



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

CONFESSING

INVITATION

SILENCE

SUNG CONFESSION *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 for you!*

(Sung twice through)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*Children from PreK to 7th grade are invited to leave at this time for their Church School Classes.
Teachers will meet children at the side door to accompany them to their classrooms. Parents can
meet their children in Lindsay Chapel (through Margaret Jewett Hall and to the left) after worship.*

*HYMN 340 *Peace Before Us*

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Kate Layzer

READING Job 38: 1-41

RESPONSIVE PSALM 91:9-16

- L: Because you have made God your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,
**C: no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.**
L: For God will command angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
**C: On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**
L: You will tread on the lion and the adder,
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

- C: “Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.**
L: When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble,
I will rescue them and honor them.
**C: With long life I will satisfy them,
and show them my salvation.”**

READING

Mark 10:35-45

Dan Smith

A TIME OF HEALING PRAYER

INVITATION

BLESSING OF OIL AND HANDS

Katie Omberg

HYMNS

*441 Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ
399 From the Crush of Wealth and Power
400 There Is a Balm in Gilead
427 My Life Flows on in Endless Song*

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Karin Case

THE LORD’S PRAYER

(Please pray this prayer and address God in words most meaningful to your heart.)

- L: Hear us now as we pray in the spirit of our brother, Jesus: Our Creator, our Mother...
**All: Our Father, 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 OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Phil La Follette

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Jubilate Deo
(Text: Psalm 100)

Orlando di Lasso

*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 352

Go Forth for God

*PASTORAL CARE TEAM RECOGNITION AND BLESSING

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Send Me, Jesus (Thuma Mina)

Hymn 344

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

Concerto in A Minor

Vivaldi/Bach

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

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 website at www.firstchurchcambridge.org.

Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available.

Please ask a greeter for assistance.

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.

LEADING WORSHIP TODAY ARE Dan Smith, Senior Minister; Karin Case, Minister; Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach; and Katie Omberg, Ministerial Intern. Our liturgist is First Church community member and Faith and Life group leader Bruce Hoppe. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir.

The **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** section of the bulletin is omitted in the online version to protect the privacy of those mentioned. To find out who we are praying for this week, please contact the church offices at parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org or by calling 617-547-2724.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING PREP SESSION AFTER CHURCH TODAY A Special Congregational Meeting will be held after church on Sunday, November 1. Items on the agenda include our 2016 budget, our new Mission Statement and Ministry Plan, approving a process for a Capital Campaign appeal. Please join us after church today in the Hastings Room to learn more about each of these important items in our life together. There will be time for discussion of the budget draft and Mission Statement and Ministry Plan as well a report from our Capital Campaign planning team. A light lunch will be served.

NEWCOMERS LUNCH Today at 12:30 p.m., Library Interested in learning more about First Church? About our history? Or our community? Or our denomination? Or our ministries? Interested in meeting other folks who are new to First Church? Church leaders will host a newcomers exploration lunch following Morning Worship today.

BELL CHOIR Today at 10:00, Lindsay Chapel Bell Choir is starting again, and we are always looking for ringers! No prior experience needed. Reading music a plus but not required. All ages welcome to come to a rehearsal and try it out! We rehearse in the Chapel on the other side of Margaret Jewett Hall from 10:00-10:50 AM on Sunday mornings, and will play in church soon. Come to rehearsals in November and December and play with us during the Unpageant on December 20. Please email susielongfield@gmail.com for more information.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary Join us for this contemplative and spiritually transporting candle-lit experience. This week, a mixed octet will sing and literature will include lydian plainchant setting for compline by Daryl Bichel; Beatus homo cui donatum est by Orlando di Lasso; Psalm 25, set by Patricia Van Ness; plainchant hymn Te lucis ante terminum; Salve Regina by Gregor Aichinger. We will not be using incense this Sunday.

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

PARISH ADMINISTRATOR SABBATICAL First Church Parish Administrator Kirsten Manville is on sabbatical through December 31. **Shannon Fuller has been appointed Acting Parish Administrator and will be working half-time. Please be sure to submit all items for the bulletin to Shannon, at sfuller@firstchurchcambridge.org, by 1:00 on Tuesdays.**

GET YOUR CIDER DONUTS, MUMS, GOURDS and BULBS at Fellowship Hour these October Sundays, a fundraiser for RIM (Refugee Immigration Ministry), as we in First Church are continuing to support a persecuted young Muslim woman from Kenya. Also, items are needed for a **Silent Auction** at RIM's Boston Harbor Cruise on October 18. Contact Ruth Hsiao if you have an item to donate.

WHO DO WE SAY THAT WE ARE? — A NEW SERIES OF “FAITH IN CONTEXT” CONVERSATIONS After a rich congregation-wide exploration last Lent of Jesus' question “Who Do You Say That I Am?” we want to continue the conversation this season with a focus on "Who Do We Say That We Are?" Who do we say that we are in light of our faith commitments and in light of real concerns that are facing our lives, communities and our planet. Can we bring our faith commitments into conversations about race, about climate change, about gender, about immigration? Please join Dan Smith an upcoming series of one-shot, drop-in conversations (though by all means feel free to attend all). At our next meeting, we will share some faith based reflections on Ta-Nehisi Coates's recent book, *Between the World and Me*. **We'll meet in the Dan Smith's office, Thursday, October 22, at 6:00 p.m.** Please join us!

OCTOBER COVENANT FRIENDSHIP MEAL! Tuesday, October 27, at 6 pm in Cambridge (1 block from Porter T). Looking for a few more guests—casual, potluck, no agenda, just a really nice evening. Email organizer Hilary Hopkins hopkinsjh@verizon.net or sign up in MJH on Sunday. Kids welcome too.

WEDNESDAY CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Christian Meditation is the ancient practice of opening the heart in silence to the indwelling presence of God. Join the circle any Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Lindsay Chapel. No experience is required, but all experience is welcome. Reach Kate Layzer at klayzer@gmail.com if you'd like to know more.

CENTERING MEDITATION Take an hour out of your week and gather with First Church friends to explore centering meditation. 6-7:15 pm Mondays and Thursdays in Room 22 (The Well). No prior meditation experience necessary. Contact Karin Case for more information: karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org

CELEBRATION OF ORDINATION FOR JULIE ROGERS AT CHURCH OF THE COVENANT ON OCTOBER 25: First Church in Cambridge is warmly invited to a Celebration of Ordination Service for Julie Rogers on Sunday, October 25th at 2:00 pm at Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury Street, Boston. Julie worked at First Church as our Affiliate Minister for Youth and Young Adults and Pastoral Associate from 2012-2014 and she is incredibly grateful for her First Church family for their support and inspiration on her journey towards ordination! A reception will follow the service and child care will be provided.

MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE OF GLOBAL MINISTRIES OF THE UCC. The Palestine Israel Task Team has planned two sessions, on October 18 and November 22, on the Middle East. Global Missions is focusing on the Middle East beginning this past August and extending into 2016. For two months, a country will be focused on. There will be webinars with our Global Missions partners, Bible studies, and sermons that one can access at www.globalministries.org. In the months of August and September, Syria was the focus. On October 18th at the 10 o'clock hour, the task team has invited Razek Siriani to speak with us. Razek, his wife, and two adolescent sons came from Aleppo in the fall of 2013. Razek belongs to the Syrian Orthodox Church of Antioch and was ordained a lay deacon in 1999. Since 1985 he has worked with the Middle East Council of Churches coordinating the youth programs of Syria. In 2003, Razek was appointed to direct the MECC Department of

International & Ecumenical Relations. In preparation for the 18th, we would encourage you to go to the website www.globalministries.org -- select RESOURCES, then MIDDLE EAST, then AUGUST to find Razeq's compelling sermon Where is God? You are also invited to listen to the 2 webinars and hear from the religious leaders of Syria.

TOWARD AN IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM AND YOUR MUSLIM NEIGHBORS. Thursday evenings, October 22 through November 20, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Classroom 101, Davis Hall, Andover-Newton Theological School. Please consider attending one or more sessions of this series on one of the important Abrahamic faiths. Now in times of disconcerting demonstrations, we affirm our respect and concern for Muslims. The program is free and sponsored by the Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries. Register now on Eventbrite at: <http://islamcoursecmm.eventbrite.com>. For information contact Alice Kidder at flintkiddr@aol.com.

SUBVERTING THE GOSPEL OF GUNS: A TWO DAY SUMMIT AT ANDOVER NEWTON THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL October 22 and 23 Andover Newton will host a two-day summit for alumni/ae and friends to participate in an urgent conversation about gun violence in the United States. This gathering will focus on the response by people of faith to the current situation in our country, and will provide action steps for how we can all work together to change the culture of guns and violence in our communities. The event will include keynote speakers, panel discussions, and worship. Boston Mayor Martin J Walsh and Massachusetts Attorney General will offer keynote addresses on Thursday and Friday, respectively. Other speakers will include local police chiefs, policy makers, scholars, activists and clergy, including our own Rev. Dan Smith, who has been a co-convenor of the Massachusetts Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence and a leader in *Do Not Stand Idly By*, a national campaign that is working with local and state government and law enforcement to demand more of companies they buy guns from. Cost is \$35. Please register for all or part of the event at <http://www.ants.edu/subverting-gospel-of-guns>.

#OPENGAZA-TRAUMA AND HOPE, FIRST HAND. Saturday, October 24 at 2pm in the Hastings Room. All are invited to this program featuring Dr. Yasser Abu Jamei, Executive Director of the Gaza Mental Health Program, and Ran Goldstein, Executive Director of Physicians for Human Rights-Israel. With much of Gaza in ruins and closed to the outside world, the Gaza Community Mental Health Program attempts to alleviate trauma and instill hope for the future. The Missions and Social Justice Committee has supported the GCMHP for the past several years, and these talks are co-sponsored by the Palestine Israel Task Team of First Church.

SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM October 25 at 12:30pm in the Hastings Room. General Synod 30 of the UCC passed a resolution last June entitled "A Call for the UCC to Take Actions Toward a Just Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict". This resolution calls for study of the Kairos Palestine document, certain divestment and boycott actions directed at the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land, and commends interfaith dialogue. While not binding on any individual church due to our UCC polity, it was endorsed by 9 conferences as well as the Synod, and can be a source of discussion and inspiration. Gay Harter and Linda Ziebell will lead a discussion of the content of the resolution and the process of bringing it to the Synod. Dan Smith will offer comments.

END OF LIFE CARE CONVERSATIONS. The Hospice of Cambridge Development Committee and VNA Care Network & Hospice will be hosting **What Do I Do and Say? Crafting a Partnership with a Clinician About End-of-Life Care**, an interactive discussion with Dr. David Weissman, a leading expert on palliative care and improving care for the seriously ill. Program is free and open to the public and will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Cambridge Public Library. **In addition, First Church in Cambridge will be hosting a Conversation Sabbath on November 8**, joining with over 30 local congregations to promote end-of-life care conversations sponsored by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Conversation Project. The theme will be part of our morning worship service. Ministerial Intern Taj Smith will be leading a workshop after church that day. This will be the fourth in a series of discussions that we began with the Conversation Project and the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization this past spring.

8 REASONS TO VOLUNTEER AT THE FRIDAY CAFÉ

- It's a little taste of the reign of God, including donuts.
- It's a great excuse to start the weekend early (how can your employer say no?).
- Change the world, Jesus-style: Eat with people you wouldn't normally be seen with.
- High schoolers: Community service credit!
- The food is really good. (Did we mention donuts?)
- It makes you feel good in your soul.
- It's something you can bring a non-church friend to that you can both enjoy.
- It's love in action.

E-mail Kate Layzer at klayzer@gmail.com to volunteer.

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR VALUABLES As the church program year begins, please be reminded that First Church is an open building, and petty theft does occur here. Please make sure to not leave wallets, purses, phones, etc. unattended. And if you see anything suspicious, please contact a sexton immediately. Thank for your vigilance and care.

Today's bulletin cover was created by Perry Neubauer.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, October 18

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:00 a.m. Raise Up - Lew Finfer, McKenzie Library
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Bell Choir, Lindsay Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation: The UCC Middle East Initiative, Hastings Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 11:20 a.m. Church School
- 12:15 p.m. Newcomers Gathering, McKenzie Library
- 12:30 p.m. Preparation for Fall Congregational Meeting, Hastings Room
- 1:15 p.m. Stewardship Committee Meeting, Room 22 (the Well)
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Room 22 (the Well)
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Monday, October 19

- 4:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Racism, Room 22 (the Well)
- 6:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Centering Meditation, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:30 p.m. Deacon's Meeting, Hastings Room

Tuesday, October 20

- 5:30 p.m. Family Night, Sage Hall
- 7:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Faith and Work, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:30 p.m. Investment Committee Meeting, Dan Smith's Office

Wednesday, October 21

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's office

Thursday, October 22

- 6:00 p.m. Faith in Context Conversation, Ta-Nehisi Coates's Book, Dan Smith's Office
- 6:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Centering Meditation, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

Friday, October 23

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall

Sunday, October 25

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Bell Choir, Lindsay Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Family Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 11:20 a.m. Church School
- 12:30 p.m. Social Justice Forum: Actions Toward a Just Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Hastings
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

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