



---

## **FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE**

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



DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

\*GREETING OF PEACE

*All children from Preschool 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 439 *Every Time I Feel the Spirit*

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING Kate Layzer

READING Acts of the Apostles 4:13-31

SERMON Karin Case

\*HYMN 427 *My Life Flows On in Endless Song*

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS Dan Smith

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD Karen McArthur

L: God be with you.

**C: And also with you.**

L: Let us pray... (*silence, intercessions, and The Lord's Prayer*)

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.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Down to the River to Pray*

Traditional

*As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good old way  
And who shall wear the starry crown  
Good Lord, show me the way!*

*O (sisters, brothers, mothers, fathers) let's go down,  
Let's go down, come on down,  
O sisters let's go down,  
Down in the river to pray.*

*As I went down in the river to pray  
Studying about that good old way  
And who shall wear the robe and crown  
Good Lord, show me the way!*

\*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

GOING FORTH

\*HYMN 231

*There's a Spirit in the Air*

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Send me, Jesus (Thuma Mina)*

Hymn 344

The congregation is invited to join in the singing of this response.

*Send me, Jesus, send me Jesus  
Send me, Jesus, send me Lord*

*Lead me, Jesus...*

*Fill Me, Jesus...*

VOLUNTARY

*Concerto in G Major*

Ernst/Bach

## **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 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 IS** Karin Case, Minister. Assisting with worship are Dan Smith, Senior Minister, Karen McArthur, Minister of Stewardship & Finance, and Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach. Our liturgist is First Church Deacon Jim Rissling. 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](mailto:parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org) or by calling 617-547-2724.

## TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

**SPEAKING OF FAITH IN A SECULAR WORLD Today and Sunday, September 27 at 10 a.m., Hastings Room** In a city and region like ours, speaking about (let alone living!) our faith outside of First Church circles can be a genuine challenge. We may mix it up all the time with secular friends, people at work, or people of other faiths, but how often do conversations turn to what matters most, and to what lies at the center of our life and faith? The conversations can be either totally amazing or totally awkward, and our fear of the latter may keep us quiet, even among close friends and family members. Join us as we share a few awkward or amazing stories and as we begin to explore the challenge of speaking our faith in a secular world. Dan Smith and Karin Case will co-lead two 10 o'clock Hour sessions in the Hastings Room.

**FAITH AND LIFE GROUPS SIGN-UPS Today at 12:30, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)** Would you like an opportunity to get to know some new people at First Church? Are you looking for dynamic conversation and meaningful connections? Would you value an opportunity to think about how faith (and what we do at church) is relevant to "the rest of life?" This fall you are invited to join a ***Faith and Life Group***. Each group will focus on a shared interest (such as homeless ministries, parenting, or caring for the earth) and will be led by someone with a passion for the subject. These groups are time-limited. They're designed to meet for about six sessions on dates and times to be arranged with the group leaders. ***Faith and Life Groups will take place during October and November.***

**NEWCOMERS EXPLORATION LUNCH Today at 12:30 p.m., Hastings Room** Welcome newcomers! Interested in learning more about First Church? Clergy and other church leaders will host a newcomer exploration gathering following Morning Worship. We hope you'll join us! Whether you're new to the area or simply new to First Church, we're glad you're here! Please take a moment during church to fill out a pew card with your name and contact information, or stop by one of our tables after worship. You'll find a *Welcome Table* in Margaret Jewett Hall with information about First Church and someone to greet you and answer any questions you may have. We'd love to know that you've been here and help you connect with opportunities that interest you at First Church. Here are some ways to get connected:

- Request a nametag (Easy! Just fill out a pew card and we'll have one ready for you next Sunday.)
- Receive *First Glance*, our succinct, weekly e-communication about the events of the week. (Just check the box on your pew card and you'll receive next week's issue on Friday.)
- Receive *EVENT*, our e-newsletter (Also available in paper form) that comes out every couple of months. (Yup, check the box on your pew card to sign up.)
- Check out our web site: <http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/>
- Find us on FaceBook: <http://www.facebook.com/firstchurchincambridge>
- Watch the Sunday bulletin for information about the many activities and opportunities in our worship and community life.

Please come back and explore the rich worship, spiritual and community life at First Church!

**BELL CHOIR Today at 10:00, Lindsay Chapel** Bell Choir is starting again and we are always looking for ringers! No prior experience needed. Reading music a plus but not required. All ages welcome to come to a rehearsal and try it out! We rehearse in the Chapel on the other side of Margaret

Jewett Hall from 10:00-10:50 AM on Sunday mornings and will play in church on October 25th. Or come to rehearsals in November and December and play with us during the Unpageant on December 20th. Please email [susielongfield@gmail.com](mailto:susielongfield@gmail.com) for more information.

**YOUTH GROUP Today at 2:00 p.m., Gather in Front Lobby** Confirmands and older teens, from 8th to 12th grade, are invited to participate in our ever-growing youth group. There are lots of exciting plans in the works for a meaningful year of fun, service, and spiritual growth. Dan Smith and Becky Moyer will be taking the lead, beginning with a back-to-church gathering today. Teens, be sure to find and join our First Church Youth Group Facebook page!

**PETER SYKES AND VICTORIA WAGNER PERFORM "THE PLANETS!" Today at 3:00 p.m. Old South Church, Copley Square, Boston** Please join us for a Multi-media event, presented by the Boston Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. The recent performance of this piece by Peter Sykes and Victoria Wagner received high praise at the Organ Historical Society convention this summer - this will be a "do not miss" event! Designed to appeal to both the most discriminating organists and the general public alike, this production will include a multimedia presentation in conjunction with the performance, including live video of the organists playing the massive and powerful pipe organ at Old South Church, Boston, as well as NASA images of the planets and artistic renderings of the gods for whom the planets are named. Admission: donations to the Boston Chapter gratefully received.

**CONFIRMATION CLASS Today from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. in Room 22** Our 8th and 9th graders will be walking the journey of confirmation this year with Karin Case and Sarah Higginbotham.

**NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 8:30 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. Tonight: Motets by Palestrina and Guerrero. Plainchant hymn "Te lucis ante terminum". Psalm 23, set by Patricia Van Ness. With Beth Spaulding, soprano; Michael Terranova, alto; Jason Connell, tenor; Daryl Bichel, bass. We will not be using incense this Sunday.

### **FUTURE HAPPENINGS**

**CHURCH SCHOOL REGISTRATION FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH** If you haven't yet, please complete the brief online registration ([www.firstchurchcambridge.org/children-youth-program-registration-2015-2016](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/children-youth-program-registration-2015-2016)) for each of your children participating in our Christian Formation programming this year. You'll also provide important info about allergies, permission for photographs and transportation, as well as contact info so we can stay in touch. You can find a schedule of programs on the Children and Youth pages on our website.

**FAMILY NIGHTS THIS FALL Alternate Tuesdays, beginning this Tuesday, September 22, 5:30 p.m., in Sage Hall** Families with young children are invited to our biweekly Family Nights. Join us for supper with some free play for kids and conversation for adults every other Tuesday,

from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m., in Sage Hall, our basement play space. Sarah provides pots of pasta and sauce, and you bring a dish to share. Salads, veggies, meatballs, garlic bread, or desserts are most welcome. Family Nights start up on September 22 and continue on October 6 and 20, November 3 and 17, and December 1 and 15.

**FIRST CHURCH YOUNG ADULTS OPEN HOUSE This Thursday, September 24, 7:30 p.m., at the Parsonage, 44 Garden Street** Whether you are just getting settled into a new apartment, a new program, a new city, or you've been coming to First Church for a while, whether you are single or coupled, LGBTQ or otherwise, "wherever you are on the journey of life or faith," come to 44 Garden Street, Cambridge (First Church's parsonage), for a relaxed evening of good food, good drink, and good conversation. No strings attached, we promise! Just a chance to get to know one another and maybe to do some wondering aloud about how faith and spirituality connect with our daily lives and especially in our hyper-connected world! Please e-mail Karin Case, [karin-case@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:karin-case@firstchurchcambridge.org), or Julie Pridham, [julie.pridham@gmail.com](mailto:julie.pridham@gmail.com), if you think you can make it or if you have any questions. You can also feel free just to show up!

**GREATER BOSTON INTERFAITH ORGANIZATION (GBIO) FORUM Sunday, September 27, 12:45 p.m., in the Hastings Room** For an update and general info session on First Church's work with the GBIO, come to the Hastings Room on Sunday, September 27, at 12:45 p.m., to learn more about this important ministry's role in the Boston area. If you are interested in becoming more deeply involved, there will be an opportunity to sign up for updates on upcoming events. For more information contact GBIO liaison Will Erickson, [will.erickson@theshareunion.org](mailto:will.erickson@theshareunion.org), or Ministerial Intern Taj Smith, [taj@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:taj@firstchurchcambridge.org).

**FALL ALL-CHURCH RETREAT** We're looking forward to our annual First Church Retreat at Craigville Retreat Center on Cape Cod, October 2-4. This is a community gathering that will include time for beach-walking, game-playing, small group sessions, large group worship, music and art-making, and more. If you have signed up the Retreat, please stay tuned for more details. If you haven't signed up and are interested in attending, please contact Sarah Higginbotham to see if there are any available spaces.

**ANSWERING THE CALL: AN INTERFAITH GATHERING FOR CLIMATE ACTION Monday, October 12, Welcoming Reception & Sign-in: 6:30pm, Program: 7:00pm to 9:00pm, Temple Beth Elohim 10 Bethel Road, Wellesley** Join this special interfaith event as we share messages of hope, inspiration, and action for healing our world. To RSVP or for more information and a current list of our sponsors and supporters, visit: [www.tbewellesley.org/climate](http://www.tbewellesley.org/climate). First Church is a co-sponsor of this event.

**WHO DO WE SAY THAT WE ARE? — A NEW SERIES OF "FAITH IN CONTEXT" CONVERSATIONS** After a rich congregation-wide exploration last Lent of Jesus' question "Who Do You Say That I Am?," we want to continue the conversation this season with a focus on "Who Do We Say That We Are?" Who do we say that we are in light of our faith commitment and in light of real concerns that are facing our lives, communities and our planet. Can we bring our faith commitments into conversations about race, about climate change, about gender, about immigration? Please join

Dan Smith and Karin Case for our upcoming series of drop-in conversations (though by all means feel free to attend all). Each session will include a brief scripture or spiritual reading that relates to voices that are speaking to contemporary concerns with prophetic clarity. We plan to spend two sessions on Ta-Nehisi's Coates' recent book, *Between the World and Me*. The next two will be on the Pope's Encyclical, *Laudato si: Praise Be To You — On Care for our Common Home*. (If you've wanted to read these pieces anyway, here's your chance!). Stay tuned for announcements of future topics and readings. Background reading in advance will help to ensure rich and meaningful conversation. The first two gatherings will be held at First Church in Cambridge though we have some hope to shift morning sessions to a local breakfast establishment and the evening meetings to a local bar or eatery. Please save the following times and dates. RSVP's to Dan or Karin would be helpful though please do feel free to drop in as your schedule allows:

- *Tuesday, October 13th 8 - 9:30 am (Ta-Nehisi Coates Between the World and Me)*
- *Thursday, October 21st 6- 7:30 pm (Ta-Nehisi Coates Between the World and Me)*
- *Tuesday, October 27th 8 - 9:30 am (Pope's Encyclical on Climate Change)*
- *Thursday, November 5th 6 - 7:30 pm (Pope's Encyclical on Climate Change)*
- *Tuesday, November 10th 8 - 9:30 am (topic tbd)*
- *Thursday, November 19th 6 - 7:30 pm (topic tbd)*

**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](mailto:klayzer@gmail.com) if you'd like to know more.

**HYGIENE KITS FOR THE FRIDAY CAFÉ** Looking for ways to support the Friday Café that don't involve skipping work? Making hygiene kits is easy and so appreciated. To make a kit, just toss some travel-size deodorant, soap, toothpaste, a toothbrush, a comb, and a couple of razors in a ziplock bag. For a bonus, add things like: clean white socks, a washcloth or a package of wipes, a granola bar, some trail mix or a gift card (CVS, Dunkin, Starbucks, or Panera all work well). Drop your kits off at the church office any time. Thank you!

**REFUGEE CRISIS AND UCC RESPONSE** We have all been reading about the refugee crisis in Europe. Not since the Second World War have we seen such high numbers of refugees and displaced persons desperately seeking safety and refuge in lands not their own. Working with partners inside the country of Syria, and in surrounding countries, the UCC is providing emergency assistance to the millions of refugees who are trying to flee the conflict. Food, water, blankets, hygienic items, essential medicines, medical supplies and equipment have been and will continue to be provided. In addition, psychological, emotional, spiritual, and social support is being given, as are clothes, other non-food items, and support aimed at preparing for the winter cold season, just ahead. **How You Can Help:**

- Prayers are always needed. Please pray for all people having to flee their homes for safety.
- Make a gift. 100% of gifts designated to "Syria Humanitarian Crisis" will go directly to help Syrian refugees and those internally displaced in the Middle East and Europe. Checks payable to One Great Hour of Sharing with the above memo line can be placed in the offering plates and will be

delivered to our UCC headquarters.  
Thank you for your concern and generosity.

**THE FALL ISSUE OF OUR “EVENT” NEWSLETTER WAS SENT ELECTRONICALLY**  
The Fall 2015 issue of EVENT is electronic, and the link was sent in the September 4 and 11 issues of First Glance. It is in pdf format - easily readable, printable, and downloadable. Delivering an electronic version of EVENT saves on both paper postage costs. If you did not receive the link via email, please contact Kirsten Manville ([parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org)) and she will forward it to you. Also, if you prefer a paper copy there are some available at both entrances to the sanctuary, or you can contact Kirsten and she will mail a hard copy to you.

**NEW PARISH LIST AVAILABLE** Thanks to all of you who responded to our email regarding updating our database. We have entered the updates, and have prepared a new Parish List, which is available to you in three ways. Paper copies of the Parish List as of 8/31 are available this morning in Margaret Jewett Hall. If you would like a digital copy, please email Lang Haynes ([lang@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:lang@firstchurchcambridge.org)) and he will email a pdf to you. If you would like to set up an always-current, searchable directory on your phone or tablet, please email Lang, and he will email you the link and access codes.

**PARISH ADMINISTRATOR SABBATICAL UPDATE** First Church Parish Administrator Kirsten Manville is preparing for her upcoming sabbatical, October 1 through December 31. In addition to resting and recharging, Kirsten will be taking a course on concert venue management, the content of which should aid in her work dealing with outside groups using the church as a concert venue. The staff has done extensive planning for coverage of Kirsten's tasks while she is away. Staff members will take on pieces of her work and Facilities Manager Dan dos Santos' hours will increase during her sabbatical time. To assume the majority of Kirsten's tasks, involving preparation for Sunday worship services and management of building reservations, **Shannon Fuller has been appointed Acting Parish Administrator.** Shannon is working half-time, through December 31. Shannon has more than 14 years of experience in office coordination and support. Kirsten will be present for Morning Worship next **Sunday, September 27**, when we will celebrate and send her off on her sabbatical time. Please plan to join us!

**PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR VALUABLES** As the church program year begins, please be reminded that First Church is an open building, and petty theft does occur here. Please make sure to not leave wallets, purses, phones, etc. unattended. And if you see anything suspicious, please contact a sexton immediately. Thank for your vigilance and care.

*Today's bulletin cover was created by Perry Neubauer.*

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, September 20

- 9:00 a.m. Earth Stewardship, Hastings Room
- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation for Adults, Hastings Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Karin Case, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes for preschoolers-7th grade
- 12:15 p.m. Coffee and Refreshments (Grab and Go Lunch), MJH
- 12:30 pm Faith and Life Groups Sign-up, MJH
- 12:30 p.m. Third Sunday Newcomers Gathering, Hastings Room
- 12:30 p.m. Stewardship Committee, Room 22
- 2:00 p.m. First Youth Group Meeting, gather in church lobby
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Room 22
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

### Monday, September 21

- 7:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting, Hastings Room

### Tuesday, September 22

- 5:30 p.m. Family Night, Sage Hall
- 7:30 p.m. Gifts Discernment, Room 22

### Wednesday, September 23

- 9:00 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's office
- 6:00 p.m. Christian Meditation, Lindsay Chapel

### Thursday, September 24

- 7:30 p.m. Young Adults Open House, Parsonage (44 Garden Street)
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

### Friday, September 25

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall

### Sunday, September 27

- 9:00 a.m. Retreat Planning Meeting, Hastings Room
- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation for Adults, Hastings Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Brent Coffin, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Creative Arts/Bulletin Cover Design
- 12:15 p.m. Cake and Celebration for our Parish Administrator, Kirsten Manville, MJH
- 12:45 p.m. Greater Boston Interfaith Organization Forum, Hastings 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,

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

---

## The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister

Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23  
dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org

Minister

Rev. Dr. Karin Case 617-547-2724, ext. 26  
karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org

Minister of Stewardship & Finance

Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22  
karenmc@firstchurchcambridge.org

Minister of Street Outreach

Rev. Kate Layzer, 617-851-5074  
klayzer@gmail.com

Director of Music

Peter Sykes, 617-645-0833  
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

Acting Parish Administrator

Shannon Fuller, 617-547-2724, ext. 21  
sfuller@firstchurchcambridge.org

Administrative Assistant

Lang Haynes 617-547-2724, ext. 41  
Lang@firstchurchcambridge.org

Financial Assistant

Chelsea Turgeon, 617-547-2724, ext. 22  
chelsea@firstchurchcambridge.org

Facilities Manager

Dan dos Santos  
ddossantos@firstchurchcambridge.org

Sextons

Douglas Casey, Tina Quimby, George Williams,  
Kimmel Williams, 617-642-3980



**FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL**

*United Church of Christ*

11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

617-547-2724