



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC

August 5, 2012

THE TENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

VOLUNTARY

*HYMN 314

As We Gather At Your Table

*GREETING

Barbara Hume

- L: Sisters and brothers, God's peace to you!
C: **And to the whole world, peace!**
L: Let our souls be filled with the bread of life!
C: **Let our hearts be filled with wonder and joy!**
L: God is our nourishment and our satisfaction this day.
C: **Then let us give thanks and praise to God!**

*PRAYER OF PRAISE

- All: Spirit of the Living God,
Your grace falls upon us
like bread from the sky.
You spread a banquet in our wilderness.
You draw water out of stones.
All praise, honor and glory be yours,
Almighty and everlasting one!**

WORDS OF WELCOME

Dan Smith

ANTHEM

O Love Who Formedst Me to Wear

Monk

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Let us pray for healing, pardon, and peace.
All: **Merciful God, we confess
that we have judged each other
and withheld from others
the compassion in which you hold us.**

**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.*

**Feed us with your mercy and heal our hearts.
By your grace, make us more like Jesus,
who asked your love and pardon
even for his enemies.
In his name we pray. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 311 *Let Us Break Bread Together*

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Julie Rogers

READING Exodus 16: 2-4, 9-15

RESPONSIVE PSALM 78: 23-29

L: Yet God commanded the skies above,
and opened the doors of heaven;

**C: and rained down on them manna to eat,
and gave them the grain of heaven.**

L: Mortals ate of the bread of angels;
God sent them food in abundance.

**C: God, you caused the east wind to blow in the heavens,
and led out the south wind by your power;**

L: God rained flesh upon them like dust,
winged birds like the sand of the seas;

**C: God let them fall within their camp,
all around their dwellings.**

All: And they ate and were well filled,
for God gave them what they craved.

READING Ephesians 4:1-11

*HYMN 413 *How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord*

SERMON

Dan Smith

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *God Be In My Head*

Davies

*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.**

PENTECOST COMMUNION-IN-THE-ROUND

*GATHERING

*PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Karen McArthur

L: And now let us pray.

**C: Praise to you, God of glory,
for this welcome table, set in love
for all who seek to know you!
From the foundation of the world
you have desired to share
the banquet of life with all your creatures.**

L: Mindful of our failings and of your kindness to us,
we ask help for our hearts, that we may grow
in love and forbearance, each for each.

**C: Mindful also of all whose lives
are marked by pain and exclusion,
we thank you for the joy we know
in your household.**

L: Make us able and willing
to welcome the world as Jesus did,
and to witness in word and work
to the justice you desire.

*REMEMBERING AND GIVING THANKS

Reebee Girash

L: Now, O God, with grateful joy, we remember Jesus,
his daring love, his open table.

Silence

L: We remember that he called us friends.

C: He told us everything you placed in his heart.

L: We remember that he gave us peace.

C: A peace no one else can give.

L: We remember that he did not leave us bereft.

C: He sent us a Helper -- the Spirit who dwells in our hearts!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

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.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*All who seek to follow Jesus' way of compassion, justice and peace are welcome to this table.
Please take a piece of bread as it is served to you, and dip it into one of the cups. Red wine will be
offered in a clear glass. White grape juice will be served in a ceramic chalice. 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!*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**L: Let us give thanks
for what we have received and shared.**

**All: 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 splendor 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 life that never ends.
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

A BLESSING FOR KAREN MCARTHUR ON THE
25TH ANNIVERSARY OF HER ORDINATION

Terry McKinney

*BENEDICTION

*HYMN (*insert*)

Now Let Us From This Table Rise

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 Campbell Pelton-Cairns, Liam Simons, and Sarah Higginbotham.

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 are Terry McKinney, Minister of Mental Health & Healing, Reebee Girash, Interim Sabbatical Minister, Julie Rogers, Affiliate Minister of Youth & Young Adults, and Karen McArthur, Affiliate Minister of Stewardship & Finance. Our liturgist is First Church deacon Barbara Hume. 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.

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. 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.

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).

"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.

THE MISSIONS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE will be receiving nonperishable items for the Food Pantry on Sunday, August 5, 2012. If you have items to share, please place them in the large basket in the narthex. Thank you for thinking of our sisters and brothers who are experiencing economic hardship at this time.

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.

ORGANIC VEGETABLES FROM ROCKVILLE MARKET FARM! Now's the time to sign-up for a farm share from Rockville Market Farm. Sign-up at <http://rockvillemarketfarm.com/> and select First Church Cambridge as your location. A bag of organic produce will be delivered to our Parsonage at 44 Garden Street each Thursday with your name on it. Easy pick-up from our garage fridge, whenever you can come by. Deliveries can be paused for vacations, and are truly delicious!! Questions? Email Nancy at nkkilburn@comcast.net. Thank you for supporting organic farming!

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@firstchurhcambridge.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 [daryl**bichel**@aol.com](mailto:darylbichel@aol.com). If you'd like to know more about Night Song, please visit our website and look under Worship, Music and Spiritual Life.

Mission Moment

BREAD NOT BOMBS

“ . . . the bread of God is that which comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.” John 6:33

Sixty-seven years ago, on August 6th 1945, the world’s first atomic bomb, known as “Little Boy,” was dropped on Hiroshima, Japan. Three days later a second bomb, “Fat Man,” was dropped on the city of Nagasaki. Although estimates differ on the number of those wounded or killed, it is likely that over 200,000 people lost their lives or livelihoods as a result of these two bombs. Although we know that more lives were lost during fire bombings earlier in the war, it was the dropping of these two atomic bombs that changed both the course of the war and the course of human history.

As people of faith, we continue to mourn this loss for the people of Japan. We mourn for our world in which life, our most precious gift is swept away by the thousands in mere seconds. We mourn the fact that weapons of such destructive potential exist, and for our nation which has used such weapons, even for noble purposes, in our name.

Although some justify violence as a means of creating peace, in the United Church of Christ we challenge this logic and affirm the possibility of peace resulting from friendship, justice, and common security. As a Just Peace church, we stand opposed to the institution of war and envision a world free of nuclear weapons.

With God’s help, let us work for a world in which bread, not bombs, rains down from heaven. Lead us from death to life . . .

Michael Neuroth
Justice and Witness Ministries
United Church of Christ

August 2012

God is still speaking,



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 5

- 9:00 a.m. Pick up Choir
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Multi-generational Communion-in-the-Round, 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

Sunday, April 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

Looking Ahead

Sunday, August 19

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

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

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
Interim Sabbatical 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
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 jrogers@firstchurchcambridge.org
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