

SUNDAY, JULY 2, 2023

Preaching Today Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*
Liturgist Dean Eaton, *Deacon*
Assisting in Worship Sarah Higginbotham, *Creative Worship & Arts Director*
Yoo-Kyung Kim, *guest musician*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*
Bulletin Cover Image Psalm 121 collage by Audrey Bellinger
All Psalm collages can be viewed in [a digital gallery](#) on our website.

Opening Voutary

Blessed Jesus, We Are Here

J.S. Bach

Jesus, You are Worthy of Praise

Emma Lou Diemer

Opening Hymn 242

God of Life

Anthem

Somebody's Knockin' At Your Door

Traditional

Peace Hymn 318

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Readings

Psalm 13:1-6

Matthew 10:40-42

Sermon Hymn 323

Lo, I Am With You

Offertory

Oculi omnium

Charles Wood

Closing Hymn 325

Now Let Us from This Table Rise

Closing Voluntary

God, We All Praise You

Johann Pachelbel

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.

OPENING HYMN

242

God of Life

1. God of life, in Christ you lead us, guid - ing us a -
 2. God of words and Word In - car - nate, words that chal - lenge
 3. God of mus - ic, psalms and an - thems, help us sing your
 4. God of days and years and e - ons, still you call as

long the way. In our past, through joys and sor - rows,
 and em - brace, grant us bold - ness in our speak - ing,
 faith a - new: mel - o - dies ex - pand - ing wor - ship,
 in the past. Work un - done de - mands our la - bor;

you have been our strength and stay. Keep us faith - ful,
 while we know your lov - ing grace. Give us words both
 har - mo - nies en - rich - ing, too. May our lives be
 jus - tice years for peace at last. Yours the vi - sion

true dis - ci - ples, in our learn - ing and our praise,
 clear and win - some, lov - ing hearts and list'n - ing ears,
 hymns in ac - tion, tuned to Christ in note and rhyme,
 and the chal - lenge; ours the mis - sion and the praise.

cel - e - brat - ing past and pres - ent, con - se - crat - ing fu - ture days.
 cel - e - brat - ing past and pres - ent, con - se - crat - ing fu - ture years.
 cel - e - brat - ing past and pres - ent, con - se - crat - ing fu - ture time.
 Cel - e - brat - ing past and pres - ent, con - se - crat - ing fu - ture days.

PEACE HYMN

318

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

1. Draw us in the Spir-it's te - ther, for when hum - bly,
 2. As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
 3. All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name, two or three are met to - geth - er, you are
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er break the
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing, we may

in the midst of them; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -
 be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
 lu - ia! So now bind our friend - ship up.
 lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

WORDS: Percy Dearmer, *Enlarged Songs of Praise*, 1931, alt.
 MUSIC: Harold Friedell, 1957; adapt. Jet Turner, 1967, alt.

UNION SEMINARY
 87.87.44.7

323

Lo, I Am with You

Unison

1. Lo, I am with you to the end of the world.
 2. Lo, I am with you in the break - ing of bread.
 3. Lo, I am with you in the drink - ing of wine.

Lo, I am with you to the end of the world.
 Lo, I am with you in the break - ing of bread.
 Lo, I am with you in the drink - ing of wine.

Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,
 Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,
 Lo, I am with you, Lo, I am with you,

Lo, I am with you to the end of the world.
 Lo, I am with you in the break - ing of bread.
 Lo, I am with you in the drink - ing of wine.

CLOSING HYMN

325 Now Let Us from This Table Rise

1. Now let us from this ta - ble rise, re - newed in
 2. With minds a - lert, up - held by grace, to spread the
 3. To fill each hu - man house with love, it is the
 4. Then give us grace, Com - pan - ion - God, to choose a -

bod - y, mind and soul; with Christ we die and live a -
 Word in speech and deed, we fol - low in the steps of
 sac - ra - ment of care; the work that Christ be - gan to
 gain the pil - grim way, and help us to ac - cept with

gain, his self - less love has made us whole.
 Christ, at one with all in hope and need.
 do we hum - bly pledge our - selves to share.
 joy the chal - lenge of to - mor - row's day.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1968

MUSIC: Melody, *Piae Cantiones*, 1582; adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609;
 harm. George R. Woodward, 1910

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COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We give God thanks for a Spirit-led and successful 1400-person Greater Boston Interfaith Organization housing justice action on Monday night. First Church was represented by over 45 people! Special thanks to Phil Jones, Will Erickson, and First Church GBIO Core Team for their incredible behind-the-scenes efforts to make it happen!
- We pray for Norman and Peggy Bendroth and their family as they mourn the loss of Norm's mother Carolyn earlier this month.
- We pray for Kathy Williams, who is now recovering at home from knee replacement surgery.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer and other ongoing health challenges: Carol Wilson-Braun, who is managing slow-progressing ALS; 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 continue to pray for all those impacted by the violence of war and political upheaval, including in Ukraine, Sudan, and Haiti, and especially those displaced and seeking refuge in other countries.
- We pray for all refugees and migrants who make often life-threatening border crossings over land and open water to escape poverty, political persecution, violence, and climate-related disaster.
- We pray for all experiencing this week's deadly heat wave in the southern US. We continue to pray for our rapidly warming planet and for redoubled efforts to reduce fossil fuel emissions.
- We pray for all whose lives are touched by our nation's raging epidemic of gun violence, especially those dealing with related loss and trauma. We pray for ongoing advocacy to create lasting change in our country's gun safety laws.
- We pray for the wellbeing and safety of our trans and gender non-conforming siblings as they face the impact of vitriolic public discourse and of state laws that restrict and criminalize transgender health care, personal expression, and wider LGBTQ+ education.
- 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 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.

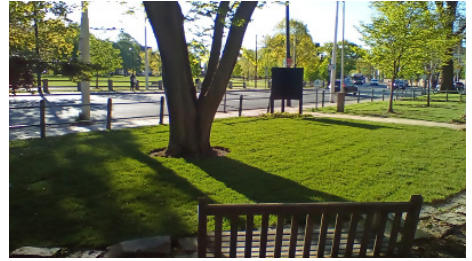
[Join the First Church List](#) to see and offer up more community prayer requests.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

Summer Worship & Building Hours

Through the months of July and August, Hybrid Morning Worship begins at 10:00 a.m., with Pick-Up Choir at 9:00 a.m. 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. Night Song, our evening service, will return in September after a summer hiatus.

During the summer, the church building hours are reduced. On most weekdays the building will close at 7:00 p.m. On most Saturdays the building will close at 4 p.m. and on most Sundays at 2 p.m. Closing times may vary if there are previously scheduled events taking place. If you have questions about the summer building schedule, please contact [Director of Operations Kirsten Manville](#).



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” after worship each Sunday, where you’ll find the weekly list of pastoral care needs and/or the Sunday bulletin prayer section, blank cards, pens, as well as stamps

and a Church Directory with addresses. Please take the completed cards with you to mail. 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.

Summer Sign-Ups with Lexi Boudreaux

As we prepare for Lexi’s term as Transitional Minister to end and for us all to say a real goodbye at the end of August, Lexi would love to connect with as many First Church folks as she can before the summer is over. To schedule a time with Lexi over the summer to say goodbye or to talk about what a good goodbye looks like—to laugh or cry about change, to wrap up a shared project, or to ask any lingering questions— please follow this link and suggest a time and place:

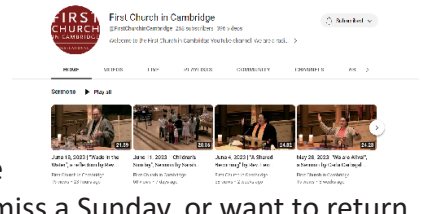
<https://calendly.com/lexiboudreaux>



SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

Find it on the First Church YouTube Channel

It has been a busy end-of-year season at First Church! Our recent worship services have been full of celebratory moments, meaningful prayers, beautiful music, and inspired preaching. Did you know that you can find all of our Sunday services on our YouTube channel? In addition to the full orders of worship, you can find shorter videos with the readings and sermon of the day. Be sure to check out all our offerings, especially when you miss a Sunday, or want to return to a special moment. Go to: youtube.com/@FirstChurchInCambridge

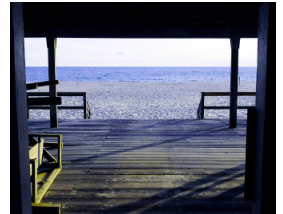


Support the Friday Café This Summer

The Friday Café will be serving a light lunch to our 100+ guests on summer Fridays through Labor Day. We would love some help! Please visit <https://signup.com/go/qQfTjjN> to sign up to bring 10 sandwiches, sweet treats, or servings of fruit. This is a great activity for kids, or teens looking for community service credit. Dropoff is Friday mornings. Questions? Email Kate at fridaycafe@firstchurchcambridge.org.

Save the Date: All-Church Fall Retreat at Craigville Retreat Center Friday, September 29 - Sunday, October 1

Join us on the Cape for a weekend of community-building in fellowship, formation, and fun. Take advantage of scheduled large group gatherings, small group sessions, supervised play/crafting time for kids, worship, group games, and more. Or, opt for a quiet walk on the beach, bird-watching at the marsh, or whatever your soul needs. Arrive on Friday evening, September 29, and stay through midday on Sunday, October 1, for the full event; or come for a portion of the weekend, for just one night, or even a daytrip on Saturday. More details about the retreat theme and logistics will be forthcoming, but mark your calendars now!



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.

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