



*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
May 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
387 YEARS
ON THE WAY
1 6 3 6 – 2 0 2 3

May 7, 2023

Preaching Today	Ahmaad Edmund, <i>Ministerial Intern</i>
Liturgist	Laurie Williams
Assisting in Worship	Lexi Boudreaux, <i>Transitional Minister</i>
	Carla Carbajal, <i>Ministerial Intern</i>
	Lee Prouty, <i>tech support</i>
	Dan Smith, <i>Senior Minister</i>
	Peter Sykes, <i>Music Director</i>
Bulletin Cover Image	Psalm 57 collage by Audrey Bellinger <i>This and other Psalm collages can be viewed in a digital gallery.</i>

Today's Programs and Events

9:30 a.m.	First Church Treasures from the Past, Harter Room and via Zoom
10:15 a.m.	Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
11:00 a.m.	Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream
11:20 a.m.	Church School: Pastoral Care Sunday, Library
12:15 p.m.	Coffee Hour, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
12:15 p.m.	Newcomers Meet & Greet, Hastings Common
1:30 p.m.	Confirmation Class for 9/10th graders, Harter Room
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

For those participating at home, we invite you to bring bread or crackers and juice or wine to your home altar, so that you may participate in Holy Communion. All are welcome at the Table!

VOLUNTARY

Ciacona

Dietrich Buxtehude

*HYMN 414

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

*GREETING

Laurie Williams

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 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

Guide My Feet

Traditional spiritual

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray for healing, pardon, and peace:

All: God of Justice, when we settle for the way things are instead of the way you would have them to be, forgive us.

When we hold onto fear or are limited in vision, increase our trust in you.

When we offer charity, but fail to work for justice, show us what your love requires.

When we tire of the struggle and tomorrow feels overwhelming, rise up in us and give us your strength,

restore our hope, and renew our courage.

In the name of Jesus, our brother, we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF 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**

We invite you to greet each other with a hug or handshake. If you prefer to maintain social distance, please put your hands together or fold your arms to share the peace.

***HYMN 487**

Abide with Me

Children up through 6th grade are now invited to Church School: Pastoral Care Sunday in the Library. Children will return to worship in time for Communion.

JOINING OF NEW MEMBERS

INVITATION

Lexi Boudreaux

PROMISES

Dan Smith

***COVENANT OF FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE**

L: United with the church of every time and place,
we covenant with Christ, with these siblings,
and with one another, sharing the words of our historic covenant:

**All: We who are now brought together and united into one Church
under the Lord Jesus Christ, our Head,
in such sort as becometh all those
whom he hath redeemed and sanctified unto himself,
do solemnly and religiously, as in His most holy presence,
promise and bind ourselves to walk in all our ways
according to the rule of the Gospel,
and in all sincere conformity to His holy ordinances
and in mutual love and respect each to other,
so near as God shall give us grace.**

***ADDRESS AND WELCOME**

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

1 Corinthians 9:24-27

SERMON

Run to Win

Ahmaad Edmund

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Carla Carbajal

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Bread of Life

Lee Barrow

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

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.

SHARING THE FEAST

*INVITATION

- L: Dear friends, come now to the Welcome Table!
C: Taste and see that God is good!
L: Drink together the Cup of Joy.
C: Filled to the brim with hope.
L: Jesus loves you. Come, eat the feast he has made for you.

*PRAYER OF PREPARATION

- L: How good it is to praise you, Holy One!
Your beauty ushers in the dawn,
and in your light we see light—
**C: justice for the nations, mercy for the broken-hearted,
safety for the poor, belonging for the outcast,
strength for the weak, and forgiveness for the sinner.**
L: You reveal your love in joy and sorrow,
and we know your wonder even in the shadow of death.
**C: All your creatures behold your works
and testify to your faithfulness**
L: And so we too, fragile lamps in your holy house,
raise our hearts in praise.

REMEMBERING AND GIVING THANKS

- L: Now, O God, with grateful joy, we remember Jesus,
his daring love, his open table.
(Silence)
L: We remember that he called us friends.
C: He told us everything you placed in his heart.
L: We remember that he gave us peace.

- C: A peace no one else can give.**
L: We remember that he did not leave us bereft.
C: He sent us a Helper – the Spirit who dwells in our hearts!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

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.**

*SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

All who seek to follow Jesus' way of justice, compassion and love are invited to partake of this feast. The cup is filled with grape juice and the bread is gluten-free. Please come forward and be served in stations. Persons who, for any reason, are not able to come forward will be served in the pews. Young and old alike are welcome to share in the gift of Holy Communion!

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

- L: Let us give thanks!**
**All: Thank you, God, for the gladness in this bread and cup,
for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give,
for joy in the company of friends, for the splendors of creation,
and for the mission of justice you have made our own.
Give us the gifts of this holy communion —
oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies,
and the will to serve you all the days of our lives.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

GOING FORTH

- *HYMN 102** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in C Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

414

1. This is a day of new be - gin - nings,
 2. For by the life and death of Je - sus,
 3. Then let us, with the Spir - it's dar - ing,
 4. Christ is a - live, and goes be - fore us

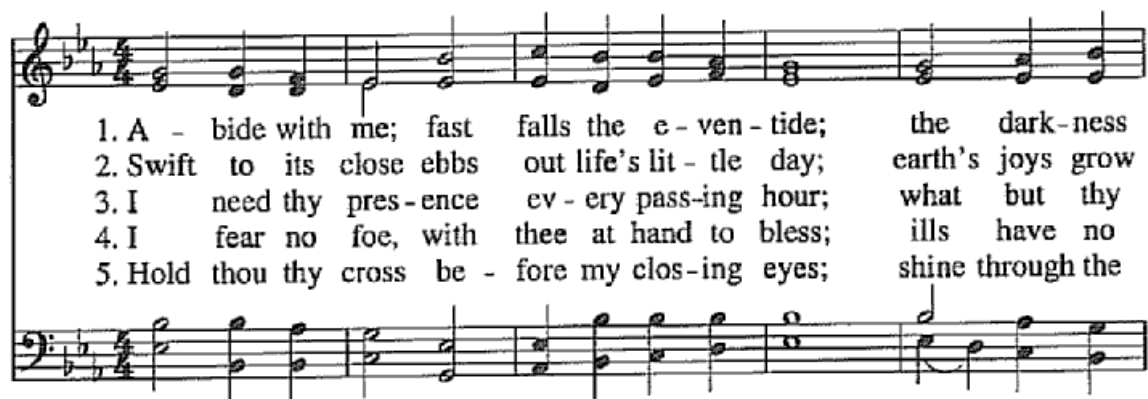
time to re - mem - ber and move on,
 love's might - y Spir - it, now as then,
 step from the past and leave be - hind
 to show and share what love can do.

time to be - lieve what love is bring - ing,
 can make for us a world of dif - f'rence
 our dis - ap - point - ment, guilt and griev - ing,
 This is a day of new be - gin - nings—

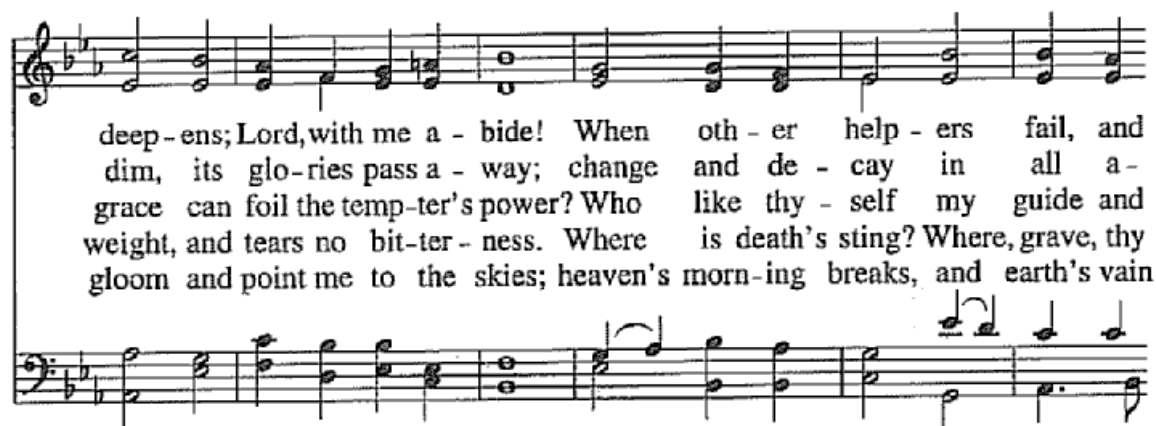
lay - ing to rest the pain that's gone.
 as faith and hope are born a - gain.
 seek - ing new paths, and sure to find.
 our God is mak - ing all things new.

487

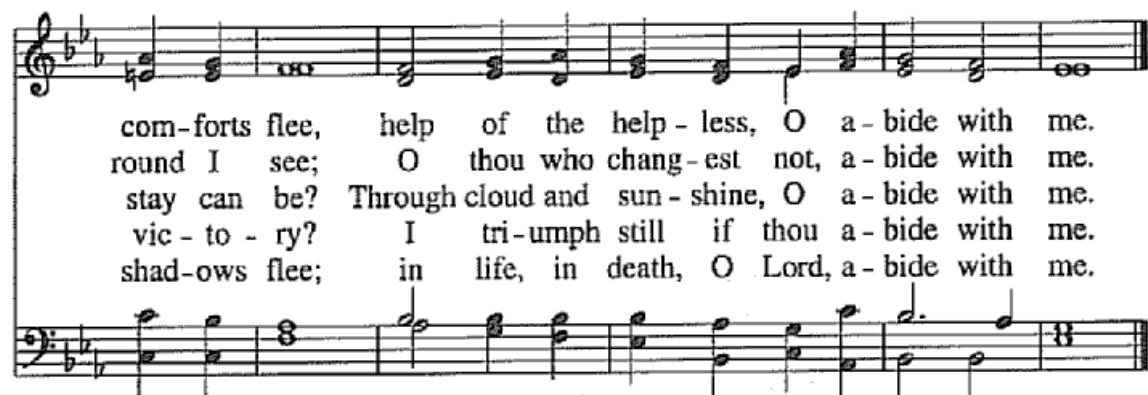
Abide with Me



1. A - bide with me; fast falls the e - ven - tide; the dark - ness
 2. Swift to its close ebbs out life's lit - tle day; earth's joys grow
 3. I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour; what but thy
 4. I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless; ills have no
 5. Hold thou thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes; shine through the



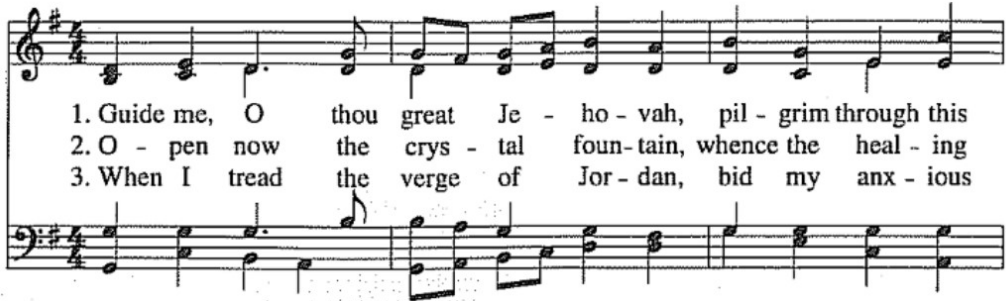
deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide! When oth - er help - ers fail, and
 dim, its glo - ries pass a - way; change and de - cay in all a -
 grace can foil the temp - ter's power? Who like thy - self my guide and
 weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness. Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy
 gloom and point me to the skies; heaven's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain



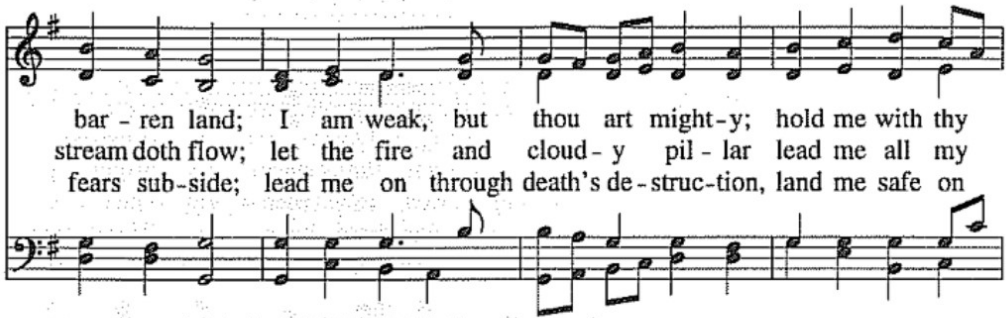
com - forts flee, help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
 round I see; O thou who chang - est not, a - bide with me.
 stay can be? Through cloud and sun - shine, O a - bide with me.
 vic - to - ry? I tri - umph still if thou a - bide with me.
 shad - ows flee; in life, in death, O Lord, a - bide with me.

102

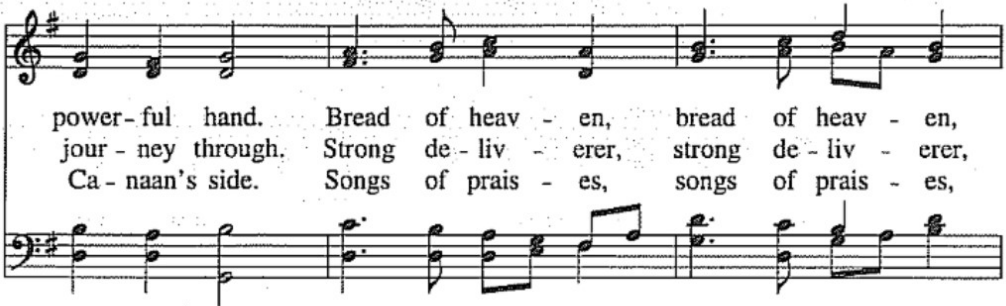
Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah



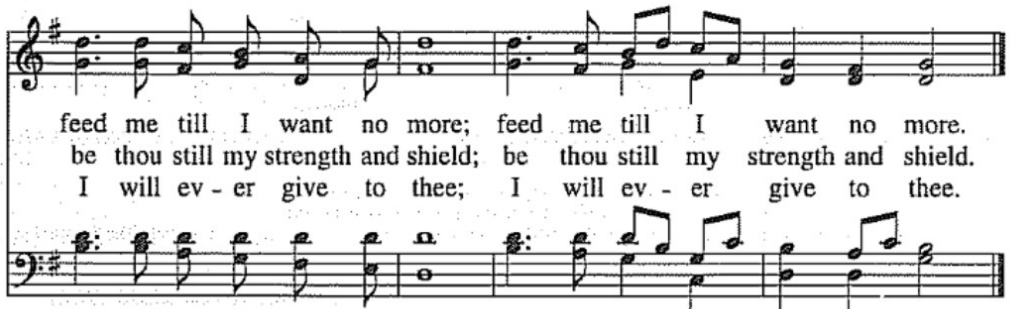
1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
 fears sub - side; lead me on through death's de - struc - tion, land me safe on



power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,



feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Henry Schoenfield, who was hospitalized this week with an infection.
- We pray for Art Anger, who had a hemorrhagic stroke recently and is on a long road of rehabilitation and recovery.
- We pray for Karen Anne Zee's beloved aunt Shirley Smith, who had a series of strokes recently and who is in precarious health.
- 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; 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. We also pray for those in hospice care: Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn's mother
- We pray for Faith Lutheran Church after its building was destroyed in a fire on Easter Sunday. The fire is now being investigated as an act of arson. We pray for their pastor, Rev. Robin Lutjohann, as well as the staff and community impacted by this devastating loss.
- We pray for the people of Sudan and for an end to escalating and deadly violence between warring political and military factions in Khartoum and surrounding areas, leading to evacuation efforts by the international community. We continue to pray for all those in global regions impacted by the violence of war.
- We pray for all whose lives are touched by our nation's raging epidemic of gun violence. We pray for ongoing efforts to create lasting change in our country's gun safety laws.
- We pray for the wellbeing and safety of our trans siblings as they face the impact of hundreds 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.
- We pray for all those affected by police violence and 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 peace with justice in Palestine and Israel amidst ongoing political tensions.
- We pray 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.
- 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.

NEW MEMBER BIOGRAPHIES

BBB was born and raised in Montreal and is of Haitian descent. He enjoys dancing, singing, and acting. He currently practices expressive arts therapies at an Arlington-based mental health facility. BBB is a proud father of a three-year-old little man. Love brought him to the United States in 2017 and keeps him in this country, in spite of unexpected twists.

Sam Caveny has lived in Somerville for the last four years with their partner Nick (see below!) and has been enjoying First Church over livestream. Sam works in marketing for a child care company. They love to read, write, and cuddle with their cat Annie.

Jack Haskell grew up attending a Congregational church in Western MA. He moved to Cambridge a few years ago to start a job after college and started attending First Church in the fall of 2019. Outside of church, Jack spends a lot of time reading and rock climbing.

Jennifer Petralia has lived in Cambridge for over two decades, spent many years in Upstate New York, and is originally from New Jersey. Her career was in academia, and, before recently being diagnosed with a neurological disorder, she served as a long-time dean at Harvard. Jennifer also trained as a musician, loves to knit and cross stitch, and has a passion for helping animals, especially cats. Jennifer has been coming to First Church for quite some time, and she is humbled to become an official member and to help in all ways she can.

Angela Servello started coming to First Church in Fall 2021 and is an active member of the Young Adults group. Being “into” church was not on her bingo card for her twenties, but she is thrilled to have found a community as thoughtful, welcoming, and justice-oriented as First Church. Angela is originally from Attleboro, MA, and spent four years living in New Orleans, but now resides in Brighton with her partner Phil. When not at church, she can be found honing her skills as an amateur seamstress or working to improve public transportation in Greater Boston.

Nick Thompson lives in Somerville with his partner Sam (see above!) and has enjoyed being a virtual part of the First Church community. He works in analytics for a healthcare company. He loves to spoil his cat Annie and watch the Red Sox.

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 left.



TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

First Church Treasures from the Past

Today, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m., Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

Join us for a second conversation about our history, as 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. If you missed last Sunday's presentation of the fascinating story of the Cockerel weathervane that tops our church tower, you can view a recording [here](#).



Newcomers Meet and Greet

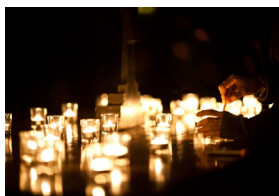
Today, 12:15 - 1:15 p.m., Hastings Common

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.

Confirmation Class for 9/10th graders

Today at 1:30 p.m., Harter Room

Confirmands meet for their final session, entitled "This I Believe." We look forward to **Confirmation Sunday on May 21**, when we will mark the end of their Confirmation process. Morning Worship that day will include the Rite of Confirmation, as well as the baptisms of several Confirmands. Join us to celebrate their spiritual journeys and to welcome many of them into membership by covenant. Then, head to Margaret Jewett Hall for a cake reception in their honor!



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.](#)

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

Tackling Homelessness: Hope Amid the Challenge **News About the Recent Friday Café Fundraiser**

The Friday Café's 2023 Spring Fundraising event was a great success. We raised over \$10,000! Thank you so much to all who planned, attended, and/or generously donated. It was wonderful to welcome members of our community who had never connected with our program before, to hear from public officials like Rep. Mike Connolly (by video) and Councilor Marc McGovern (in person), and to delve into the public policy side of the homeless crisis with *New York Times* Editor-at-Large Michael Kimmelman.



160 people attended, either in person or via livestream. If you were not able to be one of them, you can listen to Mr. Kimmelman's insightful and thought-provoking talk on [our YouTube channel](#).

A highlight of the evening was the premiere of the new Friday Café video by Café volunteer and Pentecostal Tabernacle member John MacGibbon. That video is available [on YouTube](#) as well. Warning, you might want to have some tissues handy!

Many thanks to First Church members and friends who worked hard to host this memorable event for the Cambridge community.



Fabric Dyeing and Stitching Workshops

May 13, 16, and 30, 10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Margaret Jewett Hall and the Landing

Join textile artists Sarah Fujiwara, Gail Willett and Carol Anne Grotrain for the next steps on our journey of creating *Wade in the Water: Remembering and Honoring Enslaved Africans and Native Americans at First Church in Cambridge*. At these workshops, participants will learn

about traditional fabric-dyeing methods, assist in stenciling African Adinkra symbols, and begin the embroidery of background images to which we will add the embroidered names of those we remember and honor. Space is limited; please RSVP to Sarah Fujiwara for any or all of the workshops (sarahpfujiwara@gmail.com).

EASTERTIDE AT FIRST CHURCH



Reach Out for Housing Justice:

Take Action with the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization

GBIO is outraged by the passage of the House budget which includes only \$102,050,000 for the state-owned public housing operating line item. At a time when the “housing crisis” has been proclaimed a priority by leadership on Beacon Hill, this move demonstrated a complete lack of recognition for the Commonwealth’s public housing needs. The true need is \$184 million. It is now time for action with the Senate.

On May 10, the Senate will be introducing their budget proposal, which means they can offer a higher number than the House did. If we want this to happen, we must act now!

It is time to make calls and send emails to Senate President Spilka, Senate Ways and Means Chair Rodrigues and your Senator by Wednesday, May 10. Together we will ask them to increase the public housing budget to \$184 million.

[Click here to send emails.](#)

[Click here to make phone calls.](#)

[Learn more about GBIO’s housing justice campaign.](#)



Young Adults: Charles River Walk and Cleanup

Sunday, May 14, 1:00 - 3:00 p.m.

Meet on church lawn

First Church’s 20- and 30-somethings are invited to join our lively and welcoming fellowship for a stroll along the Charles after worship to do some environmental stewardship and cleanup. Bags and gloves provided! Let us know you’re coming! Email Phil Jones (youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org) to stay in the loop for future YA get togethers.

Young Adults: Faith on Tap

Thursday, May 18, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Daedalus in Harvard Square, Cambridge

First Church’s Young Adults group continues their Faith on Tap series at Daedalus in Harvard Square. All are welcome! Email Phil Jones (youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org) to stay in the loop for future YA get togethers.



SPRING FAITH & LIFE GROUPS



Register for a Spring Faith & Life Group

It's time to sign up 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. Faith & Life Groups involve making a short-term commitment (a single session to several weeks, depending on the group) to something that might be delightful, deep, or even transformational. At the same time, you can get to know First Church friends who share your interests. We need each other now more than ever. If you are looking for a way to dip your toes into the life of our church and stay connected outside of Sunday Worship, this is for you!

Registration Deadline is Sunday, May 14.

Questions?

Please contact Transitional Minister [Lexi Boudreaux](#) or the leader of the group directly.

[**Please sign up to participate in a faith and life group here.**](#)

Birding at Mount Auburn Cemetery

We'll explore the grounds and look for the birds that visit and may nest in this lovely place during Spring migration. Please wear comfortable shoes and bring binoculars, if you have them. Meet at the Mount Auburn Main Gate. No experience necessary!

Dates/Times: Thursdays, May 11 and 18 at 7:00 a.m.

Leader: Marianne Jensen

Art in Faith

Is seeing believing? How do the arts affect one's faith? Does one imagine their religion? Questions of doubt and wonder range when art shows in church. View a show of twenty paintings of Jesus Christ on display in Margaret Jewett Hall and participate in an hour-long discussion of the visual and other arts in your faith and life.

Date/Times: Pentecost Sunday, May 28, at 9:30 a.m. or 12:30 p.m.

Leader: Henry Gates

SPRING FAITH & LIFE GROUPS

Reparations: Approaching the Journey with a Beginner’s Mind

If you’re curious about what reparations mean and what possible models are out there for the practice, and/or looking for a place to talk about the many feelings that come to the surface when thinking about taking steps to grapple with the very real spiritual and physical impacts of the practice, this conversation series is for you! Come with your questions, come with your fears and uncertainties, come with your open hearts to explore this sacred practice of repentance and relinquishment. Using *Reparations: A Christian Call for Repentance and Repair* by Duke L. Kwon and Gregory Thompson as a resource and a guide, we will explore a basic understanding of reparations, particularly focusing on what it means for us as Christians. We will bring select quotes and concepts to the discussion, so reading the whole book is not a requirement for participation.

Dates/Times: Wednesdays, May 31, June 7 (and maybe 14), 6:30 – 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

Leader: Abby Shuman

***All We Can Save* Circle: A Climate Grief Small Group**

Are you hungry for deeper dialogue about the climate crisis and building community around solutions? Join us in reading *All We Can Save*, an anthology of writings by 60 women at the forefront of the climate movement who are harnessing truth, courage, and solutions to lead humanity forward. This group will function as an *All We Can Save* Circle and will be a facilitated discussion that makes room for processing and discussing climate grief and leadership in community.

Find more information about the [All We Can Save Project and Circles](#)

Dates/Times: TBD based on registrants’ availability, via Zoom

Leader: Lexi Boudreaux

LOOKING AHEAD

Reparations Conversations

Sundays, June 4 and 11, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m.

Harter Room and via Zoom

Please join us for two conversations about First Church's journey thus far regarding reparations and where the Spirit may be leading us next. We'll talk about the communities most harmed by our history of church members enslaving in the congregation and our painful response to the work of abolition in previous centuries, as well as the living legacy of slavery in the forms of Jim Crow segregation, the war on drugs, redlining, and mass incarceration.

We'll update the congregation on the Reparations Fund and the work of the Collective, which is convened by First Church member Karlene Griffiths Sekou. We'll also share information about efforts to engage in repair with the Indigenous communities most harmed by us—the Wabanaki, Massachusetts (Wampanoag and Nipmuc) peoples—and plans for learning & action opportunities in the Fall. We'll talk about the spiritual practice of reparations, guided in part by the book *Reparations: A Christian Call For Repentance and Repair*, which asks what Christians are called to do regarding white supremacy's cultural theft of truth, power, and wealth, and why our engagement matters.

We'll reflect on how God is calling First Church to engage in this powerful and life-changing work.



Children's Sunday Sunday, June 11

On the second Sunday of June, it is our custom to celebrate the children's formation programs of the church in a Children's Sunday worship service. We are led in liturgy by younger voices, and we recognize our 4th graders with their own Bibles as they "graduate" from Godly Play. We lift up the volunteer teachers and helpers who make our Church School run, and we take time to ask wondering questions about the stories central to our faith and practice.

LOOKING AHEAD



The First Church Musicale

Sunday, June 11, 12:15 - 2:00 p.m.

Margaret Jewett Hall

This year on Children's Sunday, we are bringing back an old favorite: The First Church Musicale! All ages are invited to gather in Margaret Jewett Hall for an indoor picnic luncheon, followed by a time of sharing our creative talents with one another. [Sign up](#) to offer a (short) performance that showcases your skills in music, theater, dance, circus, poetry, stand-up comedy, or quirky tricks.

Questions? Contact [Sarah Higginbotham](#).
Now, go start rehearsing!

Pre-Summer Farewell Reception for Lexi Sunday, June 18 at 12:15 p.m.

Margaret Jewett Hall

Lexi Boudreaux's term as Transitional Minister at First Church comes to an end on August 31, but not before we celebrate the remarkable gifts she has shared with us these last five years, beginning with her time as a Ministerial Intern and as a Pastoral Associate from Harvard Divinity School. Please save the date for a congregational celebration of her ministry after worship on June 18, while most of us are still gathered, leaving time throughout the summer for further goodbyes. Lexi's last Sunday with us will be August 27.





THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, May 8

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

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

Tuesday, May 9

7:15 a.m. Reflective Conversations with Brent Coffin, via Zoom
10:30 a.m. Communications Team Meeting, Harter Room
4:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee, via Zoom

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

Wednesday, May 10

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

Thursday, May 11

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

Friday, May 12

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

Saturday, May 13

10:00 a.m. Fabric Dyeing & Stitching Workshop, the Landing

Sunday, May 14

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
1:00 p.m. Young Adults: Charles River Walk and Cleanup
7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

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