings, in Philadelphia, Uvalde, Tulsa, 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, their schools, their workplaces, and their houses of worship after witnessing these events. We pray for an end to this violence and the fear it instills.
- As the country awaits a ruling from the US Supreme Court that may 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 the people of Ukraine and for people in war-torn areas around the world. We pray for all troops and civilians, and for bordering countries receiving refugees.



## COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- 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 all transgender and gender non-conforming people who are experiencing hostility, discrimination, and violence across the country, in connection with the increased number of legislative actions that negatively impact their civil rights.
- We pray for all creatures, all green growing beings, the stars and the beyonds beyond them—for we are all made in God’s image. God, help us to treat your creation with the awe and reverence it is due, and to protect it as holy.
- 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 these codes to connect with First Church via social media:



## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

### Today is United Church of Christ (UCC) Mental Health Sunday

In this season, organizations nationwide advocating for persons diagnosed with mental illnesses come together to present Mental Health Month. Our denomination (the UCC) participates as well, inviting local congregations nationwide to lift up issues that matter to this community: effective and equitable treatment, fostering peer support programs in the psychiatric system, cultivating wellness as well as treating illness, and pushing back against stigmatization.



Today it is First Church's turn! We've chosen to ***"Widen the Welcome"*** on our own UCC Mental Health Sunday. Our Deacons and ministerial staff are coming together to consider how we can raise such efforts' profiles and create channels of acceptance and recovery within our congregation.

Here are three organizations (two local chapters of national non-religious entities and our denomination's network) worthy of your support. NAMI Mass and DBSA Boston reach out to friends and families of those suffering mental illness as well. They allow you to make a financial contribution through their websites; contact any of the three for more information.

#### **National Alliance on Mental Illness of Massachusetts (NAMI Mass), Woburn**

Office 617-580-8541 / Compass Helpline 800-370-1985

<https://namimass.org>

#### **Depression and Bipolar Support Alliance of Boston (DBSA), Belmont**

617-855-2795

<https://dbsaboston.org>

#### **United Church of Christ Mental Health Network**

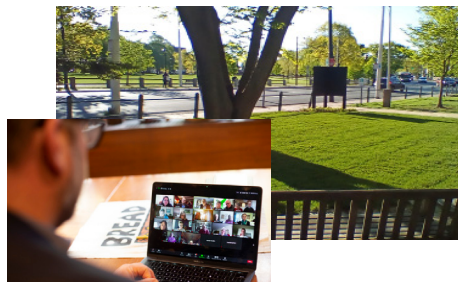
<https://www.mhn-ucc.org>

The MHN continues to grow its WISE Congregation initiative, training local UCC churches to become [Welcoming, Inclusive, Supportive, and Engaged communities](#). On their website, you'll discover the steps necessary for WISE certification, covenants from model congregations, a toolkit and .pdf booklet, and other resources.

## TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

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

Join us after church 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.



### Our Legacy of Settler Colonialism: *Bounty* Film Screening and Discussion Today at 12:15 p.m., 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. We offer another opportunity to view this powerful 9-minute film which we premiered last year with filmmakers Mishy Leshar 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](http://www.upstanderproject.org).

### 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? 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 worship. There is no long-term commitment; 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 Deacon Co-Chairs Adam Weiss ([adamw@startmail.com](mailto:adamw@startmail.com)) or Amy Matias ([amy.matias@verizon.net](mailto:amy.matias@verizon.net)) with any questions.



## SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH



### Summer Hours

Through the months of July and August, **Hybrid Morning Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.**, with pick-up choir meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Over the summer, church school-aged children are invited to remain in the sanctuary for the entire worship service. The Nursery continues to be staffed by our regular caregivers for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers.

During the summer, the church building closes at 2:00 p.m. from Thursday through Sunday. The building is open for regular hours Monday through Wednesday. A Sexton is in the building when it is open.

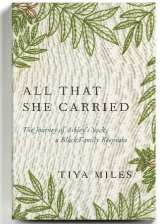
### Summer Book Reading Groups

Looking to dive into a book this summer with members of First Church? We have two book groups running this summer, one in July and one in August:

***All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake***  
by Tiya Miles

**Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., June 30 – July 21**

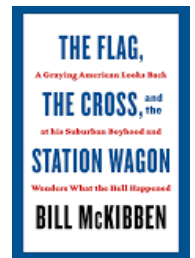
Please email Hilary Hopkins (hopkinsjh@verizon.net) to RSVP and receive Zoom info.



***The Flag, the Cross and the Station Wagon: A Graying American Looks Back at His Suburban Boyhood and Wonders What the Hell Happened***  
by Bill McKibben

**Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m., August 2 - 16**

Please email Dan Smith (dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org) to RSVP and receive Zoom info.



### Friday Café Summer Update

The Friday Café is nearing the end of a long and fulfilling program year. It was our 8th season of operation, and our 3rd pandemic season. Most of Season 8 took place in hybrid mode: home-made food served in to-go containers from tables in Margaret Jewett Hall, with table seating on the church lawn. We served almost 4,000 such meals—plus several hundred bag lunches during the height of the Omicron surge in January and February. Twice we made plans to return to indoor seating, and twice we had to pull back because of rising case/hospitalization numbers...

[Read more](#)



## SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

### Frobenius Restoration Underway

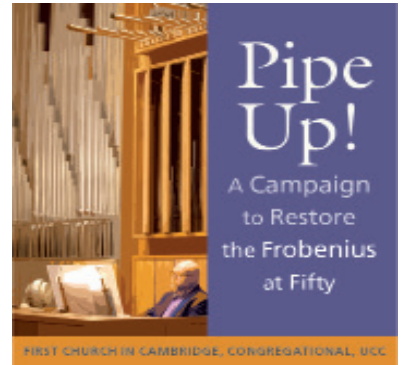
The first phase of our Frobenius organ restoration is already well underway! A small motor has been sent to Germany for repair. Pipes are being removed and cleaned, one pipe and one section at a time. This allows us to use the organ, albeit at limited capacity, even as the work is underway.

You can see here what a difference the polishing makes; the left side is “before,” and the right, “after.”



We have good news, too, about our fundraising efforts to date. ***We are just over halfway to our total goal of \$160,000, having raised \$82,150 to date!*** Thank you to First Church and to the wider community for “piping up” to support our “wondrous machine” and the beauty it creates.

Come fall, stay tuned for an announcement of our next concert and more opportunities to celebrate, learn about and support our beloved Frobenius at 50! If you have not had a chance to participate or sponsor-a-pipe, please visit [here!](#)



### An Invitation to Covenant Dinner

**Wednesday, July 6, 6:00 p.m.**

**Home of Ann and Dave McCann, Watertown**

Would you like to reconnect with old friends, meet new friends and fellow congregants, and take a moment to reflect on what it means to be part of the church community? Would you like to share conversation, food, and drink with interesting people over a potluck dinner?

The Stewardship Committee is organizing and revitalizing the Covenant dinner tradition. If you are interested in attending a dinner on July 6 at the McCann’s home in Watertown and/or are interested in hosting a future meal, please [RSVP here](#); a member of the Stewardship Committee will follow up soon.



What does Stewardship have to do with Covenant Dinners?

[Read Stewardship Chair Joanne Paul’s reflection on this question](#) on our blog.



# THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



## Monday, June 27

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices, via Zoom
- 5:00 p.m. Exploring Reparations, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Council, via Zoom

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

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

## Wednesday, June 29

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room
- 4:30 p.m. Nominating Committee, via Zoom

## Thursday, June 30

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

## Friday, July 1

- 9:30 a.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room
- 12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Tower Room and Lawn

## Sunday, July 3 - Summer Worship Begins at 10:00 a.m.

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship with Communion  
Lexi Boudreaux, preaching
- 11:00 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour

## Monday, July 4 - Church Office & Building Closed for Independence Day Holiday

First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC  
11 Garden St. • Cambridge, MA 02138

617-547-2724 • [info@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:info@firstchurchcambridge.org) • [www.firstchurchcambridge.org](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org)

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