



*Awake, my soul! Awake, O harp and lyre!
I will awake the dawn.
I will give thanks to you, O Lord,
I will sing praises to you among the nations,
for your steadfast love is as high as the heavens;
your faithfulness extends to the clouds.*

- Psalm 57:8-10

Eastertide
April 16, 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
387 YEARS
ON THE WAY
1 6 3 6 – 2 0 2 3

April 16, 2023

Preaching Today Leading Worship

Carla Carbajal, *Ministerial Intern*
Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*
Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*
Ahmaad Edmund, *Ministerial Intern*
Will Erickson, *liturgist*
Justin Brueggeman, *guest musician*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*

Bulletin Cover Image

Psalms 57 collage by Audrey Bellinger
This and other Psalm collages can be viewed in [a digital gallery](#).

Today's Programs and Events

- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Creative Arts Workshop, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour, MJH
- 12:15 p.m. First Church Membership & Joining by Covenant, Harter Room & [via Zoom](#)
- 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 a visitor card found on the small clipboards or this "[virtual visitor card](#)" so that we might 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

Minister On Call

If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call 857-331-7136 ext. 222. Your call will be routed to a First Church minister based on a rotating schedule that covers staff time off.

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

Prelude in G Major, BWV 550

J. S. Bach

***HYMN 420**

In the Morning When I Rise (Give Me Jesus)

***GREETING**

- L: Siblings in the Spirit, grace and peace to you from God!
C: From God the Merciful, peace to you!
L: And together, let us praise God in the presence of Love —
C: Love divine, stronger than injustice and death!
L: Together, let us praise God in the companionship of the Risen Christ —
C: the Risen Christ, source of truth, who abides with us now!
L: Together, let us praise God in this time of worship!

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Love Is Come Again

Traditional carol, arr. P. Sykes

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SUNG PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lead Me, Lord

Hymn 271

Lead me, Lord, lead me in thy right-eous-ness, make thy way
plain be - fore my face. For it is thou, Lord, thou, Lord,
on - ly, that mak - est me dwell in safe - ty.

The image shows a musical score for the hymn 'Lead Me, Lord'. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are written below the vocal line.

**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 FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

Please turn to your neighbors and offer a handshake, or a hug! Or if you prefer to maintain social distance, fold your hands or arms in a sign of peace. We want everyone to be comfortable; today let there be no spiritual distance between us.

*HYMN 421

Not with Naked Eye, Not with Human Sense

Children up through 6th grade are now invited to Church School: Creative Arts Workshop in Margaret Jewett Hall. Caregivers can find the children in Margaret Jewett Hall after worship.

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Ahmaad Edmund

READING

John 20:19-31

SERMON

Carla Carbajal

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Smith

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Lexi Boudreaux

L: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

L: Let us pray... (silence, intercessions, 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

OFFERTORY

Joy Fills The Morning

Antonio Lotti

***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 7**

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

***BENEDICTION**

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in G Major, BWV 550

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.



SCAN ME

You can find a longer version of this acknowledgment [here](#) or by scanning the QR code to the left.

In the Morning When I Rise
(Give Me Jesus)

420

Unison

1. In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I
2. At mid-night when I cry, at mid-night when I
3. Oh, when I come to die, oh, when I come to
4. In the morn-ing when I rise, in the morn-ing when I

rise, in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.
cry, at mid-night when I cry, give me Je - sus.
die, oh, when I come to die, give me Je - sus.
rise, in the morn-ing when I rise, give me Je - sus.

Refrain


Give me Je - sus, give me Je - sus;

you can have all the rest, give me Je - sus.


PEACE HYMN

421 Not with Naked Eye, Not with Human Sense


Unison



1. Not with na - ked eye, not with hu - man sense:
2. God is al - ways near, but is nev - er seen:
3. Chil - dren learn of God trust - ing what they feel;
4. Thom - as saw the Christ break - ing earth's rou - tine;
5. Not with craft - ed scope, not with crys - tal lens:

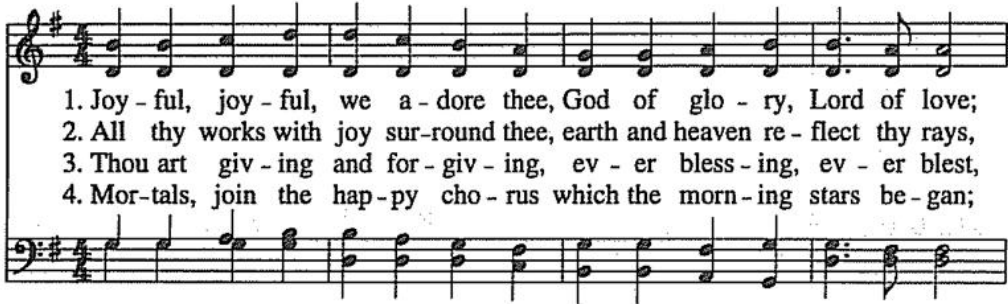


through the eye of faith ob - serve om - ni - po - tence.
Source of heaven and earth and all that lies be - tween.
touch - ing, tast - ing, seek - ing, find - ing what is real.
blessed are those who trust the Ho - ly One un - seen.
vi - sion of the Christ be - gins where see - ing ends.

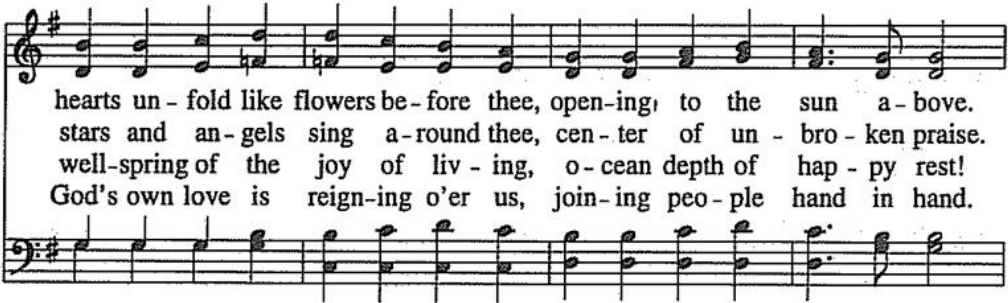


Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

7



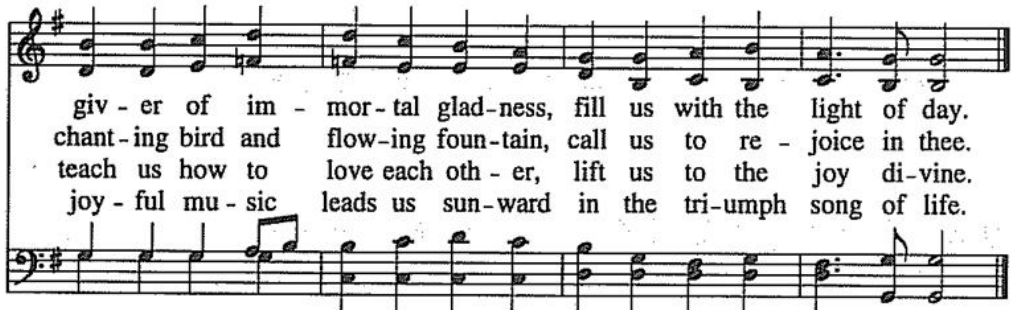
1. Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,
 4. Mor - tals, join the hap - py cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, open - ing, to the sun a - bove.
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 God's own love is reign - ing o'er us, join - ing peo - ple hand in hand.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the dark of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - ery mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Source of grace and fount of bless - ing, all who live in love are thine;
 Ev - er sing - ing, march we on - ward, vic - tors in the midst of strife,



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine.
 joy - ful mu - sic leads us sun - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for the Faith Lutheran Church after their building was destroyed in a fire on Easter Sunday evening. We pray for their pastor, Rev. Robin Lutjohann, as well as the staff and community impacted by this devastating loss.
- We pray for our Commonwealth this week, especially tomorrow on tenth anniversary of the Marathon bombing.
- We pray for Art Anger, who was hospitalized this week for a cerebral hemorrhage.
- We pray for Carter West, who is facing the challenge of living with Parkinsonism.
- We pray for Lisa McCarty and her family as they grieve the loss of Lisa's father Michael Triplett, who died unexpectedly of a heart attack.
- We pray for Carol Wilson-Braun as she deals with a slow-progressing motor neuron disorder.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Joanne Paul; Bridget Melle, Rich Goode's sister; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones's mother; 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 friend of Homeless Ministries Brian O'Donovan.
- Knowing that prayers are not enough, we pray for the families and loved ones of those who experienced the multiple shootings in Louisville, KY. We also pray for the city of Nashville, TN, and all who are grieving in the midst of political turmoil following the recent school shooting there. We pray for all whose lives are touched by our nation's still raging epidemic of gun violence, and for ongoing efforts to create lasting change.
- We pray for the wellbeing and safety of our trans siblings as they face the impact of dozens of bills seeking to restrict transgender health care access and gender expression that have been introduced—and, in some cases, have passed into law—in state houses across the country.
- We pray for our rapidly warming planet and for redoubled efforts to reduce fossil fuel emissions in light of another alarming report recently released by the world's top climate scientists.
- We pray for those recovering after tornadoes have torn through multiple regions of the country over the past several weeks.
- We pray for all those affected by police violence. We pray for all those protesting and working at the local, state, and federal level to end police brutality, which disproportionately affects persons and communities of color.
- We pray for our Jewish siblings as antisemitic expression continues to appear with alarming frequency in our communities and around our nation.
- We pray for our country and for those most affected by changes in reproductive rights: for all those struggling with the moral and political complexities of pregnancy and childbearing, and for patients and healthcare providers who are now unable to give and receive care in their own states.

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

- We pray for the people of Ukraine and stand in hope and solidarity as they continue to resist unjust and unlawful Russian invasions. We pray for all soldiers and civilians in Ukraine, Russia, and surrounding areas, as well as all global regions impacted by the violence of war.
- We pray for the 14 men finding sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter; and we pray for the guests of the Friday Café, who are finding resources and listening ears.

[Join the First Church List](#) to see and offer up more community prayer requests.

First Church Membership and Joining By Covenant

Sunday, April 16, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m.

Harter Room & [via Zoom](#)

What does it mean to join a church community “by covenant?” What does it mean to become a member of First Church—for you and your spiritual journey, as well as for our church community? In this discussion hour, we will address these questions and more. Please join us if you are considering membership at First Church or if you are a member who is curious about our covenants—both historic and modern.



Night Song

Sundays, 7:30 - 8:15 p.m., Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)

Night Song is a worship opportunity that offers stillness and sublime music in a darkened sanctuary for respite and reset.

[Read more about Night Song.](#)

Faith Lutheran Church Fire Recovery Fund

On Easter Sunday evening, Faith Lutheran Church at 311 Broadway in Cambridge suffered a devastating fire. We give thanks for the efforts of the many firefighters who worked to extinguish the fire and protect the surrounding neighborhood, even as we mourn with the congregation at the loss of their church home.

If you would like to donate toward their recovery, they have set up a [Faith Lutheran Church Fire Recovery Fund](#) GoFundMe page.



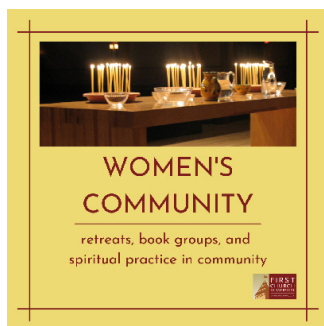
SCAN ME

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 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.

EASTERTIDE AT FIRST CHURCH

Call for Spring Faith & Life Group Leaders by April 18

Are you interested in leading a small group over Zoom or in person this Spring? Contact [Lexi Boudreaux](#) to discuss your idea for the last round of Faith & Life Groups in this program year. Led by First Church members, Faith & Life Groups are designed to encourage meaningful connections through shared interests, whether exploring a spiritual practice, opening our eyes to the beauty around us, delving into a challenging social issue, or attending to significant life stages (parenting, aging, job transitions, etc.). Faith & Life Groups involve making a short-term commitment (a single session to several weeks, depending on the group). Pitch your idea for a Faith & Life Group to [Lexi!](#)



Women's Community Book Group Tuesday, April 18, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

Please join us, all who identify as women, both newcomers and those who have been coming for a while, to discuss this month's book: [Matrix](#) by Lauren Groff. It is a story of a member of the royal court, "17-year-old Marie de France, [who] is sent to England to be the new prioress of an impoverished abbey, its nuns on the brink of starvation and beset by disease." We hope for another thoughtful and fun discussion.

Young Adults: Faith on Tap Wednesday, April 19, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Mr. Bartley's Burger Cottage, Harvard Square

The Young Adults at First Church gather for casual fellowship a couple times a month. Join other 20 and 30 somethings to catch up on life and faith in know particular order. This month, we'll be at a Harvard Square institution: Mr. Bartley's. Let Phil Jones know if you can make it! If you can't come to this one, but want to know about other Young Adult outings, email youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org



Installation of Rev. Jonathan Page at Hills Church Sunday, April 23 at 3:00 p.m., Wellesley Hills Congregational Church 207 Washington St., Wellesley

The Wellesley Hills Congregational Church and the Metropolitan Boston Association of the United Church of Christ cordially invite you to celebrate the Installation of former First Church member Reverend Jonathan Page as Senior Minister of the Wellesley Hills Congregational Church.

EASTERTIDE AT FIRST CHURCH

Remembering and Honoring: First Church Embroidery Project Learning Session and Workshop

Sunday, April 23 at 12:30 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall

Join local textile artists Sarah Fuijwara and Gail Willett, along with other project leaders for a session in which we take the next steps in our community project to embroider names of enslaved persons connected with First Church into a large-scale piece of fabric art. We'll begin by sharing an overview about enslaved persons whose names we will eventually embroider. Sarah and Gail will guide us through an exercise of sewing and practicing our embroidery skills on muslin sacks. This activity is inspired by Tiya Miles's National Book Award Winner *All That She Carried: The Journey of Ashley's Sack, a Black Family Keepsake*, which was one of our First Church Summer Reads last year. Please be thinking in advance about three family keepsakes you would put in your sack to pass along to future generations.



Neighborhood Youth Group Service Project

Sunday, April 23, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m., First Church Kitchen

Teens from 7th to 12th grade are invited to join youth from other churches bordering the Cambridge Common for an afternoon of cooking lasagnas for the Friday Café and First Church Shelter. We will meet in the First Church kitchen to cook together.

Tackling Homelessness: An evening with *New York Times* critic Michael Kimmelman

Tuesday, April 25, 7:00 - 8:00 p.m.

Sanctuary and via livestream

Distinguished journalist Michael Kimmelman will be the guest lecturer at a benefit event in support of the Friday Café. Join us for **Tackling Homelessness: Hope Amid the Challenge**. Mr. Kimmelman will share insights gained while documenting the efforts of the

city of Houston to find homes for tens of thousands of unhoused residents. The evening will also feature the premier of a short video about the Friday Café by Café volunteer and Emmy Award-winning filmmaker John MacGibbon, a member of Pentecostal Tabernacle Church. The event will conclude with light refreshments. Purchase tickets to attend [in person](#) or [online](#). [Learn more](#) about the event and our guest speaker, Michael Kimmelman.

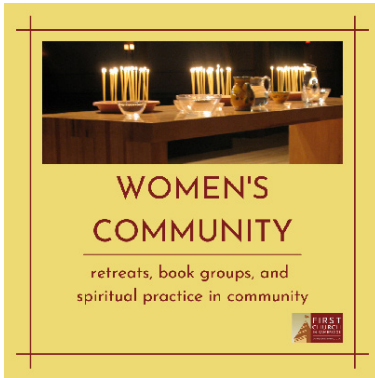


EASTERTIDE AT FIRST CHURCH

Women's Community Eastertide Retreat Saturday, April 29, 12:30 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

The women of First Church are invited to gather for a time of worship, spiritual practice, reflection, and fellowship to observe Eastertide. Everyone who identifies as a woman is welcome to join! Come as you are to take time out of our busy weeks for rest, renewal, and spiritual practice in the midst of a supportive community.

To let us know that you plan to attend, please sign up here:
<https://forms.gle/h4Lm3cRhsoXdubig9>



Celebrations on April 30

We have much to celebrate on Sunday, April 30!

Good news! First Church is being recognized for our efforts in reaching Level One of the Southern New England Conference UCC (SNEUCC) [Green Congregation Challenge](#). Paul Dale from the SNEUCC Environmental Team will join us in Morning Worship to present us with an award as we lift up our shared journey toward addressing the climate crisis and environmental injustice.

More good news! Former Pastoral Associate Jaz Buchanan will be joining us for the Green Challenge celebration, along with her new baby! We are so grateful to Jaz and to Jim Brown for their recent efforts to mobilize our First Church Earth Stewardship Team.

Even more good news! Former longtime members Dick and Gay Harter will also be with us, and they will receive a Cockerel tile acknowledging their 50+ years of involvement at First Church.

It will be a rich and joyful Sunday that you won't want to miss!

EASTERTIDE AT FIRST CHURCH

First Church Treasures from the Past

Sundays, April 30 and May 7, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Harter Room and via Zoom

Come and learn the fascinating story of the Cockerel weathervane that tops our church tower. The great gilded rooster was made in 1721 by famous Boston coppersmith Shem Drowne and was already 150 years old when it landed in Cambridge in 1873. Lindsay Miller tells the cockerel's story in a hybrid program at 9:30 a.m. on Sunday, April 30. The following Sunday, May 7, at 9:30, Kate Judd, Chris Reynolds, and other members of the First Church Archives team reveal the once-forgotten history of the Archives and how some remarkable 17th and 18th century documents ended up in the collection. Join us to hear history come alive!



Ongoing Crisis in Israel/Palestine:

Challenges and Opportunities

on the 75th Anniversary of the Nakba

Sunday, April 30, 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.

Harter Room and via Zoom

May 2023 will mark the 75th anniversary of what Palestinians call the Nakba, or catastrophe: the founding of the modern State of Israel and the accompanying mass displacement and violence experienced by Palestinians. Grounded in its just peace commitment, First Church members are invited to hear from special guest Hilary Rantisi, Associate Director of the Religion, Conflict, and Peace Initiative at Harvard Divinity School. A Palestinian-American, Hilary formerly served as Director of the Middle East Initiative at Harvard's Kennedy School and as a grassroots activist in Jerusalem. Hilary will share her family's experience of the Nakba and offer an update on the current challenges to, and opportunities for, advancing just peace in Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories.

Newcomers Meet and Greet

Sunday, May 7, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m., Hastings Common

Are you feeling new to First Church? Or are you a member interested in meeting someone new to our community? All are warmly invited to meet up directly after worship in Hastings Common, just through the Sanctuary door by the Children's Book Corner. Some of what you can expect: friendly faces, new friends?, questions answered, snacks, and an informal atmosphere for conversation.



THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, April 17

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

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

Tuesday, April 18

7:15 a.m. Reflective Conversations with Brent Coffin, via Zoom

10:30 a.m. Communications Team Meeting, Harter Room

3:00 p.m. Aging with Grace Monthly Meeting, Harter Room and via Zoom

6:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, via Zoom

6:30 p.m. Women's Community Book Group, via Zoom

7:30 p.m. Shelter Oversight Committee, via Zoom

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

Wednesday, April 19

9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room and via Zoom

7:00 p.m. Young Adults: Faith on Tap, Mr. Bartley's in Harvard Square

7:30 p.m. Missions & Social Justice Committee, via Zoom

Thursday, April 20

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

Friday, April 21

12:00 p.m. Friday Café, MJH

Sunday, April 23

10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary

11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream

11:20 a.m. Church School: Godly Play and Bible 101 classes

12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour, MJH

12:15 p.m. Remembering and Honoring: First Church Embroidery Project, MJH

1:30 p.m. Cambridge Common Youth Group Gathering, Kitchen

7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

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