



*Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.*

Psalm 30:5

Good Friday
April 7, 2023

**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

Good Friday, April 7, 2023

Leading Worship

Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*
Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*
Kate Layzer, *Minister of Street Outreach*
Carla Carbajal, *Ministerial Intern*
Ahmaad Edmund, *Ministerial Intern*
Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Creative Worship & Arts*
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*

Bulletin Cover Image

Psalm 30 collage by Audrey Bellinger
This and other Psalm collages can be viewed in a [digital gallery](#).

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY

O Mensch, bewein dein' Sünde gross

J. S. Bach

*GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

- L: Siblings in Christ,
peace to you from our merciful God.
- C: Peace to you and to this beautiful, broken world.**
- L: On this night of lament,
we come to remember Jesus' suffering,
his death upon a cross.
- C: On this night of sorrow,
we come to remember Jesus' love for us.**
- L: God is with us now in our pain,
grieving the death of his only Son.
- C: God is with us in our endless tears,
grieving the suffering of all creation.**
- L: Then let us pray on this holy night,
remembering that even as we cry in pain,
we draw hope from God's presence and unconditional love.

SILENCE AND CANDLELIGHTING

*In this moment of silence, you are welcome to come to the altar
to light a candle and join us in worship and in song*

*HYMN 200

Were You There?

SEVEN LAST WORDS OF CHRIST

Beloved, as we approach our time of contemplation, we will be going through Jesus' last seven words before the death of Jesus Christ. As we hear his last words, we will also be sharing words of wisdom from our Truth Tellers whose portraits and presence are in our very own building. Friends, these are witnesses whose words never die; however, they talked about death and injustice. In that same spirit of witness and grief, let us hear these words.

JESUS TALKS WITH GOD

Ahmaad Edmund

Reading Luke 23:34
Truth Teller Frederick Douglass
Silence

JESUS TALKS TO THE CRIMINAL BESIDE HIM

Kate Layzer

Reading Luke 23:43
Truth Teller Betty Burkes
Silence

JESUS TALKS WITH MARY AND JOHN

Carla Carbajal

Reading John 19:26–27
Truth Teller Bob Moses
Silence

JESUS CRIES OUT TO GOD

Dan Smith

Reading Matthew 27:46
Truth Teller Bryan Stevenson
Silence

JESUS THIRSTS

Lexi Boudreaux

Reading John 19:28
Truth Teller Ida B. Wells
Silence

JESUS TAKES A FINAL BREATH

Sarah Higginbotham

Reading John 19:30
Truth Teller Amara Ifeji
Silence

**You are invited to stand.*

JESUS RAISED HIS VOICE

Reading Luke 23:46
Truth Teller Harriet A. Jacobs
Silence

*HYMN 201

They Crucified My Lord

THE GOOD NEWS OF CONSOLATION

RESPONSIVE READING

Romans 8: 31-39

L: What then should we say
about our present suffering?

C: If God is for us, who can be against us?

L: If God did not withhold the only
beloved Son, but gave him up for us all,
will God not give us everything else as well?

**C: Even now, Christ Jesus, who died, yes,
and who was raised from the dead,
is at the right hand of God, interceding for us!**

L: Who will separate us from the love of Christ?

**C: Will hardship, or distress, or persecution,
or famine, or nakedness, or peril, or sword?**

L: No, I tell you.

In all these things we are more than conquerors,
through Christ who loved us.

**All: For I am convinced that neither death, nor life,
nor angels, nor rulers,
nor things present, nor things to come,
nor powers, nor height, nor depth,
nor anything else in all creation
will be able to separate us from the love of God
in Christ Jesus, our Lord.**

*HYMN 183

What Wondrous Love Is This

*BLESSING

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200

Were You There?

1. Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord? Were you
 2. Were you there when they nailed him to the tree? Were you
 3. Were you there when they laid him in the tomb? Were you

there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 there when they nailed him to the tree? Oh! - - -
 there when they laid him in the tomb?

Some-times it caus-es me to trem-ble, trem-ble, trem-ble.

Were you there when they cru - ci - fied my Lord?
 Were you there when they nailed him to the tree?
 Were you there when they laid him in the tomb?

They Crucified My Lord

1. They cru - ci - fied my Lord, and he nev - er
 2. They nailed him to a tree, and he nev - er
 3. They pierced him in the side, and he nev - er
 4. He bowed his head and died, and he nev - er

said a mum - ba - lin' word; they cru - ci - fied my
 said a mum - ba - lin' word; they nailed him to a
 said a mum - ba - lin' word; they pierced him in the
 said a mum - ba - lin' word; he bowed his head and

Lord, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin'
 tree, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin'
 side, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin'
 died, and he nev - er said a mum - ba - lin'

word. Not a word, not a word, not a word.

CLOSING HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

183

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul! O my soul! What
 2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to
 3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
 God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the
 when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! And when from death I'm

this! that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the heav-y cross for my
 Lamb who is the great I Am, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
 free, I'll sing and joy-ful be, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

soul, for my soul, to bear the heav-y cross for my soul!
 sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
 on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

WORDS: Appalachian folk hymn, Stith Mead's *A General Selection of the Newest and Most Admired Hymns and Spiritual Songs Now in Use*, 1811, alt.
 MUSIC: Appalachian folk hymn, Walker's *Southern Harmony*, c. 1835; harm. FCC, 1997

WONDROUS LOVE
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