

SUNDAY, JULY 16, 2023

Preaching Today Karen McArthur, *Minister of Stewardship & Finance*
Liturgist Beth Spaulding
Assisting in Worship Sarah Higginbotham, *Creative Worship & Arts Director*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*
Dan Smith, *Senior Minister*
Bulletin Cover Image Psalm 96 collage by Audrey Bellinger
All Psalm collages can be viewed in [a digital gallery](#) on our website.

Voluntary

Melodia
Max Reger

Opening Hymn 261

The Sun Is on the Sea and Shore

Anthem

Eternal Light
Mark Schweizer

Peace Hymn 360

I Love to Tell the Story

Readings

Genesis 25:19-28
Matthew 13:1-17

Sermon Hymn 304

Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult

Offertory

Suscepimus, Deus
Leos Janacek

Closing Hymn 380

We Are Not Our Own

Voluntary

Toccata
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 617-547-2724 ext. 222. Your call will be routed to a First Church minister based on a rotating schedule that covers staff time off.

261

The Sun Is on the Sea and Shore

1. The sun is on the sea and shore, a new day has begun;
 2. Your love is ever in our view, like shining stars by night;
 3. We do not know what grief and care each coming day may bring;

with morning hymns we will adore the blessed Three-in-One;
 your gifts are every morning new, O God of love and light;
 the heart shall find some gladness there, trust you in every-thing;

and we shall praise you ever more until the day is done.
 your mercy, like the heaven's blue, fills all our dazzled sight.
 the life that serves you every-where will never cease to sing.

WORDS: Louis F. Benson, 1897; adapt. Austin C. Lovelace, 1991, alt.
 MUSIC: J. L. Macbeth Bain, 1915; arr. Gordon Jacob, 1934, adapt.

BROTHER JAMES' AIR
 86.86.86

PEACE HYMN

360

I Love to Tell the Story

1. I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove,
 2. I love to tell the sto - ry; 'tis pleas - ant to re - peat
 3. I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

of Je - sus and his glo - ry, of Je - sus and his love.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know 'tis true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when, in scenes of glo - ry, I sing the new, new song,

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly word.
 'twill be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

WORDS: Katherine Hankey, c. 1868
 MUSIC: William G. Fischer, 1869

HANKEY
 76.76D w. refrain

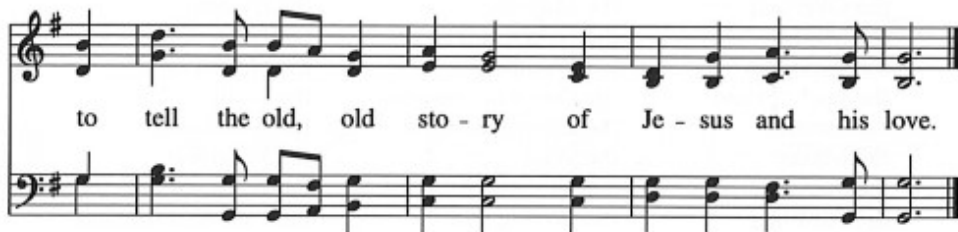
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PEACE HYMN, cont'd.

Refrain



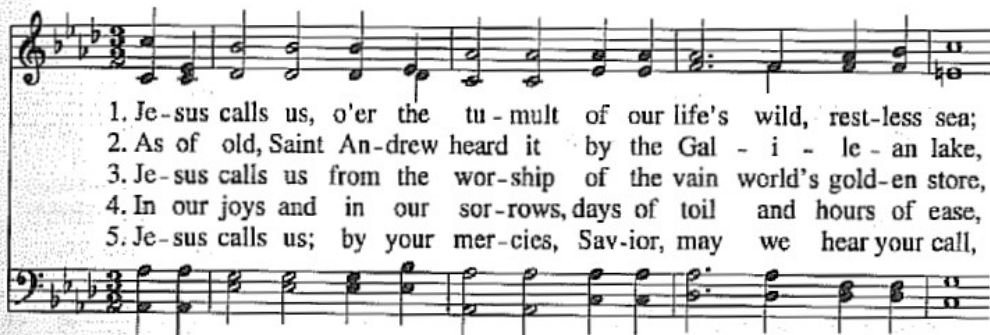
I love to tell the sto - ry, 'twill be my theme in glo - ry,



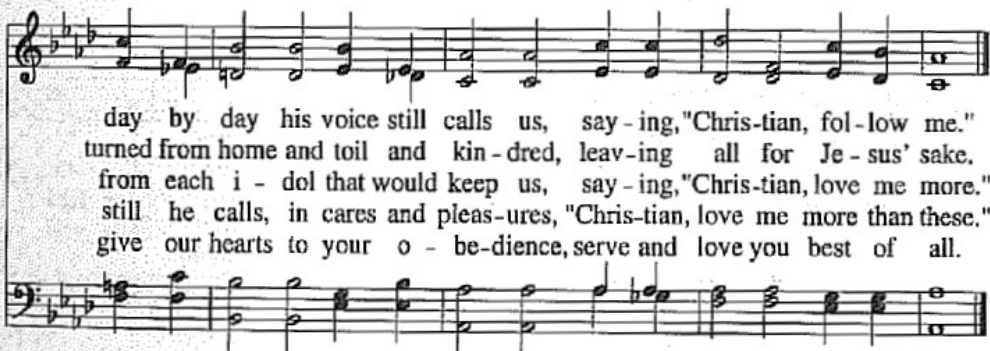
to tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus and his love.

SERMON HYMN

Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult 304



1. Je - sus calls us, o'er the tu - mult of our life's wild, rest - less sea;
2. As of old, Saint An - drew heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,
3. Je - sus calls us from the wor - ship of the vain world's gold - en store,
4. In our joys and in our sor - rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
5. Je - sus calls us; by your mer - cies, Sav - ior, may we hear your call,



day by day his voice still calls us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, fol - low me."
turned from home and toil and kin - dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
from each i - dol that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris - tian, love me more."
still he calls, in cares and pleas - ures, "Chris - tian, love me more than these."
give our hearts to your o - be - dience, serve and love you best of all.

CLOSING HYMN

380

We Are Not Our Own

Unison

1. We are not our own. Earth forms us, hu - man
 2. We are not a - lone. Earth names us: past and
 3. Through a hu - man life God finds us; dy - ing,
 4. There - fore let us make thanks - giv - ing, and with
 5. And if love's en - coun - ters lead us on a
 6. Let us be a house of wel - come, liv - ing

leaves on na - ture's grow - ing vine, fruit of man - y
 2. pre - sent, peo - ples near and far, fam - i - ly and
 liv - ing, love is ful - ly known, and in bread and
 4. jus - tice, will - ing and a - ware, give to earth, and
 way un - cer - tain and un - known, all the saints with
 6. stone up - hold - ing liv - ing stone, glad - ly show - ing

gen - er - a - tions, seeds of life di - vine.
 2. friends and stran - gers show us who we are.
 wine re - minds us: we are not our own.
 4. all things liv - ing, lit - ur - gies of care.
 prayer sur - round us: we are not a - lone.
 6. all our neigh - bors we are not our own!

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1987
 MUSIC: Brian Wren, 1987; harm. Fred Graham, 1987

YARNTON
 89.85

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Henry Schoenfield, who was hospitalized last weekend for cellulitis and is now recovering at home.
- We pray for Ginny Harlan as she recovers at home from pacemaker insertion surgery.
- We pray for Lisa DiNardo's boyfriend Wayne, who underwent spinal surgery on Thursday and will be recovering slowly over many weeks.
- 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 heavy rainfall, flash flooding, deadly heat waves, and other extreme weather. 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 mourn those lost in mass shootings in Philadelphia and other locations over the July Fourth holiday. 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



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.

Harvard Square Faith Communities and the Legacy of Slavery: Landscape of Slavery Tours

**Today at 12:00 p.m. OR Sunday, August 13 at 12:00 p.m.
meet at Gellert Garden at Radcliffe, 10 Garden St.**

Drawing from the work of the Harvard & the Legacy of Slavery Initiative, this six-stop tour engages with the local geography of African and Indigenous enslavement in words, silence, and stillness. Join us as we learn about those who were wrongly oppressed, enslaved, and buried here, but whose dignity and humanity we aim to acknowledge and honor during this exploration. Please wear comfortable shoes, bring water and sunscreen, and grab a bite between our 10:00 a.m. worship services and the noon tour. The tour is almost 2 hours. [Please register here.](#)



WELCOME CORPS

Join Our Expanding WelcomeCorps Team

We are so pleased that First Church & Friends’ application to become a sponsor group for [Welcome Corps](#) was successful! Our team is now preparing to welcome two refugees from Sub-Saharan Africa in early fall 2023. These newcomers will have Official Refugee Status and full access to government benefits. Our team will support them in a 90-day resettlement effort, and we need a large group of volunteers to help in a variety of ways. There are tasks for a wide range of time commitments and skill levels. We also have a need for core team members with backgrounds in health care, mental health, employment, and job training. If you can join our wider circle of volunteers in this effort, [please complete this form](#) so that we can rely on the database created from your input to provide the newcomers with the support they need. And reach out to your friends and community; people outside of First Church are very welcome to join the team! If you have any questions about being a volunteer, please email Martha Mueller Cook at marthamuellercook@gmail.com. Thank you.

-Bulletin Insert 3-

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

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>

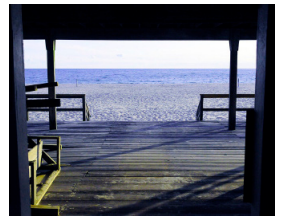


Support the Friday Café This Summer

The Friday Café is 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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617-547-2724 • info@firstchurchcambridge.org • www.firstchurchcambridge.org

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