



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC
JUNE 30, 2013
THE SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

I have walked that long road to freedom. I have tried not to falter; I have made missteps along the way. But I have discovered the secret that after climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are many more hills to climb. I have taken a moment here to rest, to steal a view of the glorious vista that surrounds me, to look back on the distance I have come. But I can only rest for a moment, for with freedom come responsibilities, and I dare not linger, for my long walk is not ended.

— Nelson Mandela

IN THE PRESENCE OF GOD

VOLUNTARY

*HYMN 7 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

*GREETING

Brian James

L: May the peace of God be upon this house,
and upon all who enter herein.

**C: We have gathered in the presence of God,
who has created us and given us the gift of life.**

L: We have gathered in the name of Jesus Christ,
who has taught us to love one another.

**C: We have gathered in the strength of the Holy Spirit,
who has infused us with energy and dreams, with power and potential.**

L: Come, let us worship God together.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Karen McArthur

ANTHEM

Suscepimus, Deus

Janacek

**You are invited to stand.*

IN CONFESSION OF OUR FAITH

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Dear God, we confess that there have been many times
when we have been afraid, ashamed, unloving to ourselves;
we have turned away from your great gift to us,
your miracle of strength and beauty.
Teach us to love our whole selves:
our bodies, as well as our minds, and hearts, and souls.
Help us to cherish them, and give our thanks to you through them.
Lead us to reach out to one another with your gifts of acceptance and peace.
This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 390

When Love is Found

IN PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

TIME WITH THE CHILDREN

READING Luke 9:51-62

SERMON *To Reach Beyond*

Karen McArthur

*HYMN 515, verses 1 & 2 *This is My Song*

IN RESPONSE TO GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Call to Prayer

L: God be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us pray

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

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

**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.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

Prevent Us

Parry

*Pentecost 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

IN WITNESS TO THE GOSPEL

*HYMN 531

My Country, 'Tis of Thee

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Ultimate Jude

Paul Sawyer

VOLUNTARY

First the Flood, then the Rainbow...

On June 7, the Great Flood of 2013 struck First Church and poured heavy streams of water through the skylights above the second floor hallway. The water soaked through several walls and floors and eventually flooded out parts of the Shelter. Apparently, a clogged drain was allowing over a foot of water to pool on the flat part of the church roof just above Margaret Jewett Hall and the second floor classrooms! An heroic effort was made on the part of Senior Minister Dan Smith and Facilities Manager Dan dos Santos, who - late on Friday evening - both ventured out on the roof, into the pool of cold water, and worked to unclog the drain. The influx of water ceased, and the building eventually dried out. Over a week later, on June 17, a gorgeous rainbow shone on and early evening in the skies above Cambridge. Dan Smith was able to capture the photo that appears on this bulletin cover (and without any photoshop!)

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, 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 Karen McArthur, Affiliate Minister of Stewardship & Finance. Assisting with worship is First Church Deacon Brian James. Louise Munding is playing the organ and directing the choir. Senior Minister Dan Smith is on vacation through July 6th.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED for Poppy Coffin, who is recovering at home after a brief hospitalization for an infection, and for Marian Smith, who is hopeful after receiving a definitive Lyme diagnosis and new treatment plan. Please pray for Hunter Dupree, who is recovering after a bad fall, and for Amy Matias's uncle, who is entering into the final stages of his struggle with ALS. Please pray in joy and celebration for Ami and Tim Brenner and their new baby, Benjamin, born prematurely, who is now home after a long hospital stay.

As an open and affirming congregation, we celebrate the Supreme Court's recent decisions regarding marriage equality. We hold our state, our nation, and the world in prayer following a very full week of political news.

Following the UCC Calendar of Prayer the Missions & Social Justice Committee requests your prayers for Global Ministries, especially as it relates to equipping and empowering women. In Guatemala women have been marginalized because they are indigenous and because they are women. Global Ministries is encouraging ordained women to become empowered through exercising leadership roles in the church, rather than the roles of service to which they have been relegated.

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 or Kirsten Manville by Wednesday morning or fill out one of the prayer request cards found in your pew.

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. *Please note that this is the last group meeting prior to taking a hiatus for the months of July and August.* Questions? Please talk to or e-mail Dan Smith (dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org) or Carter West (stbosal@arczip.com).

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Today at 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary Night Song continues through the spring and summer - but with several changes. The starting time will be 8:30 p.m., as sunset is occurring later now. The setting will be simpler, with no icons, very few candles and no incense. And there will be no jazz instrumental component, making it 30 minutes in length and more traditional in nature. The music will be Gregorian chant and Renaissance polyphony. 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

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m., Tower Room. Come for 30 restful minutes of silent meditation in the company of others. No prior experience is necessary. This is an open group, so feel free to bring a friend! Get in touch with Kate Layzer (klayzer@gmail.com) if you'd like more information.

PASTORAL COVERAGE, SUMMER 2013 Throughout the summer, we have ministers, program staff and deacons available to respond to pastoral concerns. For the sake of simplicity, we have one phone number to dial in the event of a pastoral emergency this summer: 857 207 8527. At times this number will be monitored by Senior Minister Dan Smith; at all times when Dan is on vacation this number will be monitored by another staff member. We are also fortunate to have Community Ministers and Deacons to support the congregation throughout this summer. Please call 857 207 8527 if you have an emergency and need to speak with a minister or deacon.

SAVE THE DATE - FIRST CHURCH FALL RETREAT: OUR LIFE TOGETHER Friday - Sunday, October 4-6 at the Craigville Conference Center on Cape Cod Building on the success of three very-well attended family retreats, First Church will host an all-ages, all-church retreat this fall. Come for one night or two. The gathering will be based on the theme of finding balance and wholeness through individual and communal spiritual practices. It will balance our dual needs for time alone and time together, offering practical ideas for patterning our days and weeks, and our family, professional and church life in ways that reflect our faith and covenantal commitment. There will be time for adult conversation, teen gatherings and multigenerational fun and games. Childcare and children's activities will be organized by our nursery coordinator with help from parents and all of us. **REGISTRATION WAS DUE BY JUNE 28th! Please register online.** Every effort has been made to keep this affordable and scholarships will be available. For more information and to register, please visit "Latest News" on our website or find the link in this week's First Glance newsletter.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, June 30

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Karen McArthur Preaching
- 12:00 noon Refreshments on the lawn (or in case of rain, Margaret Jewett Hall)
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

Wednesday, July 3

- 6:00 p.m. Christian Meditation, Tower Room

Thursday, July 4

Building and Office closed in observance of Independence Day

Sunday, July 7

- 9:00 a.m. Pick up Choir
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Tim Seery, preaching, Multigenerational Communion-in-the-Round
- 11:00 a.m. Refreshments on the lawn (or in case of rain, MJH)
- 1:00 p.m. Outdoor Church, Cambridge Common
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

Throughout the summer, church-school aged children are invited to remain in the sanctuary for the entire worship service. (The Nursery will continue to be staffed by our regular caregivers during the worship hour for toddlers and infants.) We hope that kids will join in our congregation's singing, praising, praying, and peace-passing. For quieter moments, such as the readings and sermon, books and activity packets are available in the corner by the side entrance. We encourage children to pick a quiet activity to help them settle in during this time. If younger children are especially fidgety, families are welcome to move to the Hastings Room (with books and activity packets in hand), where speakers connected to the sanctuary sound system allow you to hear the service.

*Through the months of July and August, **worship will be held at 10:00 a.m.**, with pick-up choir meeting at 9 a.m. For the summer, the First Church Choir continues to sing for Sunday services, but does not rehearse on Thursday night. The music we sing during the summer is less complicated and perhaps more familiar to the average choral singer, and participation is open to anyone who would like to give it a try. The ability to read music and hold a part is desirable, and music for the following Sunday's service will be made available for those who would perhaps like to take it home and prepare over the week. This is a great opportunity to worship God in song, to sing some great music, and to meet a really fun and nice group of people! Ask Peter Sykes or any member of the choir for more details.*

The First Church office will be closed on Fridays throughout the summer. The building will remain open during usual business hours and a sexton will be in attendance.

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.



The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister of Mental Health & Healing	Rev. Terry McKinney, on leave
Affiliate Minister of Stewardship and Finance	Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 treasurer@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	Julie Rogers, 617-547-2724, ext. 41 jrogers@firstchurchcambridge.org
Facilities Manager	Dan dos Santos ddossantos@firstchurchcambridge.org
Sextons	Ronaldo dos Santos, Tina Quimby, George Williams, Kimel Williams, 617-642-3980
Pastoral Emergency Telephone	857-207-8527



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ

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