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**Eastertide**

**FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE**

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC

April 14, 2013

THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

VOLUNTARY

*O God, My Faithful God*

J. S. Bach

\*HYMN C-13

*Christ, We Meet You On Our Way*

\*GREETING

Phil LaFollette

L: Sisters and brothers, grace and peace to you from God.

**C: From God the Merciful, peace to you.**

L: Come in! Be at home in the presence of Love.

**C: Love divine, love stronger than death.**

L: Come in! Be at home in the companionship of the Risen Christ.

**C: The Risen Christ, who searches for the lost and carries us home.**

L: Come in and gather in his name! Give Praise to God  
who in Christ risks everything for our sake and turns no one away.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Sarah Higginbotham

ANTHEM

*Love is But My Answer*

Carlton T. Russell

*I sought the Lord, and afterward I knew  
he moved my soul to seek him, seeking me;  
it was not I that found, O Savior true;  
no, I was found of thee.*

*Thou didst reach forth thy hand and mine enfold;  
I walked and sank not on the storm-vexed sea;  
'twas not so much that I on thee took hold,  
as thou, dear Lord, on me.*

*I find, I walk, I love, but oh, the whole  
of love is but my answer, Lord, to thee;  
for thou wert long beforehand with my soul,  
always thou lovedst me.*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

*\*You are invited to stand. Hymns preceded by a "C" may be found in the beginning section of the hymnal. The C (Cambridge) - section contains hymns written and composed by current and past members of First Church.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

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

**All: Merciful God, we confess that we have not met you  
in the poor or the strangers who stand daily by our side.  
We barely recognize you in our friends or in ourselves.  
Forgive us, we pray, and help us to see more clearly  
your face of mercy that shines all around us.  
Grant us your love for justice and kindness.  
Teach us to walk humbly in your ways for all our days.  
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

\*GREETING OF PEACE

*Children from PreK to 7th grade are now invited to leave for church school. 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 93

*I Look to You in Every Need*

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

Acts 9: 1- 6 (7-20)

SERMON

Dan Smith

\*HYMN 414

*This is a Day of New Beginnings*

EARTH STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONY

Nancy Kilburn

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Haec Dies*

Lodovico da Viadana

*This is the day that the Lord hath made.  
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

\*EASTER 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.**

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Terry McKinney

L: God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Let us pray (silence, intercessions, Lord's Prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

\*HYMN 244

*Like a Tree Beside the Waters*

\*A BLESSING FOR REV. NORM BENDROTH ON HIS 25th ORDINATION  
ANNIVERSARY

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sending Forth*

Paul Sawyer

*We have been gathered from the world to be judged and received.*

*Now we are sent forth into that world,  
to be the scattered church of Jesus Christ,  
declaring through our word and deed,*

*"The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!"*

VOLUNTARY

*All Glory Be to God on High*

J. S. Bach

*The bulletin cover is an image of a ceramic mosaic created by the children of the church and designed by Perry Neubauer. The sunrise depicted recalls the morning of Jesus' resurrection when the women disciples visited the empty tomb at dawn. The sunrise theme also symbolizes Jesus' life and ministry as the Light of the World.*

## **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](http://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, toddlers and preschoolers 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.

**PREACHING TODAY IS** Dan Smith, Senior Minister. Assisting with worship are Terry McKinney, Minister of Mental Health & Healing and Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts. Our liturgist is First Church choir member Phil LaFollette. Giving the Earth Stewardship Testimony is Nancy Kilburn, member of the Earth Stewardship Team. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir. Reebee Girash, Interim Minister, is away this week.

The **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** section of the bulletin is omitted from this online version to preserve the privacy of those mentioned. If you'd like more information on the people we're praying for this week, please contact the church office at [parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org) or 617-547-2724 and we'll get the information to you.

## **TODAY'S HAPPENINGS**

**SPIRITUALITY AND MENTAL HEALTH GROUP Today at 2:00 p.m., Tower Room** How do emotional struggles and mental health difficulties affect your relationship with God? Does your faith change your experience of mental health issues? Join us in the Tower Room each Sunday from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. as we hold these questions and our experiences in the healing light of Christ. The group is open: you may attend as often or as little as you like, and newcomers are always welcome. Talk to or e-mail Terry McKinney (tmckinney@firstchurchcambridge.org) or Carter West (stbosal@arczip.com).

**NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Today at 7 p.m., Sanctuary** Bask in the beauty of Renaissance polyphony, Gregorian chant, introspective modal improvisations by jazz musicians, incense and icons. Participation in Night Song, about an hour in length, is through listening and silent prayer. It is not meant to be a performance, but rather a transformance – a medium for achieving inner peace, centering and spiritual renewal. Set apart from the sights, sounds, and values of current culture, Night Song helps participants enter an inner mystical silence. You are invited and encouraged to attend and to tell others about this opportunity at First Church. If you have any interest in singing, ushering or helping with publicity for Night Song, contact Daryl Bichel at 617-312-8328, darylbichel@aol.com.

## **FUTURE HAPPENINGS**

**HILDA SILVERMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE Tuesday, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Margaret Jewett Hall** All are invited to the Hilda Silverman Memorial Lecture on Tuesday evening, April 16 at 7:30 p.m. in Margaret Jewett Hall. Hilda, a tireless local advocate for justice in the Middle East will be honored by a Lecture entitled "Community and Ideology: What Will It Take for American Jews to Walk Away from Zionism?" by Philip Weiss, the creator and editor of the popular blog Mondoweiss. The event is sponsored by American Jews for a Just Peace Boston and the Palestine-Israel Task Team of First Church.

**NEW HAVRUTA BIBLE STUDY - SEARCHING FOR WHOLENESS, ALONE AND TOGETHER** These past weeks our congregation has been asking ourselves a deep set of questions. How do we sustain ourselves with renewed balance? How do we sustain ourselves toward greater wholeness? How do we do so alone and together? This conversation will continue to unfold in many ways. One place it will continue is in a *havruta* group that will meet Thursday mornings, 7:00-8:45 a.m., for six weeks starting April 18<sup>th</sup>. If there's a text that captures our focus, it comes from John's Gospel: *Jesus came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. We invite you to come and sit by the well. Come once. Come twice. Come every week. Come if you've done havruta before. (Havruta is Hebrew for "befriend.") Come if you've never tried it. Simply come and sit with us. We begin with breakfast. Several members of the group will take turns sharing a text, not necessarily biblical, perhaps a poem or short reading. We explore the text through dialogue and conversation. And we listen for*

insights, images, common language to recognize more fully the grace of balance and wholeness, alone and together. For more information, contact Brent Coffin at [brentbcoffin@gmail.com](mailto:brentbcoffin@gmail.com) or Gaylen Morgan at [photongm@comcast.net](mailto:photongm@comcast.net).

**FAMILY CHOIR Sunday, April 21 at 10 a.m., Sanctuary** Singers of all ages and abilities are invited to a one-off, rehearse-and-sing Family Choir experience on Sunday April 21. Sarah Higginbotham and Peter Sykes will join forces to lead rehearsal of a simple anthem at 10:00 a.m., and then we'll sing it in our Earth Stewardship Sunday worship at 11:00. All are welcome!

**NEWCOMERS LUNCH AND NEXT JOINING SUNDAY Sunday, April 21 at 12:30 p.m., Hastings Room** Are you a newcomer to First Church? Interested in joining First Church? If you answered yes to either of these questions and would like to know more about our community, please join church leaders for our next Third-Sunday Newcomer Gathering on April 21. A light lunch will be served in Margaret Jewett Hall; please make a plate and bring it into the Hastings Room. This session will be in preparation for **our next joining service on April 28**; we'll go over the liturgy and discuss what it means to live in covenant. If you would like to join First Church on April 28, please let Dan Smith know at [dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org).

**THIRD-SUNDAY JAZZ WORSHIP Sunday, April 21 at 5:00 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall** Come one and all for lively worship in a jazz and gospel style. Whether you are a Jazz regular or a curious newcomer to our afternoon worship, join us for communal prayer and Holy Communion, led by Nancy Weil and Dan Smith, as well as soulful singing and stirring music led by Carolyn Wilkins and her band.

**GBIO SENATE CANDIDATE ACCOUNTABILITY ACTION Sunday, April 21 at 7:00 p.m., St. Mark's Parish (1725 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester, MA)** First Church in Cambridge is an active member in the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization which will be hosting a US Senate Candidate Accountability Action on Sunday, April 21st from 7 - 9 p.m. Congressman Ed Markey and Representative Stephen Lynch have confirmed their participation. The candidates for John Kerry's Senate seat will be engaged around current GBIO concerns including Immigration, Gun Violence Prevention and the Affordable Care Act. The location will be announced next week. If you have questions or concerns about the action, please talk to Dan Smith or Carolyn White or visit [www.gbio.org](http://www.gbio.org).

**CAMBRIDGE CONCENTUS PERFORMS BACH WITH PETER SYKES, ORGANIST Sunday, April 28 at 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary** Cambridge Concentus with soloists Leon Schelhase, Dylan Sauerwald, Marika Holmqvist, and Emily Rideout perform an all-Bach program on Sunday, April 28 at 3 p.m. at First Church in Cambridge, Congregational (11 Garden Street). The program features the C-Major Double Harpsichord Concerto, Brandenburg Concerto VI, and the cantata *Wo sol lich fliehen hin?*. First Church's Peter Sykes will perform a masterpiece by J.S. Bach on the magnificent organ. A wine and cheese reception follows the concert. For more information, please visit [cambridgeconcentus.org](http://cambridgeconcentus.org) or call (617) 952-4050. \$20 suggested donation at the door.

**SUMMER FAMILY WEEK AT CRAIGVILLE, August 4-10** Spend a week on Cape Cod with your family this August at PACE (Parent and Child Experience) hosted by Craigville Retreat Center. Families of all ages and sizes stay together in the Inn and take advantage of a private beach, programs for children, intergenerational activities, and easy access to all the Cape has to offer. Many First Church families have made this a summer vacation tradition. Scholarship are available to help families attend. Contact Rev. Joanne Hartunian, PACE Director, at [familycampvacation@yahoo.com](mailto:familycampvacation@yahoo.com) to learn more and to register for this year's program.

### **GET INVOLVED**

**CALLING ALL WALKERS. YOUNG AND OLD (AND IN BETWEEN): THE ANNUAL WALK FOR HUNGER** is just a few weeks away on May 5th. This year our very own First Church Shelter will be fielding its flagship walk team, comprised of shelter guests, staff members, friends and whomever in the congregation would like to sign on. Did you know that The Walk For Hunger, through its parent sponsor, Project Bread, contributes a sizeable grant that helps to fund the shelter's food and meal operating budget? And that they also help to fund upwards of 500 other Emergency Food Programs in greater Massachusetts? The Walk itself is a scenic stroll starting and ending at the Boston Common and traversing Brookline, Newton, Watertown and Cambridge. Also, one needn't trek the entire route - there are multiple checkpoints along the way at which to register. One can walk as far as they are physically comfortable. Shelter Overnight Supervisor Steve Brown will be on the scene after services today and over the upcoming Sundays with pledge materials and to answer any questions. For more information, please visit [www.projectbread.org](http://www.projectbread.org).

**HARVARD SQUARE BUSINESS ASSOCIATION PARTNERS WITH LEAF TABLETS** Starting this month, Leaf tablets will be available in many Harvard Square businesses including Black Ink, Brattle Square Florist, Concepts, Curious George, Market in the Square, Tistik and The Tannery, enabling patrons to donate with the swipe of a credit card. HSBA will work directly with local charities including the First Church Shelter, Youth on Fire, Harvard Square Meals Program, On The Rise, Bread and Jams' Self Advocacy Center, CASPAR, Spare Change, and The Harvard Square Homeless Shelter to ensure that the money is put to good use. Donors can select the amount they wish to give - starting at one dollar - and will know exactly how their money will be spent. For example: \$1 can provide a pair of socks, \$5 can provide three hot meals, \$10 can provide one onsite medical visit, \$20 can provide one meeting with a counselor, \$50 can provide a living wage (3.5 hours of paid work), and \$100 can provide shelter for a week. Please look for Leaf tablets and support this program.

**PRACTICING HOSPITALITY: PEW CLIP BOARDS** Visitor cards/prayer request cards and temporary nametags are on the clipboard at the end of your pew. Please pass the clipboards down the pew so that everyone can view them. Completed visitor cards/prayer cards can be put into the offertory container. And, as always, please wear your name tag. If you have questions, contact Karen McArthur or Reebee Girash.

## **BUILDING THE BELOVED COMMUNITY - UPCOMING HIGHLIGHTS**

*Living into our Vision of a Multicultural, Multiracial First Church: Balancing the Present with Lessons from the Past. See the Building Beloved Community page on our website!  
Please be part of our Beloved Community and its outreach!*

**Tuesday, April 23**, please attend **Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries' Annual Meeting, at First Church – this year's theme is "Racial and Religious Healing: Grounding Humanity."** A panel, including Phyllis and Eugene Unterschuetz (authors of "Longing: Stories of Racial Healing"), Omar Abdul-Malik, Executive Director of the Cambridge Center for the Study of Religion and Public Policy will discuss the theme of racial and religious healing. The panel moderator, Dr. Michelle Cromwell, is founder of the Multicultural Village, Inc and a lecturer at Regis College. Please sign up on EventBrite at <http://cmmannualmeeting2013.eventbrite.com/#>. To get the event-Brite link you may also go to [www.coopmet.org](http://www.coopmet.org). An evening of music, interfaith and interracial dialogue, and a nationally renowned panel make up an event not to be missed.

**April 27, Concert to benefit "Tremendous Hearts"** Marilyn Votaw, a First Church member, has a program of bringing technical assistance to women in South Africa who are caring for AIDS orphans. She is presenting this concert event (Boston Community Choir) at First Church on Saturday evening, **April 27**. For information, speak to Bob Kelley of the Mission and Social Justice Committee, or email [rkelley@gmail.com](mailto:rkelley@gmail.com).

**Thursday, May 2, 7 – 9 p.m. Please join First Church member Arleigh Prelow who will be screening (at First Church) her life-long work, a film, entitled "The Psalm of Howard Thurman"** Rev. Howard Thurman (1899 – April 10, 1981) was an influential American author, philosopher, theologian, educator and civil rights leader. He was the Dean of Chapel at Howard University and Boston University for more than twenty years. He wrote twenty-one books, and in 1944 helped found a multicultural church. (Choir members note the choir will meet at a different time so you can attend the film.)

To add your name to the Building Beloved Community discussion group, please contact Jean Bellow at [jean\\_bellow@comcast.net](mailto:jean_bellow@comcast.net). (note underscore between the two names.)

We urge you to become involved as you are able. Please bring us your ideas.  
Thanks for your participation, the Building Beloved Community Team at First Church

# MISSION 4/1 EARTH

## EARTH STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY APRIL 21, 2013

*As part of our observation of Mission 4/1 Earth, First Church will have a lot going on next Sunday!*

### **BEFORE CHURCH**

You are invited to consider the earth – and your carbon footprint – as you make your way to church on April 21. This is a great day to BIKE, BUS, CARPOOL OR WALK to church. At 10:45 on the walkway to the playground entrance, join us for a **Blessing of the Bicycles!** Don't forget to bring your bike lock. (In the event of unsafe weather 4/21, the Blessing will take place on April 28, 10:45.)

### **DURING WORSHIP**

We will celebrate Creation and commit to being Earth Stewards. Our liturgy will feature an intergenerational anthem (This Blue Green Earth) and a new piece by Patti Van Ness (Psalm 108). We will have prayers and song from around the world.

### **AFTER CHURCH**

*We'll have an Earth Stewardship Fair in Margaret Jewett Hall and outside.*

Friends of Fellowship will serve a free **Light Lunch** in MJH featuring local produce.

Bring your bike for a **Bike Safety Check** staffed by **Harvard's Quad Cycles** bike shop.

If you have a bike or bike parts you'd like to donate (in any condition) for **Bikes Not Bombs** shipments to community workshops abroad, please bring it on April 21. Kindly alert [susan.redlich@gmail.com](mailto:susan.redlich@gmail.com) in advance if you plan to do so.

**Home Composting Demo** in the Library off Margaret Jewett Hall

**Earth Advocacy stations** – Sign letters on the Bottle Bill, the Keystone XL Pipeline, Endangered Species Act, and Old Growth Forest Act, or other important topics.

**Tree Purchasing** stations in Margaret Jewett Hall – Purchase trees in North America, Palestine, or other spots around the world.

**Service Project Sign-Up** - Join Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries for a garden project in Dorchester.

**Kids Activities** in Margaret Jewett Hall – Learn about Water Conservation, make earth-related artwork, and take home a nature scavenger hunt page!

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, April 14

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Dan Smith, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School Classes (PreK-Grade 7)
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour, MJH
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

### Monday, April 15

- 6:00 p.m. Building & Grounds Committee, Room 204

### Tuesday, April 16

- 7:30 p.m. Hilda Silverman Memorial Lecture, Margaret Jewett Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Investment Committee

### Wednesday, April 17

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

### Thursday, April 18

- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

### Saturday, April 20

- 10:00 a.m. Garden in Dorchester, carpools leave from First Church

### Sunday, April 21

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation for Adults
- 10:00 a.m. Family Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 10:45 a.m. Blessing of the Bikes, Church Yard
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Reebee Girash, preaching, and Earth Stewardship
- 11:20 a.m. Church School Classes (PreK-Grade 7)
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee Hour, MJH
- 12:30 p.m. Earth Stewardship Fair, Margaret Jewett Hall
- 12:30 p.m. Newcomers Lunch
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Room 204
- 5:00 p.m. Jazz Worship, MJH
- 7:00 p.m. GBIO Senate Candidate Accountability Action, St. Mark's Parish (1725 Dorchester Ave, Dorchester)
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

## First Church Covenant Testimony

Adopted 1990

We believe that our covenant with God and each other calls us:

To love God with all that we are, and our close and distant neighbors as ourselves;  
To seek peace with justice and equity for all people;  
To engage in non-violent resistance to evil;  
To respect and preserve God's earth;  
To foster community across every barrier and division;  
To attend to God's unfolding and reconciling word;  
To support each other in our frailties and strengths, that we may embody that love which overcomes fear and death.

This we testify, confessing always our reliance on God's grace in Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.



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## The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Interim Minister	Rev. Reebee Girash, 617-547-2724, ext. 26 rgirash@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister of Mental Health & Healing	Rev. Terry McKinney, 617-299-1617 tmckinney@firstchurchcambridge.org
Affiliate Minister of Stewardship and Finance	Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 treasurer@firstchurchcambridge.org
Affiliate Minister of Youth & Young Adults	Julie Rogers, 617-547-2724 jrogers@firstchurchcambridge.org
<i>Havruta</i> Scholar-in-Residence	Rev. Brent Coffin
Director of Music	Peter Sykes, 617-661-0570 psykes@aol.com
Director of Creative Worship & Arts	Sarah Higginbotham, 617-547-2724, ext. 42 shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org
Staff Composer	Patricia Van Ness
Shelter Director	Jim Stewart, 617-661-1873 jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org
Parish Administrator	Kirsten Manville, 617-547-2724, ext. 21 parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org
Administrative Assistant	Jim Tomlinson, 617-547-2724, ext. 41 jtomlinson@firstchurchcambridge.org
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**FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL**

*United Church of Christ*

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