



Thanksgiving and Pledge Dedication Sunday

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

Congregational 1633-1636

United Church of Christ

Garden and Mason Streets

Cambridge, Massachusetts



WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

Grounded in God • Growing in Community • Acting in Love

These past months have brought home to all of us the vital importance of working together to slow and limit the spread of Coronavirus. We know we are called to be a community of faith, not fear. We also know we are called to care for the most vulnerable in our midst, to be good stewards of our staff and resources, and to be good citizens of the wider community.

Under normal circumstances, people of faith would care for each other by drawing close together. It's what we do. It's who we are. In times of loss or threat, we respond by coming together to pray and to sing, to hug and hold each other tight.

Pandemics are different. During an outbreak such as the one we are facing now, we are called to care for each other by moving farther apart, creating a holy buffer of social distance. We do this not only for our own safety and the safety of the people around us, but in loving stewardship to our wider world.

Even when apart, we are not alone. God is with us, in every heartbeat, every breath: strengthening, comforting, and upholding us. Christ is with us, walking beside us, sharing our trials, speaking peace to our fears. The Spirit is with us, uniting us one to another across the barrier of physical distance.

These are temporary measures only. They won't last forever. We will rejoice and celebrate all the more when we are able to come back together, to share stories of what it was like, to laugh, to cry, and to share hugs and handshakes again. Until then, day by day, let's hold one another in prayer.

WORSHIP LEADERS

November 22, 2020

Preaching Today

Jaz Buchanan, Pastoral Associate

Assisting in Worship

Dan Smith, Senior Minister

Lexi Boudreaux, Pastoral Associate

Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts

Peter Sykes, Music Director

Julie Pridham, Vice Moderator

Stephen Weller, Chair of Stewardship Committee

Joe Welker, tech support

The photograph on the bulletin cover is by Gaylen Morgan.

GATHERING**VOLUNTARY**

Now Thank We All Our God

J. S. Bach

***HYMN 526**

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

(see page 4)

***GREETING**

Julie Pridham

- L: Siblings in the Spirit, wherever you are,
hear God's call to come together!
- C: **Come together in this community of hope and healing.**
- L: Come together in this wide-open space of grace.
- C: **Come together in the presence of God.**
- L: Come together and return to the source of grace, courage and peace.
- C: **Come together, and share your hearts, your hope, and your gifts.**
- All: **Come together, and let us worship God!**

WORDS OF WELCOME AND CANDLELIGHTING*ANTHEM**

The Eyes of All

Richard Shephard

*The eyes of all wait upon thee, O Lord,
and thou givest them food in due season.
- Psalm 145:15*

CONFESSING**INVITATION TO CONFESSION****PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

- L: Let us pray for healing, pardon and peace:
- C: **Loving God, we've been holding our breath for so long:
holding fear and stress and anxieties about the future;
holding worry about ourselves, our loved ones, our world;
holding anger and resentment.
Forgive us when we forget to breathe!
By the gift of your Spirit, help to let go, to release, to exhale.
Breathe in and through us even now, God,
in this eternal moment, and fill us with your grace and love and peace.
Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

Sarah Higginbotham

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

RESPONSIVE READING

Psalm 100 (adapted)

- L: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth.
C: **Worship the Lord with gladness; come before her with joyful songs.**
L: Know that the Lord is God. It is she who made us, and we are her's.
C: **We are her people, the sheep of her pasture.**
L: Enter her gates with thanksgiving and her courts with praise;
C: **Give thanks to her and praise her name.**
L: For God is good and her love endures forever;
C: **Her faithfulness continues through all generations.**

READING

Matthew 25:31-46

SERMON

Jaz Buchanan

*HYMN 27

Now We Thank All Our God

(see page 5)

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Smith

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Lexi Boudreaux

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

- All: Our Creator, 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.

***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 OF OUR GIFTS & 2021 PLEDGES**

GOING FORTH

***HYMN 529** Let All Things Now Living *(see pages 6-7)*

***BENEDICTION**

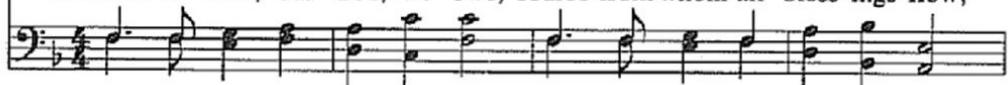
VOLUNTARY Fantasy on “Nun Danket” Sigfrid Karg-Elert

OPENING HYMN

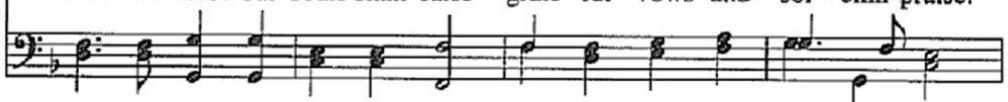
Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



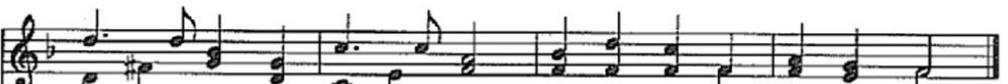
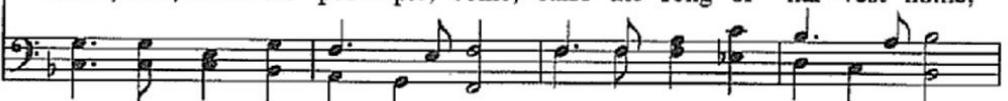
1. Come, ye thank-ful peo- ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;
 2. All the bless-ings of the field, all the stores the gar-dens yield,
 3. These to thee, our God, we owe, source from whom all bless-ings flow;



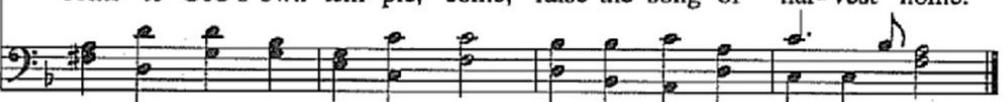
all is safe-ly gath-ered in, ere the win-ter storms be-gin;
 all the fruits in full sup-ply, rip-ened 'neath the sum-mer sky,
 and for these our souls shall raise grate-ful vows and sol-emn praise.



God, our Mak-er, does pro-vide for our wants to be sup-plied;
 all that spring with boun-teous hand scat-ters o'er the smil-ing land,
 Come, then, thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;



come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.
 all that lib-eral au-tumn pours from its rich o'er-flow-ing stores,
 come to God's own tem-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home.



SERMON HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2. O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3. All praise and thanks to God al - might - y now be giv - en;

who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es,
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
 to God, the three - in - one, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

who, from our moth - ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in all grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heaven a - dore,

with count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

WORDS: Martin Rinkart, 1636; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: Melody, Johann Crüger, 1647

NUN DANKET
67.67.66.66

CLOSING HYMN

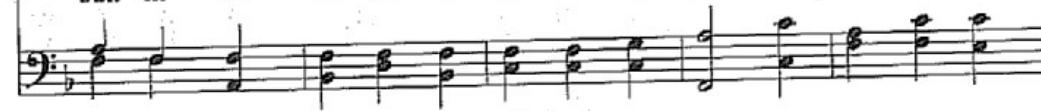
Let All Things Now Living



1. Let all things now liv - ing a song of thanks - giv - ing to
2. By law God en - forc - es. The stars in their cours - es, the



God our cre - a - tor tri - um-phant-ly raise; who fash-ioned and
sun in its or - bit o - be - dient - ly shine; the hills and the



made us, pro-tect-ed and stayed us by guid-ing us on to the
moun-tains, the riv - ers and foun-tains, the depths of the o - cean pro -



end of our days. God's ban - ners are o'er us, pure
claim God di - vine. We, too, should be voic - ing our



CLOSING HYMN

light goes be - fore us, a pil - lar of fire shin - ing
love and re - joic - ing; with glad ad - o - ra - tion a

forth in the night: till shad - ows have van - ished, all fear - ful - ness
song let us raise till all things now liv - ing u - nite in thanks -

ban - ished, as for - ward we trav - el from light in - to light.
giv - ing: "To God in the high - est, ho - san - na and praise!"

PRAYERS OF OUR COMMUNITY

- We pray for Caroline Newton's father Ron Paquette, who is undergoing treatment for an aggressive form of non-Hodgkin's lymphoma.
- We pray for George Williams's brother Robert, who is in the ICU for cardiac issues.
- We pray for Denis Collet, Karen Anne Zee's son-in-law, who is recovering from recent surgery.
- We pray for our Community Minister for Racial Justice Carlyle Stewart, who is improving as he recovers at home from Covid-19.
- We pray for Karen Korn's mother, Mary Hunter, who has been diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn's mother; Katie, Moana Bentin's sister; Amy Golodet, Jonathan New's sister-in-law; Stewart Bailey, Karen Anne Zee's son-in-law; Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters; and former First Church member Nancy Sanders.
- On this Transgender Day of Remembrance, we remember and mourn all whose lives were lost in acts of anti-transgender violence.
- We pray for our nation in the wake of the election, as it navigates extreme polarization, and concerns for our democratic process.
- As the death toll from COVID-19 continues to rise, we pray for all who are grieving the loss of loved ones. We pray for health care professionals and essential workers, that they may know they are supported and cared for. For all of us, we pray for a new infusion of strength and peace as we find a new way of being in our world, and that we may perceive the presence of God anew in our daily lives.
- We pray for all impacted by the devastation and loss of life left in the wake of two major hurricanes, Eta and Iota, especially in areas hardest hit in Honduras, Nicaragua, and Guatemala.
- We pray for the 14 men who are finding warmth and sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter, and for the guests of the Friday Cafe, who are finding food and fellowship and listening ears. We pray for all who are experiencing deprivation and hardship in these uncertain times.
- We pray for those who seek sanctuary in houses of worship around the country, including our partner University Lutheran Church in Harvard Square. We pray for solace and security for immigrants and all those who live in constant fear and anxiety over their status in this country. We also pray for all who are working for a just and compassionate future for immigrants and asylum seekers.
- We pray that God may grant us the strength to confront and combat the many realities of the climate crisis, and that we and our leaders may be empowered to take bold steps to care for God's creation. We pray especially for the poor, who are disproportionately affected by our inaction.

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

ADULT FORMATION: CAN WE CREATE A CHURCH CULTURE THAT ENHANCES OUR EFFORTS TO BE AN ANTI-RACIST, MULTICULTURAL CHURCH? Today, 9:30 a.m., via Zoom What is our church culture? Is it welcoming to people from diverse backgrounds and experiences? Are there elements of white supremacy culture that hinder us from being the multicultural, anti-racist church that we say we want to be? Bring your curiosity to this Zoom conversation with Dan Smith and other leaders as we explore together how First Church embodies and is working to dismantle [Characteristics of White Supremacy Culture](#) within our own congregation.

[Click here to join the Adult Formation meeting directly](#), or go to [zoom.us](#) and “join a meeting” using the following information:

Meeting ID: 869 6902 6288 Passcode: 372484

Call-in Number: +1 929 205 6099

CHILDREN'S FORMATION: REMOTE CHURCH SCHOOL CLASSES Today, 9:30 a.m., via Zoom

Our age-based classes will meet today. All classes should join the Church School Zoom at 9:30 a.m. Then, several classes will watch videos together on our YouTube channel. Please use the links below to participate:

[Click here to join the Church School Zoom directly](#), or go to [zoom.us](#) and “join a meeting” using the following information:

Meeting ID: 897 8647 6898

Call-in Number: +1 929 205 6099

Godly Play Alpha (preschool - 1st grade) - [click here](#) to watch your story.

Godly Play Omega (2nd - 4th grade) - [click here](#) to watch your story.

Bible 101 (5th/6th grade) - [click here](#) to watch your mini-lesson.

Faith & Social Justice (7th/8th grade) - no video today; join via Zoom.

FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Today, 12:30 p.m., via Zoom Members and friends are warmly invited to attend our Fall Congregational Meeting, where we will review, discuss, and vote on [the 2021 church budget](#). We will also hear an update on and discuss our work of becoming an anti-racist church. All First Church members have a vote; come take part in our democratic process!

[Click here to join the Fall Congregational Meeting directly](#), or go to [zoom.us](#) and “join a meeting” using the following information:

Meeting ID: 870 8280 8388

Passcode: AfterCh

Call-in Number: +1 929 205 6099



STEWARDSHIP 2021
FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE
**THE CALL TO GIVE
OUR COVENANT**



This Sunday we celebrate two of our congregational traditions: pledging our support for the coming year and gathering for a congregational meeting to discuss and decide together about our budget for 2021. Thank you to all who have responded so far to our fall Stewardship Campaign, "The Call to Give" by completing both a pledge of financial support and an expression of your interests and involvement for the year ahead. An important part of our covenant with one another and with God is our commitment to worship together, to learn and grow together, and to share in the financial support of our mission and ministry. If you missed our weekly emails, they are posted [on our website](#), along with the link to [our online pledge card](#) and [online interest survey](#). Also [on our website](#), you can follow our progress toward our goal, as it is pieced together.



Scan this QR code to make your pledge for 2021!

First Church Pledge

ONE FINAL STROLLING FOR SOLACE FOR 2020 Today, 2:45 p.m., Mt. Auburn Cemetery, Cambridge The Deacons invite you to join us next Sunday at Mt. Auburn Cemetery. We'll meet in front of the chapel as we have in the past. Arrive at 2:45; we will start walking at 3:00. Feel free to contact Deacon Beth Spaulding by text or phone call at 781-724-7549 if you are looking for our group, or if you have questions about the weather. Hope to see you there!

NEW TO FIRST CHURCH? Have you just begun joining us for online worship? Please consider filling out this ["virtual visitor card"](#) so that we might reach out and connect with you about our community.

FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

NEW FIRST CHURCH WEBSITE COMING SOON Our ancient (in tech years) website is undergoing an overhaul by Theory One Design, with whom we collaborated to create our current site. Expect updated photos and video, streamlined menus that will be easier to navigate, a mobile-friendly version, and more! We plan to launch the new site as we enter the season of Advent, allowing us to begin the new liturgical and calendar years together with a more helpful online presence that will keep us all the more connected through these times of social distancing and beyond! Stay tuned.

UCC MENTAL HEALTH BLOG FEATURES JENNY STUART Rev. Jenny Stuart is a Community Minister at First Church, a clinical social worker specializing in psychological trauma, a psychotherapist at the Danielsen Institute at Boston University, and an ordained UCC minister. Jenny recently contributed to the UCC Mental Health Network Blog. Don't miss her deep wisdom and gorgeous writing about these challenging times:

<https://www.mhn-ucc.org/2020/11/02/water-by-jennifer-stuart-mdiv-licsw/>

BIPOC SPACE, TIME, AND COMMUNITY If you are a Black, Indigenous or Person of Color (BIPOC) member of First Church, please consider joining our periodic Zoom meetings designed as active listening sessions to reflect, heal, support one another, and build community. Please contact Moana Bentin (moana.bentin@gmail.com) with questions or to receive a Zoom invitation to participate. This group is by BIPOC for BIPOC.

ONLINE WORSHIP LITURGISTS All are welcome to participate as leaders in worship via video; [click here to access the signup sheet](#). Put your name and contact information next to the piece of the service you want to lead, and you will receive an email with instructions on how to contribute! Thank you for making online church feel like church! Questions? Contact Lexi Boudreaux: lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org

FIRST CHURCH YOUTUBE CHANNEL Our channel now has over 100 subscribers! Check out our 13 separate playlists and over 60 videos. Listen to sermons, play music, watch Godly Play stories, enjoy children's picturebooks, tune in to conversations on racial justice, or review our stewardship videos. Subscribe now so you don't miss anything! The link to the channel is:

<https://tinyurl.com/ryac3av>

Have an announcement for the bulletin?

Please send information about church or wider community events to Sarah Higginbotham (shiggib@firstchurchcambridge.org) by 10:00 a.m. on Tuesdays to be considered for the following Sunday's bulletin.

LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT

THE LIGHT THAT SHINES IN THE DARKNESS: Spiritual Practices for Advent 2020 John's Gospel reminds us that the Light shines in the darkness and the darkness cannot overcome it! This is a good and needed word for this pandemic and post-election time—one to remember, ponder and pray. And yet, how does having only negative connotations of darkness relate to our current moment of racial reckoning? Can we find goodness and blessing in the shadows and the light, in the knowledge that God created the day and the night and called them both good? In darkness and in light, how can we wait, and labor and prepare for the light and joy and new birth that come at Christmas?

ADVENT LECTIO DIVINA—HOLY READING Sundays, December 6, 13 & 20, 9:30 am, via Zoom

Join Dan, Lexi, and Jaz in a short conversation about reimagining advent themes of light and darkness and a time for spiritual practice called lectio divina, “holy reading.” In this ancient contemplative practice, we’ll read Advent scripture passages together and be invited to meditate on how God’s word intersects with our lives. Together, through word and silence, we’ll listen for God’s movement in our hearts, as we wait and labor and prepare to receive the light of the Christ child.

SPIRITUAL PRACTICE PARTNERS Sign up by this Wednesday, November 25 In this time apart, are you looking to deepen your spiritual practices while also deepening your relationship with someone from church? Consider signing up for a spiritual practice partner. It’s a sacred experiment, committing to having a spiritual buddy in the congregation. You might catch up on the phone and discuss reflection questions from one of our 9:30 Formation sessions. You might go on a socially distanced walk together, pray for one another, read scripture with one another, or another practice entirely. Questions? Please contact Pastoral Associate Lexi Boudreux: lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org. To be matched with a partner, [fill out this google form](#). **The deadline to sign up is this Wednesday, November 25.**

PASSING THE LIGHT: A REQUEST FOR VIDEOS We will be re-creating our tradition of passing candlelight in the sanctuary virtually this year for our online Christmas Eve service. Please sign up to get more information on how to submit a video of yourself for this part of our worship together. We will help you submit something, so don’t let technology fears deter you from participating! For questions, contact Lexi Boudreux, Pastoral Associate: lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org. [Sign up on this google form](#).

LOOKING AHEAD TO ADVENT



ADVENT WORKSHOP

Sunday, December 6 @ 9:30 a.m. via Zoom

Supply Kit Distribution @ Church Playground
Saturday, November 28, 10:30 am - 12:00 pm

ADVENT WORKSHOP KITS AND CANDLE RINGS Saturday, November 28, 10:30 a.m.

- 12:00 p.m., Church Playground Stop by the church this Saturday to pick up your workshop kit, as well as an Advent Wreath candle ring and candles, should you need them.

If you can't make it and you are local, contact Sarah to ask for kit delivery. Out-of-town friends are encouraged to check the kit list and prep what you can.

Find all the details on this [craft instruction sheet](#). Questions? Contact Sarah: shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org

CANDLE-LIGHTING AND PRAYER TIME Sundays, December 6, 13 & 20, 4:00 p.m., Lindsay Chapel

This Advent we will be offering some time on Sunday afternoons for folks to pray and to light a candle in the Chapel. The capacity will be limited to four people at a time, and masks are required. In this time of reimagining what the symbols of light and dark mean to us, take some time to reconnect with the church building, spend some time in prayer, and give some light to the world.

WOMEN'S COMMUNITY: RECLAIMING MARY Saturday, December 12, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m., via Zoom

The women of First Church will be gathering together on Zoom for a time of worship, spiritual practice, reflection, and fellowship to observe Advent. Come as you are to explore what Mary might mean to us as a spiritual ancestor, a matriarch within our sacred scriptures, and the one who clears a path for God to work in our world. This time together will be for connection and grounding in our faith. To let us know if you plan on coming, [please sign up here](#). Everyone who identifies as a woman is welcome to join!

ADVENT MUSIC AT FIRST CHURCH 2020

Join our virtual choir in singing for this season! We will be recording tracks for an introit "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" which will open all our Advent services, as well as the first movement of the "Gloria" of Antonio Vivaldi for December 13 and "In The Bleak Midwinter" for our Christmas Eve service. Email Peter Sykes (psykes@aol.com) for information.

HELPING OTHERS IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON

THANKSGIVING AT THE SHELTER We would like to offer both old favorites and new choices at our Shelter's Thanksgiving meal. Could you bake a pie, or a side dish for our guests? Make one dish for yourself and while you are at it, make one to share! Contact the shelter at jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org to arrange an easy drop off. If you are not planning to cook, why not donate, so someone else can cook? Donate to the shelter via [the FCC website](#) or text the amount to 844-996-0982 in the format \$25 Shelter. The Shelter guests, staff, and Oversight Committee members wish that you and your family have a joyful Thanksgiving. We extend our heartfelt gratitude for the support received, especially during this pandemic.

SUPPORTING LOCAL FRIENDS AND FAMILIES AS THEY CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS As we move toward the Advent season, we remember years past when our pulpit area filled with coats or toys ready for donation to various organizations helping people from our community who don't have everything they need. This holiday season, our opportunities to give and support communities in need might look different, but the need is greater. The Missions and Social Justice Committee has compiled the following list of opportunities for donation. In the case that you and your family are in a position to support these organizations, we hope that you find this list helpful. If you have any questions, please reach out to Molly Baker (mollybaker96@gmail.com) of the Missions and Social Justice Committee.

1. City Mission Christmas Shop Each year City Mission collects thousands of gifts – clothes, toys, books and household goods. Many of these donations come from members of First Church. These gifts are made available to the City Mission's Homelessness Prevention clients and other community partners who distribute gifts to their own clients. For a complete list of NEW items to donate, please visit [City Mission's website](#). You can drop off gifts at FCC between November 29 and December 6 (8 am to 4 pm). Call the sexton on duty at (617) 642-3980 to let you in and receive the gifts.

2. City Mission Boston Coat Drive "Coat Boston" helps ensure Boston children have warm, new winter coats for the city's cold weather. All sizes from 9 months to Adult are needed. You can drop off new coats at FCC by December 1, anytime between 8 am to 4 pm. Call the sexton on duty at (617) 642-3980 to let you in and receive the coats. You can also mail the coats directly to First Parish of Westwood, Attn: City Mission, 252 Nahatan St, Westwood, MA 02090.

3. Christmas at The First Church Shelter At Christmas, each Shelter guest receives a \$50 gift card for personal purchases. Would you like to sponsor one this year? Your donation will truly be appreciated by a Shelter guest. [Donate on the FCC website](#).

4. The Friday Café With a severe shortage of beds across Massachusetts, unhoused neighbors will need to layer to survive this winter. Friday Café is accepting donations of men's

HELPING OTHERS IN THE HOLIDAY SEASON

and women's warm pants, shirts, jackets, coats, hats, scarves, gloves and sleeping bags. You can also visit their [Amazon wish list for essential items](#).

5. Black Lives Matter Boston – Financial Support for Local Students Resources are needed for housing, food, and COVID-19 related needs. Additionally, students are in need of their own laptops to access online learning for school work. Give directly via their [PayPal \(Phoenix Printemps\)](#), or you may donate via BLM Boston's official [Fiscal Sponsor Building Audacity via PayPal](#). You may also mail a check to: Building Audacity, Inc., 79 Allen Avenue, Lynn, MA 01902.

6. Food Pantry Holiday meals are coming up in December, and your neighbors are in need. Always welcome: proteins, cereal, canned fruit and veg, cooking oil. Treats of olive oil, maybe even cookies. Special items too: diapers, feminine hygiene products. Bring your donations at any time during the month to Hilary's house, 30 Winslow St. in Cambridge, .75 mile up Garden St. from First Church, just past the [closed] firehouse. Leave things in the cooler on the porch (tug on the friction lid) and ring the bell. Thank you!

7. Solutions at Work Toy Drive SAW is accepting donations of gently used clothing, books, toys, and baby equipment to offer to clients as a part of the clothing and toy exchange program. Alternatively, they offer a wishlist for certain items, which you can access [here](#). They are accepting donations through December 20. Donations can be shipped to 1151 Mass Ave., Cambridge, MA 02138. Or to arrange for drop-off or pick-up, please call SAW at 617-401-5335.

MEDITATIVE MUSIC FOR YOUR WEEK

LINKS TO CHANT WORKS PROVIDED BY NIGHT SONG Looking for meditative chant music during your time at home? Night Song Director Daryl Bichel offers the following suggestions:

St. Mark's Cathedral in Seattle: Compline, 08 November 2020

<https://complinepodcast.org/?p=1882>

This compline liturgy contains two hymns sung in their usual style - some verses in unison, some in parts with the melody in the treble, and a verse arranged so that the melody is in the tenor part. The anthem is by Tallis and in it chant verses alternate with polyphony.

First Church in Cambridge: November 2020

<https://www.facebook.com/nightsong.cambridge/videos/283852366308956/>

Four singers and pianist Ben Schwendener recorded this compline liturgy in October and broadcast it on Facebook last Sunday, November 15. Music includes Gregorian chant from the Liber Usualis, Psalm 121 set by Bichel, the compline hymn Te lucis ante terminum with verse two set by Diego Ortiz, and Psalm 134 set by Patricia Van Ness, Staff Composer at First Church. Another recording is planned for release during Advent.

WIDER COMMUNITY ACTIONS AND EVENTS

DONATE TO HELP HURRICANE VICTIMS IN CENTRAL AMERICA Hurricanes Eta and Iota have hit Central America with devastating consequences. Our Community Minister in Latin America Monica Maher invites our help through the Friends Peace Teams Peacebuilding *en las Américas* program, of which she is a part. Partners in Honduras and Guatemala have been particularly affected. The situation, already dire due to Covid, hunger and violence, is now much worse. Please consider supporting those impacted through fervent prayers for their safety and a donation to Peacebuilding *en las Américas*. [Donate today.](#)

BOSTON TRANS DAY OF REMEMBRANCE 2020 ONLINE EVENT Today, 6:00 - 8:00 p.m., via YouTube Every year in November, the Boston transgender and gender nonconforming communities come together to mourn those who have been taken from us due to anti-transgender violence. This tradition began in 1998, with the murder of Rita Hester in Allston, Massachusetts. Now, two decades later, the Transgender Day of Remembrance (TDOR) is honored worldwide. This year's Boston TDOR will be hosted by Trans Resistance. The event will be live streamed from their YouTube Channel: <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCU7m5up3tqyzP7lh2QheBhQ>

2020 NATIONAL DAY OF MOURNING Thursday, November 26, 12:00 p.m., Cole's Hill, Plymouth, MA Sponsored by the United American Indians of New England, this annual tradition since 1970 is a solemn, spiritual and highly political day. Many participants fast from sundown the day before through the afternoon of that day. This is a day of mourning Native ancestors, along with the genocide of Native peoples and theft of Native lands. Although the UAINE very much welcomes non-Native supporters to stand and march in solidarity, it is a day when only Indigenous people speak about the history and the struggles that are taking place throughout the Americas. COVID-19 has hit Indigenous communities very hard; everyone attending must wear a mask. This year's NDOM is expected to have livestreaming from Plymouth, as well as messages from Indigenous struggles in many homelands. For updates, please join the [UAINE facebook group](#). Monetary donations are gratefully accepted to help defray the costs of the day and of UAINE's many other efforts during the year - [donate here](#).

FAITH FOR EARTH: A CALL FOR ACTION Updated for the current moment through a partnership between the United Nations Environment Programme and the Parliament of the World's Religions Climate Action Program, this book describes the essential, unshakeable reverence that all religions have for creation and nature. It offers information and inspiration to learn more about our planet, to share your knowledge and commitment to care for it, and to become part of the flourishing global interfaith movement that is increasingly bringing people together to protect and sustain life on Earth. First Church's Earth Stewardship group encourages you to [learn more and download your copy here](#).

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, November 22 THANKSGIVING SUNDAY AND PLEDGE DEDICATION SUNDAY

- 9:30 a.m. Adult Formation: Becoming an Anti-Racist Church, via Zoom
9:30 a.m. Children's Formation: Remote Church School Classes, via Zoom
11:00 a.m. Live-Stream Morning Worship with Dedication of our Pledges
Jaz Buchanan, preaching
12:30 p.m. Fall Congregational Meeting, via Zoom
2:45 p.m. Strolling for Solace with the Deacons, meet at Mt. Auburn Cemetery Chapel
5:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

Monday, November 23

- 5:00 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room
5:00 p.m. "Exploring Reparations" Faith and Life Group, via Zoom

Wednesday, November 25

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, via Zoom
5:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

Thursday, November 26 THANKSGIVING - Church Office & Building Closed

Friday, November 27 - Church Office Closed

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café lunch bag pickup, Tower Room

Saturday, November 28

- 10:30 a.m. Advent Candle Ring and Workshop Kit Distribution, Church Playground
5:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

Sunday, November 29 FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

- 9:30 a.m. Multigen. Formation: Godly Play (presch.-4th grade & adults), via Zoom
9:30 a.m. Children's Formation: Bible 101 (5/6th grade) &
Faith & Social Justice (7/8th grade), via Zoom
11:00 a.m. Live-Stream Morning Worship
Dan Smith, preaching
12:15 p.m. Zoom Coffee Hour
5:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

*Zoom invitations to many of our week's programs
are in the all-church email that was sent this morning.*

To join our all-church email list, [please sign up here](#).

*Committee Chairs and Faith & Life Group Leaders
have sent Zoom invitations to registered participants.*

THE STAFF AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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