



SEASON OF PENTECOST

FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE

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

FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE
CONGREGATIONAL
384 YEARS
ON THE WAY
1 6 3 6 – 2 0 2 0

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

Grounded in God • Growing in Community • Acting in Love

These past weeks 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

June 7, 2020

Leading Worship

Dan Smith, Senior Minister
Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts
Lexi Boudreaux, Pastoral Associate
Carlyle Stewart, Pastoral Associate
Peter Sykes, Music Director

The photograph on the bulletin cover is by Gaylen Morgan.

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY

Come, Risen Lord

Peter Sykes

*HYMN C-23

Come, All You Thirsty (verses 1 & 2)

(see page 5)

*GREETING

Dan Smith

L: Beloved of God, the Spirit is with us even now, gathering us in:
you who are broken-hearted, you who are bold,
you who rage, and you who weep.

**C: Our nation is an uproar. Our kingdoms totter before our eyes.
Yet God's love is stronger! God's mercy and truth endures forever!**

L: Gather, then, and let yourself be held
in the presence of God's courage, strength and love.
The Spirit meets us wherever we are!

**C: Her love is poured out in abundance—
where tears and hope are mingled together,
where anger cries out for justice and peace.**

L: Receive her power, wisdom, and healing in the work of liberation;
receive her strength in stories of justice.

C: Come, let us worship God.

WORDS OF WELCOME

Sarah Higginbotham

ANTHEM

For I Am Persuaded

Mark Schweizer

*First Church Choir, 2018**Text: Romans 8*

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

Lexi Boudreaux

SILENCE

SHARING THE FEAST

INVITATION

PRAYER OF PREPARATION

REMEMBERING JESUS

L: Now, O God, we remember Jesus,
his daring love, his open table.
(silence)

L: We remember how he fed the five thousand people
with only a loaf of bread and a few fish.

**C: We remember how he never left anyone hungry,
how he welcomed the children and didn't turn them or anyone away.**

L: We remember how he was crucified,
lynched and left to die on a tree.

**C: We remember that the women came to anoint his body,
early in the morning, on the third day.
They did not find him among the dead.**

L: We remember that disciples met him on the road.

C: They knew him when he broke the bread.

L: He gave thanks, and shared it with them—
his body, surrendered for all.

**C: He gave thanks, and passed a cup to them—
his life blood poured out for all.
Do this, he said, and remember me.**

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

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.**

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

*All who seek to follow Jesus' way of justice, compassion and love are invited
to partake of this feast.*

*THANKSGIVING

L: Let us give thanks!

**C: 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 splendors 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 risen life that never ends.
In Christ’s name we pray. Amen.**

GOING FORTH

*HYMN

Somebody’s Hurting My Brother

Composed by Yara Allen (c) Yara Allen.

Yara Allen is Director of Cultural Arts & Theomusicologist for Repairers of the Breach.

Somebody’s hurting my brother (my sister), and it’s gone on **far too long.**

Yes, it’s gone on **far too long**, it’s gone on **far too long.**

I said, somebody’s hurting my brother (my sister), and it’s gone on **far too long.**

And we won’t be silent anymore!

Somebody wants to build that wall...

Somebody’s hurting poor people...

Somebody’s hurting our children...

Somebody’s poisoning the water

Somebody’s ignoring the homeless...

Somebody’s closing our borders...

Somebody’s hurting our families...

Nobody’s feeding the hungry...

*LEAVE TAKING BLESSING FOR CARLYLE STEWART

*BENEDICTION

VOLUNTARY

Come, Holy Spirit

Dieterich Buxtehude

OPENING HYMN

Come, All You Thirsty

verses 1 and 2

1. Come, all you thirst - y, to the riv - er,
2. Come to the good, for - giv - ing riv - er,
3. Come to the strong, re - new - ing riv - er,
4. Riv - er of life, what deep com - pass - ion

here where the Word_ runs cool and deep.
here where the Word_ runs calm and clear.
here where the Word_ runs sweet and wild.
feeds your e - ter - nal mer - cy song?

Come with the out - casts, crushed and bro - ken,
Wash in the truth that frees the spi - rit;
Come by God's gift, though un - de - ser - ving;
God's own face shines in you re - flec - ted,

come, you who rage_ and you_ who weep.
shed the ex - cus - es you_ hold dear.
come be - cause God_ has called_ you Child.
call - ing us back_ where we_ be - long.

WORDS: Kate Layzer

MUSIC: Peter Sykes

"Then the angel showed me the river of life,
bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God
and from the Lamb."
Rev 22.1

PEACE HYMN

What Wondrous Love Is This

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul! O my soul! What
2. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing, to
3. And when from death I'm free, I'll sing on, I'll sing on, and

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is
God and to the Lamb, I will sing; to God and to the
when from death I'm free, I'll sing on! And when from death I'm

this! that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the heav-y cross for my
Lamb who is the great I Am, while mil-lions join the theme, I will
free, I'll sing and joy-ful be, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing

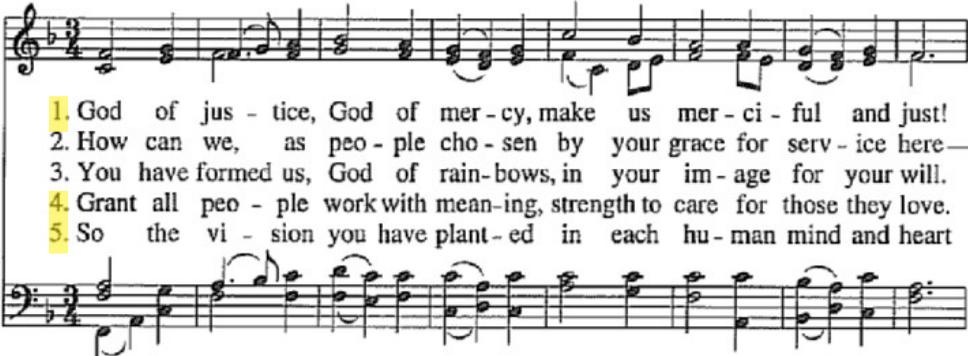
soul, for my soul, to bear the heav-y cross for my soul!
sing, I will sing; while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.
on, I'll sing on, and through e-ter-ni-ty I'll sing on!

WORDS: Appalachian folk hymn, Stith Mead's *A General Selection of the Newest and Most Admired Hymns and Spiritual Songs Now in Use*, 1811, alt. WONDROUS LOVE 12 9.12 12 9
MUSIC: Appalachian folk hymn, Walker's *Southern Harmony*, c. 1835; harm. FCC, 1997

SERMON HYMN

God of Justice, God of Mercy

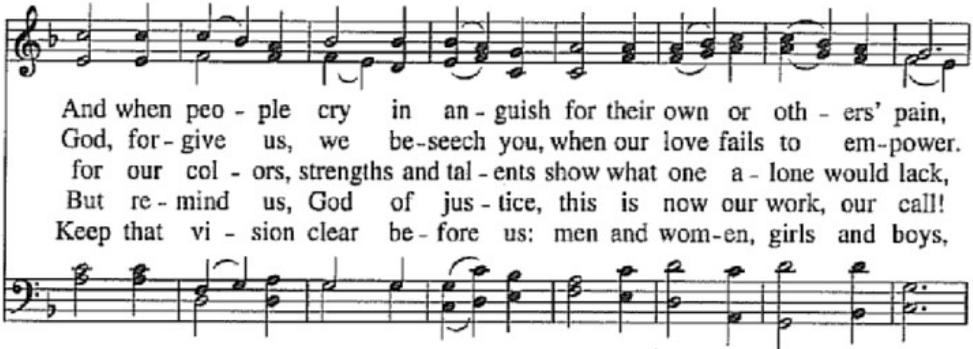
verses 1, 4 and 5



1. God of jus - tice, God of mer - cy, make us mer - ci - ful and just!
2. How can we, as peo - ple cho - sen by your grace for serv - ice here—
3. You have formed us, God of rain - bows, in your im - age for your will.
4. Grant all peo - ple work with mean - ing, strength to care for those they love.
5. So the vi - sion you have plant - ed in each hu - man mind and heart



Help us see all your cre - a - tion as from you a sa - cred trust.
how en - dure an - oth - er's hard - ship with - out of - fer - ing hope or cheer?
See - ing our di - verse re - flec - tions, trust - ing you, we mar - vel still;
Food for ta - ble, truth for tell - ing, chal - leng - es to rise a - bove.
now be - comes the spark of ac - tion call - ing us to do our part.



And when peo - ple cry in an - guish for their own or oth - ers' pain,
God, for - give us, we be - seech you, when our love fails to em - power.
for our col - ors, strengths and tal - ents show what one a - lone would lack,
But re - mind us, God of jus - tice, this is now our work, our call!
Keep that vi - sion clear be - fore us: men and wom - en, girls and boys,

cont'd. on next page

SERMON HYMN, CONT'D.



show us ways to make a dif-f'rence. O dear God, make us hu-mane!
Teach us how to be more faith-ful in this pres-ent cru-cial hour.
call-ing us to work to-geth-er—brown, red, gold-en, white, and black.
Chang-ing life's op-pres-sive sys-tems in-to ones em-pow-'ring all.
val-ued in re-sponse and wit-ness, shar-ing chal-leng-es and joys.



YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

- For the Shanley family, close friends of Tim, Amy and Ben Brenner, as their 9-year-old son undergoes a bone marrow transplant on June 12.
- For Nancy Kilburn, whose cousin Marc Kilburn died in his sleep last Thursday. We pray for Marc's son Alec and for the whole Kilburn family as they cope with this unexpected loss.
- For Ken Ziebell, who suffered a stroke on May 26, was hospitalized, and is now recovering at home.
- In celebration with Jim Rissling and his partner Biss, who became fathers following the birth of Aadya Rissling Teelucksingh to a surrogate mother in North Carolina on Thursday, May 21.
- In celebration with our Community Minister in Latin America Rev. Monica Maher on the occasion of her installation last Sunday as the pastor of the United Church of Ecuador, a progressive, recently-formed church that uses its online worship service to connect Christians in more than 10 primarily Spanish-speaking countries every Sunday.
- In celebration with all recent graduates, including our Pastoral Associates Lexi Boudreaux and Carlyle Stewart, who received their Masters of Divinity degrees from Harvard Divinity School on May 28.
- For Karen Anne Zee and her step-father Calvin as they grieve the loss of Karen Anne's mother, Anne, who died in Florida on May 25 at the age of 95.
- For family and friends of Charlie Cross, a beloved member of the Friday Café community, who died in his home earlier this month of still-unknown causes.
- For Kate Judd's 4-year-old nephew Brogan, who is recovering in the hospital in Pennsylvania after falling from a second floor window.
- For George Williams who is grieving the recent losses of his grandmother Mattie Bell Williams and his aunt Clara Jean Williams, who both died of COVID-19.
- For Moana Bentin's sister Katie, who completed chemotherapy in early April and is now undergoing radiation treatments in India, which is still on lockdown.
- For Cynthia Shoemaker, who has been diagnosed with Covid-19, but has thus far been relatively symptom-free. We pray for her health and that of the staff and other residents at Courtyard Nursing Care Center in Medford.
- For our nation in the throes of unrest following the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis, and especially for communities directly affected by turmoil and violence, that there may be a new birth of justice and healing throughout our land.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED

- For the families of George Floyd, Ahmaud Arbery, and Breonna Taylor, whose recent killings show the appalling effects of racial prejudice and hatred that continue to exist in this country. We mourn these killings and others like them, and our prayers are with all communities that have been targeted.
- For all who are grieving the loss of loved ones due to Covid-19, especially as the US surpasses 100,000 deaths from the virus; for all those who are ill with COVID-19 and their families; and for all of us who are navigating this strange new world, that we may receive God's comfort, strength, and peace.
- For all essential workers, who continue to put themselves at risk to care for the sick and most vulnerable, maintain our food supply, deliver supplies, keep our public services running, and lead us through this crisis.
- For African Americans and communities of color around the country that are facing disproportionately high rates of coronavirus death and infection, revealing entrenched inequalities in resources and access to healthcare.
- For Asian Americans as they face unwarranted discrimination and hostility during this Covid-19 pandemic and for those who have already become the victim of hate crimes, including assaults and beatings.
- For all who are experiencing unemployment or underemployment during this crisis, including undocumented workers who cannot find a safety net in our government's response.
- For all who are in treatment for cancer: Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn's mother; Mark Deck, Sarah Fujiwara's brother-in-law; Amy Golodet, Jonathan New's sister-in-law; Becky Collet, Karen Anne Zee's daughter; Stewart Bailey, Karen Anne Zee's son-in-law; and Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters.
- For the 14 men who are finding care and residence in our First Church Shelter and for the guests of the Friday Café, who are experiencing worsening deprivation and hardship in this time of disruption; that may they know warmth, compassion, and companionship.
- 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 tranquility for immigrants who live in constant fear and anxiety. And we pray for all who are working for a just and compassionate future for immigrants and asylum seekers.
- We offer up our fears and grief, and we pray for God's strength as we combat the realities of the climate crisis. May God empower us and our leaders to take bold steps, personally and politically, to care for God's creation and for the poor around the world who are most affected by our inaction.

If you would like us to include a prayer request in the bulletin, please contact Dan Smith or Sarah Higginbotham by Tuesday morning,

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

FAREWELL SUNDAY FOR CARLYLE STEWART Today, via livestream worship with reception to follow via Zoom Over the past two years, Carlyle's deep spirit, inspired preaching, faithful teaching, and welcoming ministry have moved us all and transformed our community. Amidst the grief of goodbye, there is much to celebrate. We send him off with our blessings, confident in whatever God may have in store for him and us next! There will be a Zoom coffee after the service where we will celebrate Carlyle's gifts (and share some with him, too)!

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR Today, 12:15 p.m., via Zoom We'll continue check-ins and conversations from last week's Coffee Hour, and we'll have a moment to celebrate and thank Carlyle for his time with us. [Click here](#) for the direct Zoom link, or use the following:

Meeting ID: 876 6474 8993

Password: coffee

THE FIRST CHURCH DEACONS' FUND is one of the many ways in which our community cares for one another. Church members in need of financial assistance for a one time or short-term emergency may make a confidential request to one of the deacons or clergy. In these times of unexpected financial hardship and job loss, we hope people will take advantage of this aid. This fund belongs to us and relies on our contributions. You are also invited to make a gift (beyond your pledge) to the Deacons' Fund, if able. You may contribute online to the Deacons' Fund, or text "\$xxx Deacons" to 844-996-0982. If you like to mail a check, please email Karen McArthur.

JUNE IS PRIDE MONTH



Before the global pandemic hit, we had planned to offer programming and worship in that centered our celebration of Pride. While other concerns have monopolized our current attention, First Church affirms its support and celebration of love and the many expressions of gender and love that make up our human experience. We may not be parading in the streets this year, but Pride is alive in our hearts!

FIRST CHURCH NEWS

ONLINE WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY SURVEY FOR FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE We have been live-streaming worship for almost 12 weeks during this time of global pandemic, and we want to hear from you! We would love to know more about who is joining us for worship and how our programming is meeting your needs. Please fill out this google form survey if you have been to worship online or have participated in online formation activities:

<https://forms.gle/vyjifGit5S15cmbH7>

STAFFING UPDATE First Church, rejoice! Pastoral Associate Lexi Boudreau will be with us, not only through the summer as planned, but through the coming program year as well! Given Covid-19-related circumstances, she will not be doing full-time chaplaincy at MGH next year. This unexpected shift has given Lexi and us an exciting opportunity to continue our work and ministry together. Her primary areas of focus will be: 1) expanding our online ministry and worship offerings, 2) adult spiritual formation, 3) pastoral care and 4) occasional preaching and worship leadership. In August, we will also welcome new Pastoral Associate Jaz Buchanan, a third-year Harvard Divinity School student. In addition, Sarah Higginbotham and Kate Layzer will be working increased hours in the coming year—all of this while staying within, and even under, our budget. God is good!

PLANS FOR A PHASED RE-OPENING Governor Baker has announced the loosening of restrictions for houses of worship in the state of Massachusetts. The opportunity to re-open is good news; however, the continuing threat of COVID-19 obliges us to re-open thoughtfully and carefully. As a community of faith that seeks to protect the health and safety of each and every member of the body of Christ, we have decided to delay any changes to our current model of live-streamed worship until at least July. In July and August, we will experiment with inviting a small number of members to attend worship in-person to participate as lay leaders in the online worship for the wider community. This will allow us to begin to get comfortable with our health and safety protocols, so that we can carefully prepare for the time when more and more of us will be able to gather. It will also provide the opportunity for you to see more people leading our worship. Any changes we make to our current practices are dependent on public health data and COVID-19 case counts in Massachusetts. Our plans might need change to assure the safety of all. We hope that this summer will bring new ways of being together as a church and provide a time of exploration and inspiration in this season of uncertainty. It may be a while before we can all see each other again on Sunday mornings, but that remains our goal. With God's help, we'll get there when the time is right.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR STAYING CONNECTED

WEEKLY FCC PROFESSIONAL CAREGIVERS' CALL Tuesdays, 4:00 p.m., via Zoom Hospital workers, homecare workers, therapists, chaplains, doctors, nurses, caregivers and essential workers of all kinds — would it help to talk and share your experience with others at First Church? If you've been flat out and barely able to come up for air, please drop-in when you can for a time to listen, share, pray, and process. The Zoom invitation is in the all-church email that was sent this morning. If you are not receiving our e-newsletter, please sign up by clicking on the E-Newsletter icon at the bottom of our homepage to receive future correspondence. Email Lexi Boudreaux (lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org) this morning to have today's email forwarded to you.

NEW PRAYER MINISTRY In these times, we all have so many prayers on our hearts, whether they be for family, friends, co-workers, neighbors, or the world at large. As a congregation, while we can't physically be together, we can still hold one another's concerns in prayer collectively. If you are interested in receiving a weekly email with prayer requests from our church community to pray for throughout the week, please complete this google form. Please send prayer requests to Pastoral Associate Lexi Boudreaux (lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org).

ONGOING PROGRAM OFFERINGS Zoom invitations to all our week's programs are in the all-church email that was sent this morning. If you are not receiving our e-newsletter, please sign up by clicking on the E-Newsletter icon at the bottom of our homepage to receive future correspondence. Email Lexi Boudreaux (lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org) this morning to have today's email forwarded to you.

- **Mondays** FCC Kids' Prayer & Connection Call with Sarah Higginbotham, 12:00 p.m.
- **Tuesdays** Street Outreach Call with Kate Layzer, 4:00 p.m.;
FCC Professional Caregivers' Call, 4:00 p.m.
- **Thursdays** Praying the Psalms with Dan Smith & Brent Coffin, 7:15 a.m.;
FCC Kids' Prayer & Connection Call with Sarah Higginbotham, 12:00 p.m.;
Shared Reflections on Richard Rohr Daily Devotionals, 5:00 p.m.;
Weekly Bible Study, 6:00 p.m.;
First Church Choir Call with Peter Sykes, 7:45 p.m.
- **Fridays** Spiritual Practices with Lexi Boudreaux, 8:00 a.m.

FIRST CHURCH YOUTUBE CHANNEL Continue to tune into our First Church YouTube channel as we offer pre-recorded reflections and devotions. The link to the channel is:

<https://tinyurl.com/ryac3av>

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

HOW TO MAKE A BETTER FUTURE: PERSPECTIVES AMIDST A PANDEMIC

Sundays, May 17, June 14, and June 28 12:30 p.m., via Zoom

Join us for a series of hour-long Zoom sessions led by First Church members Ed Baker, Laurie Burt and Bill Hsiao. They will share stories and reflections about finding hope amidst the Covid-19 crisis and about how we can work together towards building a better society. Following a short presentation each week, there will be a brief follow-up conversation amongst Ed, Laurie and Bill, as well as a time for questions from participants on the call.



Sunday, May 17: On Public Health and Leadership

Ed Baker, former Assistant Surgeon General in the US Public Health Service and former Director of CDC's Public Health Practice Program Office, currently serves as Adjunct Professor in Health Policy and Management at UNC and Adjunct Professor of Environmental Health at Harvard Chan School. Ed is a board-certified physician and was trained in epidemiology in the CDC's Epidemic Intelligence Service (EIS) and at Harvard School of Public Health.

The first session was recorded and is available on our blog: waterinthewilderness.org.



Sunday, June 14: On Fixing Health Care

Bill Hsiao is an economist who teaches at Harvard School of Public Health and has studied health care systems for more than forty years. Besides the State of Vermont, he designed reforms of national health care systems for nine countries. Presently he serves on the Governor's Commission on Healthy Californians for All at the invitation of California Governor Gavin Newsom. He wrote an article in the January/February 2020 Foreign Affairs called *How to Fix American Health Care: What Other Countries Can—and Can't—Teach the United States*.



Sunday, June 28: On Climate Change

(Postponed from May 31)

Laurie Burt, former commissioner of the MA Department of Environmental Protection and vice chair of the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI), currently offers independent strategic advice on clean energy, climate and environmental policies to foundations, non-profits, businesses and government throughout the country. Laurie has practiced environmental law for over 30 years and serves on many boards including the Union for Concerned Scientists, CERES, and the American Repertory Theater.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

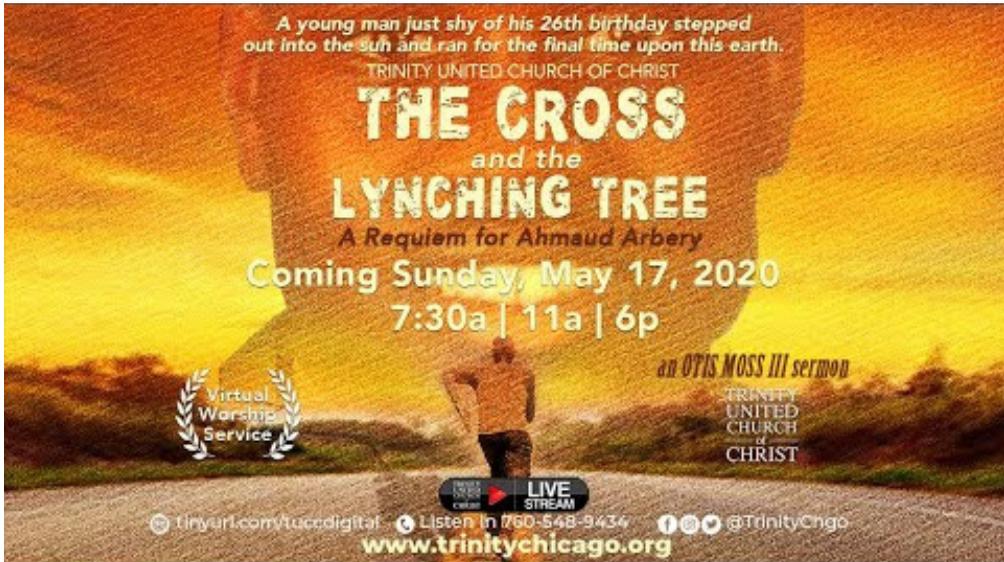
CHILDREN'S SUNDAY June 14, via livestream worship First Church will celebrate the end of the church school program year in a virtual way on Children's Sunday, June 14. The 6th and 7th graders of our Bible 101 class will pre-record their "Gospel Play," and members of the 5th grade Middler class will contribute as virtual liturgists. We will recognize our 4th grade "graduates" of Godly Play with the presentation of Bibles, honor our church school teachers for their gifts of time and talent throughout the year, and celebrate the many graduates in the congregation who have completed academic programs from high school through graduate school. There is so much to be grateful for!

BLESSING OF ALL GRADUATES OF THE CLASS OF 2020 Sunday, June 14, via livestream worship A blessing of our graduates will take place during morning worship. ***Please send photos of yourself or your graduate*** to Administrative Assistant Bruce Dillenbeck at: bdillenbeck@firstchurchcambridge.org. We will share them in a slideshow with the congregation!

ADULT FORMATION HOUR: COMPASSION THAT MOVES, Sunday, June 14, 10:00 a.m., via Zoom Join Susan Redlich for a discussion of compassion. It's easier to wring our hands and feel bad than it is actually to ACT upon our compassion for those in need. [Click here](#) to read a couple of pages and view a short, important video, then join Susan to talk about this vital aspect of our faith. The Zoom invitation will be provided via First Glance next Friday, as well as in the June 14 bulletin.

SPRING/SUMMER FAITH & LIFE GROUPS We are almost (but not quite) ready to announce a new Spring/Summer line-up of Faith & Life groups. Led by First Church members, Faith & Life Groups are designed to encourage meaningful connections through shared interests, whether exploring a spiritual practice, opening our eyes to the beauty around us, delving into a challenging social issue, or attending to significant life stages (parenting, ageing, job transitions, etc.) Faith & Life Groups involve making a short-term commitment (a single session to several weeks, depending on the group) to something that might be delightful, deep, or even transformational. At the same time, you can get to know First Church friends who share your interest. Information about topics, leaders, scheduling and sign-ups will be available soon! Questions? Looking to lead a group? Please contact Lexi Boudreaux, Pastoral Associate. Stay tuned!

UPCOMING PROGRAMS



“A REQUIEM FOR AHMAUD ARBERY” Sunday, June 21, 11:00 a.m., via live-stream worship

On May 17, Rev. Otis Moss III, of the 8,500-member Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago, offered a powerful 25-minute multimedia sermon about the recent death of Ahmaud Arbery and about our nation’s appalling history of violence against black and brown bodies. It is a profound lamentation and testimony that speaks the truth in love to the entrenched power of white supremacy. Ahmuad Arbery. Breonna Taylor. George Floyd. These names and lives join so many others who have died in acts of racial terror on lynching trees, on streets, in parks. In lieu of a traditional sermon on June 21, we will share a recording of Rev. Moss’s reflections, bearing witness together to the daily reality of violence and terror against people of color in America. A Zoom discussion will be held after the service.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS: CALL FOR PHOTOS, Sunday, June 28, 11:00 a.m., via live-stream worship

We are planning a celebration and thanksgiving for all God’s creatures great and small, especially our animal companions. Our animal friends have offered special solace to many during this time of social distancing and isolation. We also know that pet adoptions are soaring, so some may have new furry friends at home. This year we will feature photos of our pets and other animals in our online service. Please send us a photo of your pet or a favorite animal from around the world to include in a slide show. Photos should be emailed to Administrative Assistant Bruce Dillenbeck (bruce@firstchurchcambridge.org) by Monday, June, 22.

UPCOMING PROGRAMS

CALL FOR IMAGES OF CREATION FOR JUNE 28 WORSHIP How would you illustrate “God said, ‘Let there be light,’ and there was light”? Let’s illustrate the glorious story of Creation, as told in Genesis 1:1-31 and 2:1-4a. In order to be sure we illustrate the whole story, look below for your “assignment,” depending upon your name. Use whatever medium you like. Make your illustration a work of heart, not necessarily a work of art! When you have finished, label your work with the words it shows. Take a picture of your work and email it to Sarah Higginbotham. Sarah will make a slide show for us all to share. Questions? Reach out to Hilary Hopkins (hopskinsjh@verizon.net).

Last Name: Verses to illustrate (pick one or do all)

A	1:1-3
B	1:4-6
C, D	1:7-9
E, F, G	1:10-12
H	1:13-15
I, J	1:16-18
K, L	1:19-21
M, N	1:22-24
O, P	1:25-27
Q, R	1:28-30
S, T, U, V	1:31, 2:1-2
W, X, Y, Z	2:3-4a

WHAT DOES FIRST CHURCH MEAN TO YOU? Sunday, July 12, 11:30 a.m., via Zoom For many of us, this is a strange time full of uncertainty and, for some, feelings of loss and lack of connection. But this time may also encourage deeper reflection about what you want First Church to be for you and what you might want to offer First Church as we move into a new way of being community. Your Gifts Discernment Committee would like to invite you to an on-line conversation about these issues. We’re eager to hear from you if you are a relatively new member. We also want to share the perspectives of more long-time members. Stay tuned for details, including the Zoom invitation. Questions? Please contact Dave Kidder (David.e.kidder@gmail.com, 617-276-6282). We look forward to talking with you.

WAYS TO SUPPORT OUR WIDER COMMUNITY

FOOD INSECURITY IS RISING Leave your food pantry donations in the box on Hilary's front porch at 30 Winslow St., Cambridge, any time between now and June 12. Hilary is .75 mile from First Church, just off Sherman St. where it diverges from Garden St. She will see that your donations are delivered on the second Saturday of the month, which is when the pantry is open.

NEEDED: cereal, canned fruit and veggies, proteins, pasta and sauce; also feminine products (pads, tampons). No fresh food. Please be sure your contributions are unopened, unexpired, and not in glass containers. Thank you for your generous donations!

VOLUNTEER TO BAKE SOME GOODIES FOR OUR EVENING MEAL PROGRAM First Church is now serving 500 meals a week to help feed hungry neighbors! If you would like to make a few dozen sweet treats to hand out at one of our evening meals on Monday, Wednesday, Saturday, or Sunday, please visit <https://signup.com/go/DCsUUei> to sign up. Treats can be dropped off at the Tower Room door at 4:30 on any of those nights. Thank you!

VOLUNTEERS SOUGHT TO ASSIST BIJAN The Boston Immigration Justice Accompaniment Network (BIJAN) supports people in and coming out of immigration detention in Massachusetts by working to find legal support, bond funds and post detention support. Currently, BIJAN is keeping in touch with local families who have reached out for support as they face challenges of unemployment, bills that are difficult to pay and questions about healthcare. BIJAN is looking for more people to act as support to help connect folks to mutual aid resources given that many immigrant families in our community do not have access to recovery funds from the government. Spanish language skills are ideal but not required. If you would like to be a part of this effort, please contact Rachie Lewis (rachielew@gmail.com). Rachie is a member of Cambridge Minyan, one of the founding member congregations of the Cambridge Interfaith Sanctuary Coalition (CISC).

SUGGESTED WAYS TO DONATE FROM THE MISSIONS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE

Looking for ways to support our community during this unprecedented time of need? The Missions and Social Justice Committee has compiled and vetted a short list of organizations looking for assistance to aid in their work in the COVID-19 response - locally, regionally, and internationally. Please go to: <https://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/news/ways-to-help>.

Poor People's Campaign

A NATIONAL CALL for MORAL REVIVAL

MASS POOR PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY & MORAL MARCH ON WASHINGTON IS GOING DIGITAL

On **June 20th**, we will hold the largest **digital and social media gathering** of poor and low wealth people, moral and religious leaders, advocates, and people of conscience in this nation's history. A global pandemic is exposing even more the already existing crisis of systemic racism, poverty, ecological devastation, the war economy and militarism, and the distorted moral narrative of religious nationalism. **On June 20, the 140 million poor and low-wealth people across this nation will be heard!**

**REPAIRERS
OF THE BREACH**

KAÏROS
RELIGIOUS, RIGHTS,
AND SOCIAL JUSTICE

**IN THE MIDST OF CHANGING TIMES,
OUR MOVEMENT CONTINUES...**

...because we won't be silent anymore.

...because everybody has a right to live.

...because poor and low wealth people will suffer most in this crisis.

*...because our demands must remain front
and center in this critical election year.*



Twitter: @UniteThePoor

Facebook: @anewppc

Website: poorpeoplescampaign.org



[REGISTER FOR](#)
[THE JUNE 20 DIGITAL MOBILIZATION](#)
[HERE.](#)

**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:



The Solemnity of Pentecost (High Mass), St. John Cantius, Chicago:

The priests and brothers at this Catholic parish are a religious community that lives together as a family. The musicians are located in a separate area of the church. Members of the congregation are still not allowed to attend mass but currently may enter the church during the week to pray. If you've been listening to this mass weekly you may have noticed that during the Easter season the chant Vidi Aquam has been sung at the beginning of the mass during aspersion, the dispensation of holy water by sprinkling. This past Sunday there were evidently parishioners standing outside the entrance to the church, and you will see the priest walking to the doorway during the singing of the Vidi Aquam chant to include them in the aspersion rite. You will hear Gregorian chant propers and a choral mass setting accompanied by organ.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QsjrojmaL5k>

Pentecost Sunday Vespers: Antiphon "Hodie completi sunt dies"

Schola Cantorum of Amsterdam Students

<https://m.youtube.com/watch?v=NkpKcckpJj0>

Compline on the Day of Pentecost, St. Mark's Cathedral, Seattle

You will hear hymns to the Holy Spirit, a striking choral setting of Psalm 104, and a motet by Thomas Tallis sung by four men in the resonant space of St. Mark's Cathedral. The opening prayer is very powerful, obviously meant to address the current situation in America regarding the death of George Floyd in Minneapolis and the protests being staged daily. This meditative choral service is a Seattle tradition. Before the pandemic hundreds attended, and sometimes following there was an organ recital that people stayed to enjoy. Thousands still listen weekly to it broadcast on a local FM station.

<https://saintmarks.org/2020/05/compline-on-the-day-of-pentecost-whitsunday-2020/>

LOOKING AHEAD

Sunday, June 7

- 11:00 a.m. Live Streamed Morning Worship, Holy Communion, Carlyle Stewart preaching
- 12:15 p.m. Zoom Coffee Hour - A Farewell to Carlyle Stewart
- 5:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

Monday, June 8

- 12:00 p.m. FCC Kids' Prayer & Connection Call with Sarah Higginbotham
- 2:30 p.m. Beloved Community, via Zoom
- 5:00 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Council, via Zoom

Tuesday, June 9

- 4:00 p.m. Street Outreach Call with Kate Layzer, via Zoom
- 4:00 p.m. FCC Professional Caregivers Call, via Zoom

Wednesday, June 10

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, via Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room
- 7:00 p.m. Christian Formation Committee, via Zoom

Thursday, June 11

- 7:30 a.m. Praying the Psalms, via Zoom
- 12:00 p.m. FCC Kids' Prayer & Connection Call with Sarah Higginbotham
- 4:30 p.m. Shared Reflections on Richard Rohr Daily Devotionals, via Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Bible Study, via Zoom
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Call, via Zoom

Friday, June 12

- 8:00 a.m. Spiritual Practices with Lexi Boudreaux, via Zoom
- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café lunch bag pickup, Tower Room
- 3:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee, via Zoom

Saturday, June 13

- 5:30 p.m. Meal Distribution, Tower Room

Sunday, June 14

- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation for Adults, via Zoom
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Children's Sunday, Bible 101 Gospel Play, Celebration of Graduates
- 12:30 p.m. "How to Make a Better Future" session, via Zoom

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

***If you are not receiving our e-newsletter, please sign up
by clicking on the E-Newsletter icon at the bottom of our homepage
to receive future correspondence.***

***Email Lexi Boudreaux (lexi@firstchurchcambridge.org) this morning
to have today's email forwarded to you.***

THE STAFF AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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Would you like to give to
First Church in Cambridge?
Here are easy ways to do it:



Text \$ __ to 1-844-996-0982



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