



Hybrid Summer Worship
July 10, 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

July 10, 2022

Leading Worship Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*
Kate Layzer, *Minister of Street Outreach*
Jaz Buchanan, *Pastoral Associate*
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*
John Matias, *liturgist*
Kevin Newell, *tech support*
Bulletin Cover Image Gaylen Morgan, *First Church member*

Today's Programs and Events

9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
10:00 a.m. Hybrid Summer Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
11:00 a.m. Refreshments on Lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour

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

VOLUNTARY

Improvisation on “Balm in Gilead”

Peter Sykes

*HYMN 417

All My Hope on God is Founded

*GREETING

John Matias

- L: Beloved, wherever you are on your journey of life and faith,
C: gather in this sacred time and space.
L: Come, just as you are, beautifully and wonderfully made.
C: Gather in our Creator’s steadfast love that endures forever.
L: Come, all who seek rest and Sabbath,
C: gather in Christ who will give you renewal.
L: Come, all who yearn for justice, hope and peace.
C: Gather in the presence of the Spirit who guides us now.
L: Come, let us give thanks and worship God!

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

God Be In My Head

Walford Davies

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Together, let us pray for healing, pardon, and peace:
**All: Before you, O God, and before one another,
we confess the times when our words and actions
separated us from your greatest commandment
to love you, our neighbor, and ourselves.
God, tend to all the places within us that need healing and peace,
and fill us with your hope, strength, and wisdom.
In Jesus’ name we pray. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

**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.*

***GREETING OF PEACE**

***HYMN C-28**

God's Forgiveness Waits

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Kate Layzer

READING

Psalm 130

READING

James 5:13-16

A TIME FOR HEALING

REFLECTION AND INVITATION

Dan Smith

BLESSING OF OIL AND HANDS

Dan Smith and Jaz Buchanan

Those in the Sanctuary wishing to participate may line up at one of the healing stations. Those online are invited to [join a healing station on Zoom](#). You will be placed in a breakout room by the host, who will visit each room to hear what is on your mind or heart and to offer a short blessing.

HYMNS

- 88 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need
- 400 There is a Balm in Gilead
- 441 Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

CONCLUDING 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.**

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVITATION TO OFFERING



Give by Text



Give Online



I've Given Already

OFFERTORY

Have Faith In God

Bryn A. Rees

*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 C-3

Psalm 23

*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

Blessed Jesus, We Are Here

J. S. Bach

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

417 All My Hope on God Is Founded

1. All my hope on God is found-ed, who does all my trust re-new.
 2. Day by day the al-might-y giv-er boun-teous gifts on us be-stows;
 3. Still from earth to God e-ter-nal hymns of grate-ful praise be sung,

Safe through change and chance God guides me, on-ly good and on-ly true.
 with de-light our souls are nour-ished, plea-sure leads us where we go.
 high a-bove all prais-es prais-ing for the gift of Christ the Son.

God un-known, One a-lone seeks to claim my heart as home.
 Love does stand at God's hand; joy a-waits each new com-mand.
 Hear Christ's call one and all; those who fol-low shall not fall.

WORDS: Joachim Neander, c. 1680; para. Robert Bridges, 1899, alt.
 MUSIC: Herbert Howells, 1930, 1977

MICHAEL
 87.87.337

PEACE HYMN

C-28

God's Forgiveness Waits

God's for-give-ness waits, pa-tient as God a-lone, work-ing up-on the

The first system of musical notation for the hymn. It consists of a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "God's for-give-ness waits, pa-tient as God a-lone, work-ing up-on the".

hu-man heart like wa-ter drip-ping on a stone; ——— like

The second system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "hu-man heart like wa-ter drip-ping on a stone; ——— like". The piano accompaniment continues with chords and moving lines.

wa-ter on a stone, wear-ing the stone a-way, God's mer-cy calls un-

The third system of musical notation. The vocal line continues with the lyrics: "wa-ter on a stone, wear-ing the stone a-way, God's mer-cy calls un-". The piano accompaniment continues.

to it-self the hard-ened heart that can - not pray. The

The fourth and final system of musical notation. The vocal line concludes with the lyrics: "to it-self the hard-ened heart that can - not pray. The". The piano accompaniment concludes with sustained chords.

PEACE HYMN, cont'd.

heart that can-not pray will some-day praise God's name with ev-ery voice on

earth un-til the stones them-selves God's grace pro - claim. Praise

God! the time-less one, for God's for-give-ness waits, e - ter-nal, ten-der,

age-less, true, to save the world that God cre - ates.

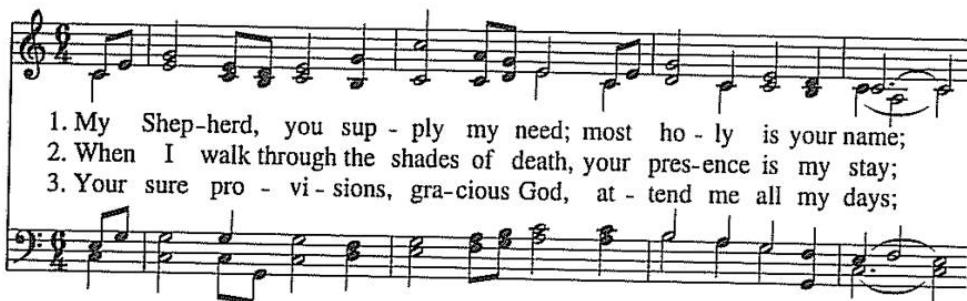
WORDS: Kate Layzer

MUSIC: Peter Sykes

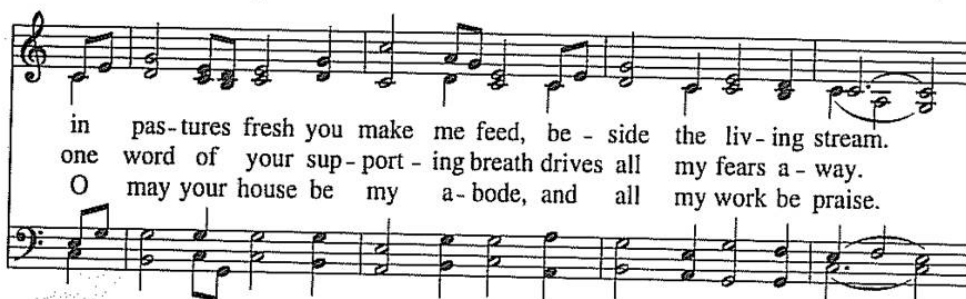
The images in this hymn come from a sermon given by Allen Happe

HEALING HYMN

88 My Shepherd, You Supply My Need



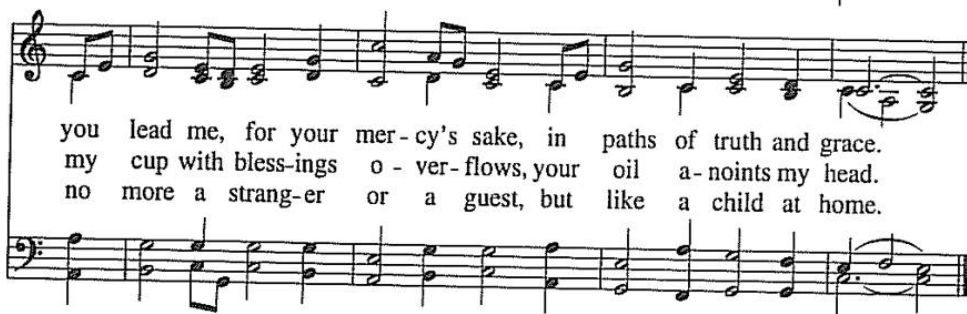
1. My Shep-herd, you sup - ply my need; most ho - ly is your name;
 2. When I walk through the shades of death, your pres-ence is my stay;
 3. Your sure pro - vi - sions, gra - cious God, at - tend me all my days;



in pas-tures fresh you make me feed, be - side the liv - ing stream.
 one word of your sup - port - ing breath drives all my fears a - way.
 O may your house be my a - bode, and all my work be praise.



You bring my wan-dering spir - it back when I for - sake your ways;
 Your hand, in sight of all my foes, does still my ta - ble spread;
 There would I find a set - tled rest, while oth - ers go and come;



you lead me, for your mer - cy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.
 my cup with bless - ings o - ver - flows, your oil a - noints my head.
 no more a strang - er or a guest, but like a child at home.

WORDS: Isaac Watts, 1719, alt.

MUSIC: Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm., FCC, 1997

RESIGNATION
CMD

HEALING HYMN

400

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain §

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul. *Fine*

1. Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged, and
 2. Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, for
 3. If you can't preach like Pe - ter, if

think my work's in vain. But then the Ho - ly
 Je - sus is your friend, and if you look for
 you can't pray like Paul, just tell the love of

D.S.
 Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 knowl - edge he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend. There is a
 Je - sus, and say he died for all.

WORDS and MUSIC: African-American spiritual
 Here is a positive response to the question asked in
 Jeremiah 8:22: 'Is there no balm in Gilead?' Hope
 for the future is sustained in the painful present.

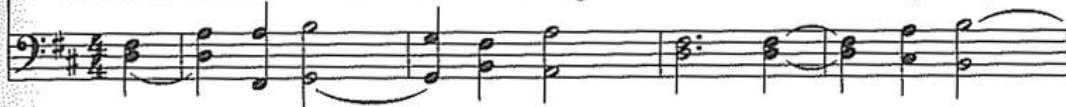
BALM IN GILEAD
 76.76 w. refrain

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

441

Unison

1. E - ter-nal Spir - it of the liv - ing Christ, I know not how to
 2. Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day; help me to see your
 3. Come with the vi - sion and the strength I need to serve my God, and



ask or what to say; I on - ly know my need, as deep as
 pur- pose and your will, where I have failed, what I have done a -
 all hu - man - i - ty; ful - fill - ment of my life in love out -



life, and on - ly you can teach me how to pray.
 miss; held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
 poured — my life in you, O Christ, your love in me.



WORDS: Frank von Christerson, 1974, rev. 1979
 MUSIC: Alfred M. Smith, 1941

SURSUM CORDA
 10 10.10 10

CLOSING HYMN

Psalm 23

C-3

1. My God, my shep-herd and my guide, you sat - is -
2. You bring my soul to peace a - gain and set my
3. You lay a ban-quet out for me in sight of
4. I know your good-ness and your love will al - ways

fy my need, you of - fer rest in pleas - ant fields,
path a - right. Your rod and staff sub - due my fears,
all my foes. You hon - or me and fill my cup
fol - low me, and in your house I'll make my home

to wat - ers calm you lead.
in dark-ness you give light.
un - til it ov - er - flows.
for all e - ter - ni - ty.

WORDS: New translation by Denise Karuth

MUSIC: New England Psalter, 1698

LOW DUTCH

One has to need the Psalms before one greatly prizes them. It is not until we are the sheep of the Shepherd, and we are aware that he is leading us and making us to rest by the still waters that we know the twenty-third psalm. It is not until we are in the valley of the shadow of death that we can sing, as it should be sung: "I will fear no evil, for thou art with me."

The Psalms deepen and exalt life. The deepened and exalted life is fond of the Psalms.

Alexander McKenzie
Eleventh Minister 1867-1912

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for First Church Sexton Kimel Williams as he begins a medical leave of absence for an injured back.
- 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.
- We pray for all who are facing severe, dangerous heat in the midwest and southwest and for all who are impacted by unprecedented flooding and wildfires.
- We pray for all those grieving the loss of over 50 people in an apparent human smuggling operation found recently in San Antonio, Texas, and we pray for healing for those who have survived. We pray that lawmakers might see past their partisan differences to address the basic human rights of migrants seeking a new home.
- We pray for the people of southeast Afghanistan, who experienced a 5.9 magnitude earthquake that killed over 1,000 people and injured many more.
- We pray for all those impacted by the July 4 mass shooting in Highland Park, and we lift up all those terrorized by shootings that are occurring much too frequently in our nation. 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.
- We pray for the family and friends mourning the death of Jayland Walker, who was shot by police in Akron, Ohio. We pray for the city of Akron and for our nation, as we struggle to confront policing bias that results in the senseless deaths of too many Black and brown people.
- In the wake of the overturning of Roe v. Wade, we pray for those facing the loss of 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.
- 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.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- 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 resilience in our work for the environment following the recent Supreme Court ruling on *West Virginia v. Environmental Protection Agency* that limits EPA's ability to restrict greenhouse gas emissions from power plants. God, redirect our hearts towards your unending hope. Endow us with the strength and courage needed for the climate and environmental justice work that lies ahead.
- 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



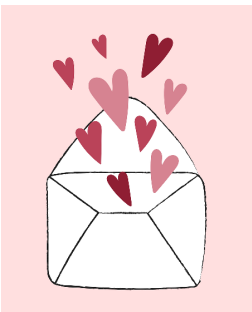
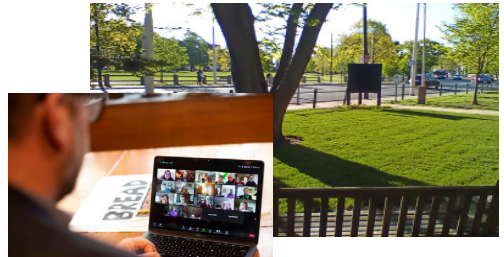
Summer Healing Services, Today and August 21

This summer we offer a return of our healing services. In these services, we have an opportunity to reflect together on God's healing peace and to participate in a simple healing ritual involving a brief prayer, laying on of hands, and—for those who wish—anointing with oil, an ancient Christian practice now being

revived across the ecumenical spectrum of churches. At the time of the sermon, we offer instead a brief introduction to the ritual and then invite forward all who would like to participate. For those who prefer to remain seated, there will be music and a time of silence for individual prayers.

Refreshments on the Lawn and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour Today at 11:00 a.m.

Join us after church today for coffee, lemonade, and refreshments on the front lawn! For those joining online, Zoom Coffee Hour will launch at the end of worship.



Pastoral Care Cards this Summer

During the summer months, we invite you to support our Pastoral Care ministry by writing a simple note to First Church members who are on our weekly prayer list. It may be to share congratulations, condolences, or "get well soon" wishes. Look for the "card table" at Coffee Hour each Sunday, where you'll find the weekly list of pastoral care needs and/or the Sunday bulletin prayer section, blank cards, pens, and a Church Directory with addresses. We have also included stamps and return address labels.

Please affix to the completed cards and place them in one of the mailboxes on Garden St. as you leave (corner of Garden and Mason or corner of Garden and Berkeley). If you'd like to write cards from home, use the online bulletin and Church Directory found in the "Quick Links" on the [Members & Friends page](#) of our website. Many thanks in advance for sharing in this important ministry of outreach and care.

Would you like to join one of our Pastoral Care Teams to write cards, visit members, or deliver meals September through June? Contact Care Team Coordinator Susie Neubauer to learn more: susieneubauer@gmail.com.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

Leadership Retreat Summary & Opportunities to Offer Input

In early June, 35 members of our Executive Council, Board of Deacons, and Staff met for an after-church leadership retreat. We tried to take stock of where we've been since Covid and where we are now. We invited leaders to share both celebrations and questions around several key areas of our life together. Imagine Margaret Jewett Hall set up around 5 newsprint stations with lots of colorful scribbles under these topics:



- Hybrid Worship and Community
- Our Financial Life
- Our Staffing Model
- Becoming an Antiracist Church
- Everything Else!

And now, we'd love to hear from you!

For a **summary of our celebrations and questions**, please [click here](#).

For a chance to **add your own celebrations and questions**, please [click here](#).

If you are interested in joining a **summer gathering where we can share in conversation about all of the above**, please [sign up here](#).

After a time of being apart for so long, the retreat and these ongoing exercises are helping us to orient and share a common sense of where we are! Stay tuned for more opportunities this fall, as we continue to celebrate and deepen our discernment about where God is leading us next.



Summer Hours

Through the months of July and August, **Hybrid Morning Worship begins at 10:00 a.m.**, with pick-up choir meeting at 9:15 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 AT FIRST CHURCH

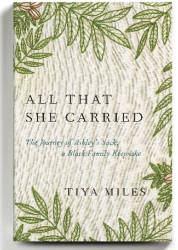
Summer Book Reading Groups

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 28

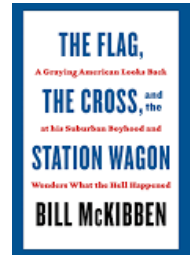
Please email Hilary Hopkins (hopkinsjh@verizon.net) to RSVP and receive Zoom info.



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.



Forgotten Souls of Tory Row:

Remembering the Enslaved People of Brattle Street

Art Installation at Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, Next Sunday, July 17, 11:15 a.m., 159 Brattle St., Cambridge

First Church member and History Cambridge Executive Director Marieke van Damme will lead a 15-minute walk from the church lawn to History Cambridge's headquarters at 159

Brattle Street to view the temporary outdoor art installation *Forgotten Souls of Tory Row: Remembering the Enslaved People of Brattle Street*. Marieke will offer a short overview of the project (outdoors) and also show folks around the first floor of the Hooper-Lee-Nichols House. Light refreshments will be served. First Church member Paula Paris was a consultant on the project. If you have questions or concerns, please reach out to Marieke: mvandamme@historycambridge.org.

Young Adults: Faith on Tap

Monday, July 18, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Vera's in Union Square

Join other First Church 20- and 30-somethings for some casual fellowship. We get together a few times monthly for walks, drinks, and conversation.

Given the nature of being in a university town, FCC attracts a mix of students who're checking out church for the first time in a while, folks who've just moved to town looking for friends: the conversation and company is always changing. All are welcome, especially those new to First Church or exploring a new faith path. Reach out to Phil at: youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org to get on the mailing list. Text Phil you're coming: 585-610-7919. See you soon!



SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH



Neighborhood Prayer Walks

Saturday, July 23 and Saturday, August 13, 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.

The Deacons invite you to a walk around our neighborhood of Cambridge to explore the area surrounding our church. Gather for a brief Deacon-led prayer before we take an easy stroll through different parts of Cambridge ending in lunch or coffee at a locally owned

Cambridge business. More details to follow as we get closer to the dates. Would you like to request a section of Cambridge to walk? Contact [Beth Spaulding](#) or [Lexi Boudreaux](#).

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 over halfway to our total goal of \$160,000! 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](#)!



THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, July 11

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

Tuesday, July 12

6:30 p.m. Investments Committee, via Zoom

Thursday, July 14

6:00 p.m. Drop-in Bible Study, via Zoom

7:00 p.m. Summer Book Reading Group: *All That She Carried*, via Zoom

Friday, July 15

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

12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Tower Room and Lawn

Sunday, July 17

9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH

10:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship

Lexi Boudreaux, preaching

11:00 a.m. Refreshments on the Lawn and Zoom Coffee Hour

11:15 a.m. *Forgotten Souls of Tory Row: Remembering the Enslaved People of Brattle Street*
Art Installation at Hooper-Lee-Nichols House, leave from church lawn

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

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

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