



Feeding Sunday

**FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE**

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC
May 3, 2015
FEEDING SUNDAY

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY *Piece D'orgue* J. S. Bach

*HYMN 313 *I Come with Joy*

*GREETING Joanne Paul

L: Sisters and brothers, God's joy be yours:
C: **delight in bread and wine!**
L: God feeds our hungry hearts,
C: **a feast from God's good hand!**
L: Come, taste how good God is!
C: **Mercy and kindness on our table!**
L: Lift up your hearts! Praise God!

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM *Oculi Omnium* Charles Wood

Oculi omnium in te sperant Domine: et tu das illis escam in tempore opportuno.
Aperis tu manum tuam: et imples omne animal benedictione.
The eyes of all wait upon thee, [O Lord]; and thou givest them their sustenance in due season.
Thou openest thine hand, and satisfiest the desire of every living thing.
- Psalm 144:15-16

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray for healing, pardon, and peace.
All: **On sloping ground, O Living Christ, you fed a multitude
with five small loaves and two dried fish.
On the road to Emmaus, you sat and broke bread with friends.**

**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 in Cambridge.*

**Satisfy us also with pardon and good hope,
then send us to our neighbor's side
to feed and to be fed by your sweet grace.
In your dear name we pray. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 316 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ*

OPENING THE WORD

READING John 21:1-19

SERMON Kate Layzer, David (Friday Café guest),
Jacqui Gates, Dave Kidder

RESPONSE OF FAITH Sandwich Making Sarah Higginbotham

HYMN 212 *Sing of One Who Walks Besides Us*
HYMN (insert) *Jesus Says, "Come!"*
HYMN 311 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD Dan Smith

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS Taj Smith

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *The Lord My Pasture Shall Prepare* William Billings

*EASTER DOXOLOGY

**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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING THE FEAST

INVITATION

- L: Dear friends, come now to this joyful feast!
C: Come from the east and the west,
L: Come from the north and south,
C: and let the children come too.
L: Eat together the Bread of Life,
C: and taste and see that God is good!
L: Drink together the Cup of Joy,
C: filled to the brim with hope!

*PREFACE

REMEMBERING JESUS

- L: Now, O God, with grateful hearts we remember Jesus.
Silence
L: We remember that he was laid in a borrowed grave.
C: A stone sealed up the tomb.
L: We remember that the women came, early in the morning, on the third day.
C: They did not find him among the dead.
L: We remember that his disciples met him on the road.
C: He explained the scriptures, and their hearts were aflame.
L: We remember that they said to him, "Stay with us, for it is evening."
C: And he went in with them.
L: And we remember that while they were at table,
he took bread, gave thanks, and broke it for them to share.
Then their eyes were opened, and they knew him in the breaking of bread.

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT AND 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 BREAD AND CUP

All who seek to follow Jesus' way of compassion, justice and peace are welcome at this table. Today, we will serve communion by intinction, which means that the community will be invited to come to the servers at one of several stations at the front of the sanctuary to receive the bread and dip it into the cup. The liquid is grape juice and the bread is gluten free. Please approach the communion stations from the center aisles, and return to your pews via the side aisles. In the North Transept (opposite the choir), please approach via the aisle closest to the door and return via the other aisle. Persons who for any reason are not able to come forward will be served in the pews. Young and old alike are welcome to share in the gift of holy communion!

*THANKSGIVING

L: Let us give thanks!

**C: Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus—
for gladness in this bread and cup,
for love that cannot die,
for peace the world cannot give,
for joy in the company of friends,
for the splendors of creation,
and for the mission of justice you have made our own.
Give us the gifts of this holy communion –
oneness of heart, love for neighbors,
forgiveness of enemies,
the will to serve you every day,
and risen life that never ends.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

GOING FORTH

*COVENANT AND BLESSING FOR REV. KATE LAYZER

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN C-20

The Household of God

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.

PREACHING TODAY ARE Kate Layzer, Community Minister, Friday Café Guest David, Dick Harter, Friday Café host, and Jacqui Gates, Friday Café host. Assisting with worship are Dan Smith, Senior Minister, Taj Smith, Ministerial Intern, and Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts. Our liturgist is First Church Deacon Joanne Paul. Children Serving communion today are Hannah Erickson, Owen Jones, and Ada Grace LaMaster. 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.

IN THIS SPACE we share personal, congregational, national, and global prayer requests. If you would like us to include a prayer request, please contact Dan Smith, Karin Case, or Kirsten Manville by Wednesday morning or fill out one of the prayer request cards found in your pew.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HEALING PRAYER Every Communion Sunday, the deacons and ministers offer prayers for healing, peace, and reconciliation for anyone who desires them. The healing prayer teams will be positioned in the chancel (near the baptismal font). If you would like to share a healing prayer, receive an anointing or laying on of hands, please approach one of the teams at the end of the service and make your need known. In addition to healing prayers offered after the service today, members of the First Church community are welcome to contact a minister at any time for prayer or conversation about what is on your mind and heart.

THE FIRST CHURCH DEACONS FUND is one of the many ways in which our community cares for one another. Church members in need of financial assistance for a one time or short-term emergency may make a confidential request to one of the deacons or clergy. This fund belongs to us and relies on our contributions. We hope people will take advantage of this aid. You are also invited to make a gift (beyond your pledge) to the Deacons Fund, if able. Please mark on your check or online contribution "Deacons Fund."

CHRISTIAN FORMATION: LIGHT AND DARKNESS Today 3 at 10 a.m., Hastings Room

What role does darkness play in our spiritual growth? Join Ministerial Intern Taj Smith in the exploration of some different ways that both darkness and light are used in scripture to signal new life.

LITURGICAL DANCE REHEARSALS Today and Sundays May 10 and 17 at 10:00 a.m., Sage Hall

Valerie Blanc will be leading a liturgical dance ensemble piece during Morning Worship on Sunday, May 17, finding inspiration in the *sijo* form of poetry introduced to First Church by Dave McCann. There is still time to join the final three rehearsals. No dance experience necessary, just a desire to connect with others and offer a creative expression in worship.

FOOD PANTRY AT RINDGE TOWERS COLLECTION TODAY Thank you for keeping up the wonderful stream of items for the Rindge Towers food pantry. Please place the items you have brought in the baskets in the narthex. Remember: unbreakable, unopened, unexpired. Many thanks.

CONFIRMATION CLASS Today at 12:30 p.m., Room 22 The 9th and 10th graders of the church are walking the path of confirmation this year.

YOUTH GROUP GATHERING Today at 2:00 p.m.; meet at First Church The Youth Group will take a trip to the Boston Common. Meet at First Church and we will go together.

SPIRITUALITY & MENTAL HEALTH GROUP Today at 2:00 p.m., Tower Room Our Spirituality & Mental Health support group provides a safe, confidential environment where questions of mental well-being can be addressed in a context of faith, drawing upon each other's gifts. S&MH meets every Sunday afternoon from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. The group is co-facilitated by Mary Setterholm and Carter West, both theological school graduates. Contact Carter (cartergw24@gmail.com) or Mary (mis541@mail.harvard.edu) with your questions.

OUR WHOLE LIVES Today at 6:00 p.m., Friends Meeting House This year our 7th and 8th graders are collaborating with other Harvard Square congregations in this comprehensive sexuality education program with a strong faith component. This year's program concludes with a celebration on May 10, during our regular meeting time.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary Night Song is based on Compline, the last daily service of Christian worship, dating back to monastic life in the Middle Ages. Offered in the quietness of the evening, Night Song invokes a sense of protection and peace for the night that is to come.

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

GENDER IN THE LITURGY Sunday, May 10, 10:00 a.m., Hastings Room The 10 O'Clock Hour on May 10 will pick up on some of the topics discussed in Katie Omberg's "Learning About Gender" series in January and will apply our new knowledge from those discussions to our liturgy. Come prepared to talk about ways First Church's weekly and sacramental liturgies can be more inclusive of all genders. We're not leaving out God the Father, just making room for God the Mother and God the Parent!

CAMBRIDGE CONCENTUS PUTS ON A "BACHANALIA" Sunday, May 10 at 3:00 p.m., Sanctuary Cambridge Concentus, Ensemble-in-Residence at First Church, raises its glass to all things Bach with a program of vocal and keyboard works by J.S. Bach, his most celebrated sons C.P.E. Bach and J.C. Bach, and Felix Mendelssohn. These notables stand at the head of J.S. Bach's enduring influence on generations of composers and keyboardists in Western music history – a bacchanal of Bach two and a half centuries long. Classical keyboard specialist Sylvia Berry and virtuoso organist Balint Karosi join vocalists Ulrike Präger, Anney Barrett, Thea Lobo, Michael Barrett, and Elijah Blaisdell to perform music either composed by or inspired by the Bach family, including J.S.'s captivating motet *Jesu Meine Freude*, Mendelssohn's Op. 65 Organ Sonata in D minor, Emmanuel Bach's motet *Der Kampf der Tugend* (The Battle of Virtue), and Christian Bach's C-minor sonata for fortepiano. "Bachanalia" certainly has spanned the ages, so please join us for our last concert of the season and imbibe in a delicious musical cocktail!

CONGREGATION WIDE CAPITAL CAMPAIGN MEETING May 19th, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m., Hastings Room Our capital campaign consultant, Rev. Jeff Kjellberg, will be with us to share a summary of the results of our congregational survey and also to report what he learned from his visit and meetings with our leaders at the end of April. All First Church members are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be provided.

FURTHERING THE CONVERSATION: AFTER THE CONVERSATION PROJECT Sunday, May 31 at 12:30 p.m., Hastings Room This event was spawned by the Conversation Project workshops held here in March, which dealt with end-of-life decisions and discussions. We'll talk about how the conversations went, as well as the lingering questions from those conversations. Join Taj Smith at this preliminary meeting leading up to a series in the fall.

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.

SIGN UP FOR THE FRIDAY CAFÉ If you have been thinking of volunteering for the Friday Café and have some time, or if you know someone who would be interested in participating, please let Kate Layzer (klayzer@gmail.com) know. Many hands and hearts help things go smoothly.

REGISTER NOW FOR THE 216TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MASSACHUSETTS CONFERENCE Friday, June 12, 2015 to Saturday, June 13, 2015 at University of Massachusetts, Amherst (Hotel UMass) The Annual Meeting is one of those rare opportunities to gather together with brothers and sisters of faith from places beyond our local church setting. Come to reconnect with friends, for the dynamic preaching, fellowship, and the business of the Conference. The keynote speaker and preacher will be the **Rev. Nadia Bolz-Weber**, founding pastor of House for All Sinners and Saints, a Lutheran mission church in Denver, Colorado. She is a leading voice in the emergent church movement, and author of *Pastrix: the Cranky, Beautiful Faith of a Sinner & Saint* (Jericho, 2013). Please register now at <http://www.macucc.org/eventdetail/189516> as this public event is sure to fill up very soon!

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY IS JUNE 14 - AND A PICNIC! Since September, four teenage Confirmands have met together with Dan, Karin, and Sarah for study and conversation, exploring big topics of Christian theology and examining their own beliefs. On Sunday, June 14, we will celebrate their journey and their personal decisions about being confirmed and joining the church. Morning worship will also include a time to recognize our 4th grade Godly Play "graduates" who will receive Bibles, and a time to celebrate our Church School teachers and Youth Group leaders. We'll end the morning with an All-Church Picnic on the front lawn, weather permitting - don't miss it!

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES AND EVENTS

THE MANY FACES OF ADDICTION: WHAT WE SHOULD KNOW Today 2:00–5:00 pm at Temple Isaiah, 55 Lincoln St. in Lexington This program is co-sponsored by McLean Hospital and the Mental Health Initiative of Temple Isaiah, Lexington. Subjects to be covered include addiction as illness, effective treatments, and important social issues such as medical marijuana and legalization. The format will also include a speaker with lived experience, a question and answer session, and small group discussions. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Kevin Hill, Assistant Professor of Psychiatry at Harvard Medical School and Director of the Substance Abuse Consultation Service at McLean Hospital in Belmont. Admission is free and refreshments will be served; the event is handicap-accessible. For more information, e-mail generalinfo@templeisiah.net or call 781-862-7160.

COOPERATIVE METROPOLITAN MINISTRIES (CMM) ANNUAL DINNER Thursday, May 7, 6:00 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall All are invited to attend this year's CMM Annual Dinner, hosted by First Church in Cambridge, Thursday, May 7, at 6:00 p.m., in Margaret Jewett Hall. Guest speaker will be the Minister of Harvard Memorial Church, the Rev. Dr. Jonathan L. Walton, on the topic "Religion and Justice in America." The program will include in addition a performance by the Boston Children's Choir. Come and enjoy a hearty dinner, and meet with a diverse interfaith, spiritual, and friendly group of concerned people.

MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE Sunday, May 10 at 8:00 a.m. (approx.), Town Field Park, Fields Corner, 1520 Dorchester Ave., Dorchester (Fields Corner Station on the Red Line) Join with people from all over Greater Metropolitan Boston in *Walking the Walk to End Violence*, in support of the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. Make a gift and walk 3.6 miles through the bustling neighborhoods of Dorchester. The FIRST CHURCH CAMBRIDGE team is established now on the website mothersdaywalk4peace.org. Please go to that site to register to walk--virtual walkers are welcome!--and use the dropdown menu to identify yourself as a member of "First Church Cambridge" team. Proceeds will benefit the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute, which serves victims' families and works to prevent violence. *Getting there: Meet at 7:45 a.m. at the church to travel together on the T.* Please contact either Ann McCann or Jean Bellow for more information and to let us know you're planning to join us.

SAVE THE DATE — GREATER BOSTON INTERFAITH ORGANIZATION GUBERNATORIAL ACTION May 12, 7:00 p.m. Trinity Church in Boston's Copley Square Over **1500 GBIO leaders** will gather for an inspiring evening of love, power and justice! After many months of building cross-class, cross-cultural, interfaith relationships, GBIO is now ready to launch a new platform for public action. We've heard our members' stories and struggles concerning housing affordability, healthcare, public education, gun violence and the need for criminal justice reform. On May 12, we are putting our faith into action by inviting city and statewide leaders to work with us around specific next steps. Governor Baker, Speaker DeLeo, Mayor Walsh, Attorney General Healy and other power players have already confirmed their attendance. **First Church has committed to bringing 80 of our own members and friends (we already have over 60 people signed up – please help us reach 80!)** to this important and powerful evening that you don't want to miss. We might even hire a bus to get us there together. If you're interested in attending or have any questions, please contact Ministerial Intern, Taj Smith at taj@firstchurchcambridge.org.

The bulletin cover image depicts our sanctuary on Easter morning. The butterfly has been used by Christians for centuries as a symbol of the Resurrection of Jesus. Drawing by Perry Neubauer.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, May 3

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation
- 10:00 a.m. Liturgical Dance, with Valerie Blanc, Sage Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Multigenerational Holy Communion and Outdoor Church Sandwich Making, Kate Layzer, leading (A time for healing prayer offered immediately following service)
- 12:30 p.m. Confirmation Class, Room 22
- 1:00 p.m. Outdoor Church, Cambridge Common
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 2:00 p.m. Youth Group Trip to Boston Common, meet at First Church
- 6:00 p.m. Our Whole Lives, Friends Meeting House
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary (*Note time change from 7:00 p.m.*)

Tuesday, May 5

- 3:30 p.m. Missions & Social Justice Committee, Dan Smith's office

Wednesday, May 6

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Retreat, Parsonage
- 6:00 p.m. Christian Meditation, Lindsay Chapel

Thursday, May 7

- 6:00 p.m. Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries Annual Dinner, MJH

Saturday, May 9

- 8:00 a.m. First Church Leadership Retreat, Parsonage

Sunday, May 10

- 8:30 a.m. Mothers Day Walk for Peace in Dorchester
- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation: Gender and Worship, with Katie Omberg
- 10:00 a.m. Liturgical Dance, with Valerie Blanc, Sage Hall
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Karin Case, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School Classes
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 3:00 p.m. Cambridge Concentus, Sanctuary
- 6:00 p.m. Our Whole Lives End-of-Year Celebration, Friends Meeting House
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, 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.

FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE
CONGREGATIONAL
378 YEARS
ON-THE-WAY

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