



## **FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE**

Congregational 1633-1636  
United Church of Christ  
Garden and Mason Streets  
Cambridge, Massachusetts

FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE  
CONGREGATIONAL  
**381 YEARS**  
ON THE WAY  
1 6 3 6 – 2 0 1 7

## WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE... Grounded in God • Growing in Community • Acting in Love

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, we are thankful that you are with us today, and we hope that you will stay for a bit after worship for refreshments and conversation. First Church is an open and affirming, just peace congregation of the United Church of Christ. If you'd like to know more about us, please introduce yourself to one of the ministers after church and explore our web-site at [www.firstchurchcambridge.org](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org).

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship. Picture books, children's Bibles, and activity packets can be found in the Children's Book Corner located by the door to the parish building (to the right of the chancel). Children may visit the Book Corner at any point during worship. Nursery care for infants and toddlers is located through that door and down the hallway (up four stairs to the door on the right). Fussy babies and their caregivers are invited to the Hastings Room, just across the hall from that same door, where the service is broadcast through speakers.

Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available. Please ask a greeter for assistance.

### WORSHIP LEADERS September 10, 2017

#### Preaching

Karin Case, Minister

#### Liturgist

Ivy Seek, First Church Member

#### Leading Worship

Dan Smith, Senior Minister

Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach

Jen Bloesch, Ministerial Intern

#### Playing Organ and Directing Choir

Peter Sykes, Director of Music

## GATHERING

VOLUNTARY

Prelude in C Major

J. S. Bach

\*HYMN 2

The God of Abraham Praise

\*GREETING

Ivy Seek

L: Beloved of God, whether you are here for an hour or a lifetime  
welcome to this household of grace!

**C: Here, where our lives are grounded in the hope and healing of God**

L: Here, where we grow together in community and belonging

**C: Here, where we act together in love for a better world**

L: Sisters, brothers, siblings in the Spirit, come gather in!

**C: And let us sing praise to the living God!**

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Prayer of St. Patrick

Mark Schweizer

## CONFESSING

INVITATION

SILENCE

SUNG PRAYER

Lord, Prepare Me To Be a Sanctuary  
Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,  
pure and holy, tried and true.  
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living  
sanctuary to you!

# ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

## \*GREETING OF PEACE

## \*HYMN 257

This is the Day

## OPENING THE WORD

## PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Kate Layzer

## RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45b

L: O give thanks to the Holy One, call on God's name,  
make known God's deeds among the peoples.  
Sing to the Holy One, sing praises;  
tell of all God's wonderful works.

C: **Glory in God's holy name;  
let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.  
Seek the Lord and his strength;  
seek God's presence continually.**

L: Remember the wonderful works God has done,  
the miracles, and the judgments God has uttered,  
O offspring Abraham and Sarah,  
God's servants,  
children of Jacob, Rachel and Leah, God's chosen ones.

C: **Then Israel came to Egypt;  
Jacob lived as an alien in the land of Ham.  
And God made Israel very fruitful,  
and made them stronger than their foes,  
whose hearts God then turned to hate Israel  
to deal craftily with God's servants.**

L: God sent God's servant Moses,  
and Aaron whom God had chosen.  
that they might keep God's statutes  
and observe God's laws.

All: **Praise the Lord!**

READING

Exodus 3:1-15

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sarah Higginbotham

SERMON

Karin Case

\*HYMN 356

Lord, Speak to Me, That I May Speak

### SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Smith

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Jen Bloesch

L: God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray..

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*(Please pray this prayer and address God 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

Suscepimus, Deus

Janacek

\*DOXOLOGY

Praise God, the Source of life and birth,  
Praise God, the Word, who came to earth,  
Praise God, the Spirit, holy flame,  
All glory, honor, to God's name. Amen.

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**GOING FORTH**

**\*HYMN 242**

God of Life

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*CHORAL RESPONSE, Hymn 344**

Send me, Jesus (Thuma Mina)  
The congregation is invited to join  
in the singing of this response.

Send me, Jesus, send me Jesus  
Send me, Jesus, send me Lord

Lead me, Jesus...

Fill me, Jesus...

Thuma mina...  
Thuma mina somandla

**VOLUNTARY**

Fugue in C Major

J. S. Bach

## YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

- Martha Dyer and her family as they grieve the loss of Martha's sister Lisa, who died in a hiking accident.
- For Julie Palmer and her family as they grieve the loss of Julie's mother Barbara.
- For Francine LaChance's cousin Alan Braga, who was in a serious motorcycle accident.
- For Kerry Maloney and her husband Jim Roche, who was hospitalized after an assault by a group of teenagers on scooters; and, at their request, prayers for the young person responsible for Jim's injury.
- For David Torrey and his family, who are mourning the death of David's mother Margot Torrey in Putney, VT.
- For Mark Destler, Alyce Gowdy-Wright and baby Griffin as Alyce continues to receive treatment for an aggressive return of cancer.
- For Karin Case's sister Cheryl Case, who was recently diagnosed and is in treatment for endometrial cancer, and for all being treated for cancer.
- For Karen McArthur's nephew Spencer Keith, U.S. Navy, who has been deployed.
- We pray for all those impacted by the recent news of the dismantling of Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA). May our federal government find a path of compassionate justice for all immigrants seeking safety, security, and well-being in our nation.
- For all those affected by Hurricanes Harvey and Irma, and related flooding, and for their loved ones.
- For our nation as it continues to wrestle with ongoing expressions of white supremacy, anti-Semitism, and Islamophobia.
- For all who have fled their home countries as a result of war and terrorism, and for clarity in responding to immigration crises around the world.
- For neighbors facing extreme famine in Somalia, South Sudan, Yemen, and Nigeria.
- For all political leaders, including our current administration, that they may know God's spirit of wisdom and justice in these troubling times.
- For ourselves, that we may open our hearts and minds to all those we disagree with or don't understand, and find the grace to listen, connect, and join together in our common humanity.

*If you would like us to include a prayer request, please contact Dan Smith, Karin Case, Francine LaChance, or Kirsten Manville by Wednesday morning, or fill out a prayer request card found in your pew.*

## A PRAYER FOR IMMIGRANTS

God of love, God of mercy and God of liberation,  
bless this movement for immigrants  
to gain the dignity that all people deserve.

We pray for the more than two million families  
who have recently been deported  
and whose families have been separated.

Today we pray for relief from deportation  
for more than five million immigrants  
through deferred action legislation.

We pray that our Supreme Court Justices  
might take the side of compassion and allow this  
much-needed program to move forward.

We know they are the highest court in the land,  
but we look to a higher court and a higher law,  
one where we understand that loving one another  
and welcoming one another into God's family  
is of the utmost importance  
and we pray to keep these families together. Amen.

## TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

**FIRST CHURCH CHOIR FIRST CHURCH CHOIR REHEARSALS AND POTLUCK** We will begin our fall choir season with pickup choir today at 10 AM. Thursday night rehearsals will begin on September 14, starting with a potluck at 6:30 and rehearsal at 7:45 at the home of Perry and Susie Neubauer; email Peter Sykes at [psykes@aol.com](mailto:psykes@aol.com) for more information.

**NIGHT SONG, SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE** Tonight, 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Spend some time at the end of the day nourishing your soul at Night Song. Vox Equalis (treble voices) and Daryl Bichel offer ancient and contemporary chant and improvisation by candlelight, providing space for contemplation and prayer information.

**BLOCK PARTY WITH SANCTUARY COALITION CONGREGATIONS** Today, following Morning Worship, 66 Winthrop Street University Lutheran Church has invited First Church and the other congregations in the Cambridge Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition to join in their annual block party, noon - 2:00 p.m., on Sunday, September 10. There will be music, games, food, and lots of good company with our sibling congregations around Harvard Square. If you'd like to bring something to contribute, they ask that you bring drinks to share! Either way, come and enjoy the fun! We'll walk over after our own Morning Worship and refreshments on the lawn have ended.

**SEPTEMBER POTLUCK DINNERS: CONVERSATIONS ON RACE** Today and September 14 September brings two opportunities to have dinner in a church member's home for honest and heartfelt conversation on racism and anti-racism. These dinners are hosted and facilitated by members of First Church's Beloved Community Group. Today there will be a dinner from 5:00–7:30 p.m. hosted by Laurie Friedman and Barbara Hume at their home in Cambridge for those who participated in a previous discussion last winter or spring and would like to go deeper into these issues. To sign up, please contact Laurie at [laurieannfriedman@gmail.com](mailto:laurieannfriedman@gmail.com). On Thursday, September 14, Peggy Stevens will host a dinner from 6:00–8:30 p.m. for those who haven't participated in previous "Conversations on Race" dinners. For more information or to sign up, please contact [peggy@kids4peaceboston.org](mailto:peggy@kids4peaceboston.org).

## FUTURE HAPPENINGS

**WELCOME TO OUR NEW MINISTERIAL INTERN** Next Sunday, we welcome Tony Amoury Alkhoury as our Ministerial Intern for the coming year, along with Jen Bloesch who is returning for a second year with us. Tony is 33 years old and is from Homs, Syria, where he graduated with a MSC in Clinical Pharmacy from Damascus University. He is currently a second-year MDiv candidate at Harvard Divinity School. After graduation, he hopes to get his green card, which would allow him to travel back and forth to help his church and people back in Syria. Tony will be focusing his learning on the areas of preaching and worship, adult formation, and spiritual care and counseling, including work at the Friday Cafe.

**350 MASS FOR A BETTER FUTURE HOSTS FORUM WITH STATE SENATOR PAT JEHLLEN, Tuesday, September 12 at 7 p.m., First Church in Cambridge** Senator Jehlen will be speaking about her “Stop the Pipeline Tax” bill, which is a bill to ban utilities from forcing electricity customers to pay the costs of new gas pipeline construction. There will be a Q&A session after her remarks. The event is free and open to the public.

**BRING A FRIEND TO CHURCH SUNDAY** As part of the City of Cambridge’s Meet Your Neighbor Day you are especially invited to bring a friend or neighbor to First Church on Sunday, September 17. Of course, friends and neighbors are always welcome but let’s make this a day to especially reach out and share our hospitality with the wider community!

**NEWCOMERS’ OPEN HOUSE AT THE PARSONAGE, Sunday, September 17, 12:45–2:00 p.m.** Whether you are just getting settled into a new apartment, program, or city, or you’ve recently joined First Church and still feel new, please join us for Newcomers’ Open House at the Parsonage. After church on September 17, walk down to 44 Garden Street, anytime from 12:45–2:00 p.m. for a casual time of good food, conversation, and getting acquainted. Please RSVP to Lang Haynes in the church office at [lang@firstchurchcambridge](mailto:lang@firstchurchcambridge). You can also feel free just to show up!

**REGATHERING SUNDAY, September 24** And what a Regathering it will be! Our contractors will still be doing some finishing work, which is why we are Regathering later than usual this year. After a summer of construction, we will be all the more ready to reconnect—members, friends, and newcomers alike! Plan to join us on Sunday, September 24, for a full day of worship and fellowship, with Christian Formation activities at 10:00 a.m., Morning Worship at 11:00 a.m., Church School Classes at 11:20 a.m., and a lunch after worship in Margaret Jewett Hall. Feast on great food with friends old and new and feast your eyes on our almost finished project (the Dedication will likely be in mid-October).

## FUTURE HAPPENINGS

**CONFIRMATION AND YOUTH GROUP KICK-OFF, September 24** Confirmands (8th/9th graders) and their parents are invited to an Orientation to Confirmation after worship at 12:30 p.m. on Regathering Sunday. We'll take our lunch to the New Meeting Room to learn about the year ahead, culminating in Confirmation Sunday on Pentecost in May 2018. And then at 3:00 p.m., the Youth Group (9th-12th graders) is invited to meet at the church for their first meeting, a trip to Walden Pond.

**“500”: A FOUR SESSION ADULT FORMATION SERIES FOR THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REFORMATION** Sundays, September 24, October 8, 15 and 22 at 10 am in Margaret Jewett Hall Join us as we dip into a bit of church history and celebrate the 500th anniversary of the Protestant Reformation. We will follow a series of readings and reflections offered through a study guide prepared by the the United Church of Christ's Still Speaking Writers' Group and edited by our previous Senior Minister, Rev. Dr. Mary Luti. “This study guide celebrates the United Church of Christ's Reformation heritage by lifting up some of the Reformation's central claims. There is beauty here. And ugliness too. Inasmuch as ideas can thrill, these ideas are thrilling. Brace yourself.”—from the Foreword. We will have copies of the booklet available in church throughout September for a \$5 suggested donation.

**FALL ALL-CHURCH RETREAT—Register now!** Friday evening, September 29—Sunday midday, October 1 Craigville Conference Center, Craigville, Cape Cod First Church will host its Annual All-ages, All-church Retreat September 29 – October 1. Register online now at [www.firstchurchcambridge.org](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org). Mouse over Worship, Music and Spiritual Life on our home page, then click on Spiritual Formation on the drop-down menu. Scholarships are available.

**FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE** Please see the Fall EVENT newsletter for a full update on progress. As you can see, the summer has brought a lot of it! The first phase preservation and structural work is now complete. We expect to have access to our new meeting room as well as as to Margaret Jewett Hall and the new walkway by September 24. We are holding Sunday, October 22 as a tentative date for a for such a time as this Dedication Sunday! By that point, our kitchen should be ready to use. Thank you for your patience!

**HURRICANE RELIEF THROUGH THE UCC** Our hearts and prayers go out to all impacted by the Hurricane Harvey and the related flooding in Texas. The United Church of Christ is active in networks that meet immediate needs and focuses on long-term recovery that may well last 5 + years. To learn how you can contribute to those efforts, please visit [www.ucc.org/disaster\\_hurricane\\_harvey](http://www.ucc.org/disaster_hurricane_harvey) or donate via our offering plate, online and/or by mail.

**Please make checks payable to First Church in Cambridge, with Emergency USA Fund in the memo.**

*100% of funds to the United Church of Christ designated for U.S. disaster relief are used for disaster relief and rehabilitation programming within the United States.*

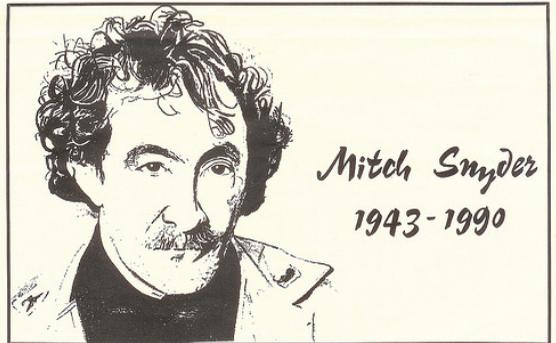
**If you would like to give in a more targeted way:** Former FCC member Jonanthan Page, now pastor of First Congregational Church in Houston, has written to tell us of a fund to help UCC members in Texas who are struggling to cover hurricane losses. 100% of the funds will go to people in our churches who do not have the financial resources to meet their expenses.

Checks can be sent directly to First Congregational Houston (10840 Beinhorn Road, Houston, TX 77024) or to the South Central Conference UCC offices (3610 River Road, New Braunfels, Texas 78132) with a note in the memo line marked "Disaster Relief." You can also donate to the respective funds online at <https://goo.gl/vLSyed> for FCC or <https://sccucc.org/donate/> for the South Central Conference.

## SAVE THE DATES: FIRST CHURCH SHELTER CELEBRATES 30 YEARS!

The First Church Shelter Committee and Shelter Director Jim Stewart invite all members and friends of First Church in Cambridge to join in recognizing and celebrating our thirty years of mission and service to the poor and homeless. The 2017 Mitch Snyder Awards will be presented to a number of individuals and organizations at each of the Anniversary events.

- **CELEBRATION IN THE BRAUN ROOM OF ANDOVER HALL, Friday, October 20, Harvard Divinity School.**
- **2017 MITCH SNYDER LECTURE, Thursday, October 26, 6:30 p.m., Adams House, 26 Plympton Street, Cambridge** Corey Davis, National Health Policy Law Center; and Dr. Kimberly Sue, M.D., Ph.D., Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard University, on "The Opioid Crisis 101 and What Must Be Done." The Mitch Snyder Lecture and Awards are given in memory of the selfless life and example of the late Mitch Snyder, of the Community for Creative Non-Violence, Washington, DC.
- **RECEPTION AT FIRST CHURCH Friday, October 27, 3:00 p.m.** Guest speaker: Marylou Sudders, Massachusetts Health and Human Service Secretary.
- **2017 DORIS BEAUVAIS LUNCHEON, Sunday, October 29, 12:30 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall** Guest speaker: Peter Canelos; Editor-At-Large, Politico, and former Metro and Editorial Page Editor, The Boston Globe, "Homelessness and Public Policy." The Doris Beauvais Luncheon and Lecture memorialize the life and leadership of the late Doris Beauvais, a member of First Church who played a significant role in First Church's acceptance of the challenge to offer shelter to the homeless.



Documentary Viewing, Sunday, September 17, at 7:00pm, Old Cambridge Baptist Church (1151 Mass.Ave - enter through red doors on the Mass Ave side of the church), [Harvest of Empire](#), a 90-minute documentary film featuring stories from a wide range of immigrants from Latin American countries, will be shown in the Parish Hall at Old Cambridge Baptist Church followed a half-hour discussion. By exploring this history, including U.S. involvement, the film helps to explain why there are so many undocumented immigrants from these countries in the United States. It also leaves us with the question: If the U.S. plays a role in destabilizing a country, what responsibility do we have to help its citizens?

**OCBC**  
OLD CAMBRIDGE BAPTIST CHURCH  
A Progressive Peace and Justice Congregation

**Film Screening and Discussion on  
Immigration Justice  
Sunday, September 17, 7:00pm**

1151 Mass Ave  
Parking Available

Enter through red doors on the Mass Ave side of the church.

All Are Welcome

Harvest of Empire is a 90-minute film featuring stories from a wide range of immigrants from Latin American countries asking the question: If the U.S. plays a role in destabilizing a country, what responsibility do we have to help its citizens?

## The Week Ahead

### Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 10

- 10:00 a.m. Pickup Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Multigenerational Morning Worship, Karin Case preaching
- 12:30 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn (or Narthex)
- 12:30 p.m. Church School Teacher Orientation, New Meeting Room
- 12:30 p.m. Sanctuary Coalition Block Party at University Lutheran (66 Winthrop Street)
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

### Monday, September 11

- 7:15 p.m. Beloved Community, Dan Smith's Office

### Wednesday, September 13

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's Office
- 6:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee, Dan Smith's Office

### Thursday, September 14

- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Home of the Neubaurers

### Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 17

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 10:00 a.m. First Church Q and A / Meet our Interns Session, New Meeting Room
- 11:00 a.m. Multigenerational Morning Worship, Dan Smith, preaching
- 12:30 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn
- 12:30 p.m. Discernment and Formation Meeting, New Meeting Room
- 12:45 p.m. Newcomers Open House, Parsonage, 44 Garden Street
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

### Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost. REGATHERING SUNDAY, September 24

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. 500: Adult Formation Series for the 500th Anniversary of the Reformation, MJH
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Regathering Celebration, Dan Smith, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Opening Day classes for preschoolers-7<sup>th</sup> grade
- 12:30 p.m. Regathering Lunch, MJH
- 12:30 p.m. Confirmation Class Orientation for Parents and Students, New Meeting Room
- 3:00 p.m. Youth Group Kick-off, gather in church lobby
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

## The Staff at First Church in Cambridge

### Senior Minister

Rev. Dan Smith,  
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### Minister

Rev. Dr. Karin Case  
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### Minister, Stewardship & Finance

Rev. Karen McArthur,  
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### Minister of Street Outreach

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### Ministerial Intern

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### Ministerial Intern

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### Director of Music

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### Director, Creative Worship & Arts

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### Staff Composer

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### Poet-in-Residence

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### Shelter Director

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George Williams, Kimel Williams,  
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CONGREGATIONAL, 1633-1636**

United Church of Christ

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