



A Service of Healing

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Let us pray for pardon, courage, healing, and peace.
C: **Gracious God, dislodge us,
for we are stuck in familiar places.
Charge us to do something difficult in your name,
for we prefer to stay where we are.
We don't like going off the map.
We get worried and weary too soon.
So hearten us with your love,
meet us in everyone we meet along the way,
and light our way with the vision of your peace.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 230 *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song*

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

RESPONSIVE PSALM 130

- L: Out of the depths I cry to you, O God.
Lord, hear my voice!
C: **Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!**
L: If you, O God, should mark iniquities,
Lord, who could stand?
C: **But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.**
L: I wait for the Lord, my soul waits,
and in God's word I hope;
C: **my soul waits for the Lord
more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**
L: O Israel, hope in the Lord!
For with God there is steadfast love,
and with the Lord is great power to redeem.
C: **It is God who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.**

READING

Ephesians 4:25-5:2

INVITATION TO A TIME OF HEALING PRAYER AND SONG

Dan Smith

Hymn 281 *Spirit of the Living God*

Prayers for Ourselves and for Our Loved Ones
Hymn 93 *I Look to You in Every Need*

Prayers for Our City, Our Nation and Our World
Hymn 517 *O God of Every Nation*

Prayers for God's Creation
Hymn 380 *We Are Not Our Own*

CONCLUDING PRAYER AND 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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*PENTECOST DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**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.**

*HYMN 352 *Go Forth for God*

*BLESSING FOR A JOURNEY TO JERUSALEM

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Ultimate Jude

Paul Sawyer

*Praise ye the Lord above, praise ye the Lord!
Now unto the One who is able to keep you from falling,
And present you faultless before the presence of Glory with exceeding joy,
to the only wise God, our savior be glory and majesty,
both now and forever. Amen.*

VOLUNTARY

The 2011-2012 bulletin cover art series was designed by Perry Neubauer and constructed by many hands, large and small. Today's bulletin cover was created by Claudia Dyer.

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 Dan Smith, Senior Minister. Assisting with worship is Terry McKinney, Minister of Mental Health & Healing. Our liturgist is First Church member Gay Harter. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir.

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 or 617-547-2724 and we'll get the information to you.

MENTAL HEALTH & SPIRITUALITY GROUP 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 (temckinney@msn.com) or Carter West (stbosal@arczip.com).

FCC'S INVESTMENTS IN ACTION: OIKOCREDIT'S WORK TO ALLEVIATE

POVERTY IN BULGARIA Come join the Mission & Social Justice Committee members and other FCC folks next Sunday, August 19 at 11:15 a.m. in the Hastings Room to see one of First Church's socially responsible investments, Oikocredit, in action. Ms. Katherine Greenough, Boston Area Outreach Coordinator for Oikocredit, will present a slide show on a recent Study Tour she attended in Bulgaria. The slide show will introduce the audience to micro-finance, to Oikocredit, and then will present stories and photos of Oikocredit clients in Bulgaria. You'll see directly how your investment in Oikocredit is helping the poor lift themselves out of poverty! It's sure to be a fascinating show; don't miss it!

WELCOME TO OUR SABBATICAL INTERIM MINISTER, REV. REEBEE KAVICH

GIRASH Reebee (short for Rebecca!) will be with us for most of the upcoming program year to assure that our worship and congregational life continue to move from strength to strength. (She is away this Sunday and next with a prior commitment). Reebee was recently pastor of Pleasant Street Congregational Church, UCC, in Arlington, until it closed in 2010. Given our ongoing connections with Pleasant Street Church through Terry McKinney and others and through their generosity to fund Terry's ministry with us from the proceeds from the sale of their building, this partnership seems an especially natural and Spirit-led fit! Reebee will be working $\frac{3}{4}$ time through October 1, when Dan begins his sabbatical. She will be full time and Head of Staff for four months until Dan returns on February 1 and will go back to $\frac{3}{4}$ time for the remainder of the spring, as the congregation discerns next steps for our staff. For a complete bio, see our website and click on About Us, and Our Staff.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW AFFILIATE MINISTER OF YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS,

JULIE ROGERS Given the widely and deeply felt need to bolster our offerings for Youth and Young Adults, we are thrilled to welcome recent Harvard Divinity School graduate Julie Rogers. Julie is on the ordination track in the UCC with her home church in Montclair, NJ, and has experience in working with kids, young adults, and students of all ages. She recently served as Ministerial Intern at Harvard's Memorial Church and will be continuing there as part-time Director of Religious Education. Julie will be with us only once a month in Morning Worship, but she will be leading regular youth and young adult events, including a monthly brunch and a bi-weekly "Faith on Tap" group at a local watering hole. She will also be leading our Confirmation Class with Sarah Higginbotham. To read her bio, see our website and click on About Us, and Our Staff.

"PICKUP CHOIR" 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 for more details.

AUGUST METRO BOSTON RACE AMITY PRAYER CIRCLE Following the Metro Boston Race Amity Celebration in June on the Rose Kennedy Greenway, Boston's Multi-faith Association has scheduled monthly prayer circles the third Wednesday of each month. The July Metro Boston Race Amity Prayer Circle was an uplifting and delightful evening hosted by Old South Church in Boston. The August prayer circle will be at First Church Cambridge. During the July Prayer Circle Senior Minister Rev. Dr. Nancy Taylor added a creative touch by bringing in the portraits of two early leaders in race amity and placing them in the prayer circle. Rev. Lemuel Haynes, the first minister of African descent to lead a multiracial, majority white church in America and Phyllis Wheatley, first published African American poet in America, flank prayer circle participant Sam Oroso of the Boston Baha'i community. Both were members of Old South Church. The evening included fervent prayer for racial healing and unity in Metro Boston and the nation and ended with a short walk to the Phyllis Wheatley stature and reading of poems and exhortations by her and other women in the Boston Women's Memorial Park on Commonwealth Avenue. Make plans to join us at the next Race Prayer and Dialogue Circle August 15, 7:30 p.m., in the Hastings Room at First Church in Cambridge. Please come and bring a friend to wonderfully different experience.

SHELTER INTERN The Shelter Committee is asking for an interested high school junior or senior to participate in an intern program. The objective of the program will be to create a pamphlet or other appropriate materials to explain the details of how the Shelter fulfills its mission of providing shelter to homeless men and assisting in their transition back into permanent housing. There are a lot of details to this process as well as a wider context of social discussion on the issue of homelessness and how to best address the challenge. For example, there are other models of providing this kind of service to the community. How does how we do it at the First Church Shelter compare to other accepted models? This is intended as an opportunity for the Shelter to engage in the life of the Congregation through the contribution of a caring and interested young adult. At this point no stipend is envisioned, although this could be the subject of discussion. As a motivational point, this sure would look good on a college resume! Structure for the program will be provided by Michael Swartz, Chair of the Shelter Committee with support from Jim Stewart, Shelter Director, and other members of the both the Committee and the Shelter Staff. Interested individuals should contact Michael Swartz at michael.swartz@perkinelmer.com.

COOKIES FOR COFFEE HOUR ALERT Janet Lyman will shortly be resuming her former role soliciting cookies for Coffee Hour, phoning from her nursing home setting in Brookline. Please continue to respond to calls for cookies as you are able. Your caller ID will indicate a call from Brookline. When you receive a message from Janet, be sure to use the number she left in her message.

REGISTER YOUR CHILDREN & YOUTH FOR THE 2012-2013 PROGRAM YEAR

All children from infants to teenagers can be registered for programs at First Church. We have moved to an online registration form, found on our website. We invite parents to please take a moment before Re-Gathering Sunday, September 9, to register your children, so that we can be prepared to welcome them into the Nursery, Church School, Confirmation Class, or Youth Group. Speak with Sarah Higginbotham if you have questions or concerns.

FALL FAMILY RETREAT, OCTOBER 13-14 - REGISTER NOW ONLINE Families with children from infants to teenagers are invited to join us on the third annual Fall Family Retreat at Craigville Retreat Center on October 13-14, 2012. Spend 24 hours on the Cape with your church friends - we'll play, sing, eat, worship, laugh, and pray together. Registration is now taking place on our website - click on "Latest News" or visit the Children or Youth pages on the site.

NEW "MEMBERS" ONLY SECTION OF CHURCH WEBSITE -- Starting in September, members and friends of First Church will be given a username and password to access a new "members-only" section of our website. Whether you have been a part of our congregation for a few weeks or for a lifetime, as an official member or a friend, you will be welcome to sign on for access to our church directory, prayer requests, a First Church blog, small group announcements, board minutes, budgets, and more. Users will be able to update contact information, post photos and also email each other through our site (note: actual email addresses will remain hidden). In order to set up an initial version of our online member directory, we will be uploading our current Parish List of contact information directly to the site. Your information will not be accessible to anyone but members and friends of our community. If you would prefer not to have your information available to other First Church users, please send an email to Kirsten Manville at parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org by September 5th and please include "opt out" in the subject line.

NIGHT SONG HELPERS NEEDED Night Song is offering 1/2 hour Compline services at 8:30 on Sunday nights in our sanctuary from now through early November when they will return to their long services starting at 7. Do you attend these services regularly or are you looking for an extra reason to do so? Night Song is looking for volunteers to help set out candles, hand out service bulletins and count attendees. If you are willing to help now or beginning in November, please contact Night Song Artistic Director Daryl Bichel at darylbianchi@aol.com. If you'd like to know more about Night Song, please visit our website and look under Worship, Music and Spiritual Life.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

Starting now and continuing throughout the summer children are invited to remain in the sanctuary for the entire worship service. 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.*

The First Church office will be closed on Fridays throughout the summer. The building will remain open as usual, and a sexton will be in the building at all times.

SMALL GROUP AND WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

First Church maintains a busy schedule of small group activities and worship opportunities throughout the year, but we slow down a bit in the summer months. Here's a quick guide to what's happening when:

Worship Services

***Night Song** continues to offer a 30-minute Compline service at 8:30 p.m. on Sundays through the summer and fall will resume its schedule of full services on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in November.*

***Third Sunday Jazz at 5:00 pm** will return in September with a Regathering celebration on September 16th.*

Small Groups

***Third Sunday Newcomer Sessions** after morning worship will be offered again beginning in September.*

***Tuesday Family Night** will re-start its bi-weekly schedule in late September.*

The Week Ahead

Today, Sunday, August 12

- 9:00 a.m. Pick up Choir
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Summer Healing Service, Dan Smith, leading
- 2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Tuesday, August 14

- 7:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee, Dan Smith's office

Sunday, August 19

- 9:00 a.m. Pick up Choir
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Julie Rogers, preaching
- 11:15 a.m. FCC's Investments in Action: Oikocredit's work to alleviate poverty in Bulgaria, Hastings Room
- 2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Looking Ahead

Sunday, August 26

- 9:00 a.m. Pick up Choir
- 10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Reebee Kavich Girash, preaching
- 2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Sunday, September 2

(Note: Morning Worship returns to 11:00 a.m. starting time.)

- 10:00 a.m. Pick up Choir
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Multigenerational Communion, Dan Smith, preaching
- 1:00 p.m. Outdoor Church, Cambridge Common
- 2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Regathering Sunday is September 9!

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

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|---|--|
| Senior Minister | Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org |
| Sabbatical Interim Minister | Rev. Reebee Girash 617-547-2724 ext. 26 rgirash@firstchurchcambridge.org |
| Minister of Mental Health & Healing | Rev. Terry McKinney, 781-643-7324 temckinney@msn.com |
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FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ

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