



Season of Regathering
October 16, 2022

**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

We're glad you are worshiping with us today! First Church is a vibrant, multi-generational, engaged, urban church. We care a lot about each other and what's happening in the world around us. Wherever you are on the journey of faith, you are welcome here.

October 16, 2022

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

Leading Worship

Lexi Boudreaux, *Transitional Minister*
Jaz Buchanan, *Pastoral Associate*
Carla Carbajal, *Ministerial Intern*
Ahmaad Edmund, *Ministerial Intern*
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*
Susie Neubauer, *liturgist*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*

Bulletin Cover Image Freddie Funck, *First Church youth*

Today's Programs and Events

9:30 a.m. Adult Formation: Where Are We Now?, Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)
10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
10:15 a.m. Coffee and Conversation, Hastings Common
11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
11:20 a.m. Church School: Godly Play and Bible 101 Classes
12:00 p.m. Refreshments in Margaret Jewett Hall and [Zoom](#) Coffee Hour
12:00 p.m. Newcomers Meet and Greet, MJH
12:15 p.m. Green Faith Forum, Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)
1:30 p.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 7/8th graders, Old South Church
1:30 p.m. Confirmation Class for 9/10th graders, Harter Room
7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)

New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for worship? Consider filling out a visitor card found on the small clipboard in the pews or this "[virtual visitor card](#)" so that we might reach out and connect with you about our community.

Give to First Church

You can give online: www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give or by texting "\$_" to: 1-844-996-0982.

Contact a Pastor or Staff Member

Find [contact information](#) for our ministerial, program, and building staff on our website. For general information and inquiries: info@firstchurchcambridge.org

Have a church program or event to promote?
Complete the [First Church Communications Request](#) form.

Have an edit or update for our website? Complete the [FCC Website Changes](#) form

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY

Kyrie

J. S. Bach

***HYMN 250**

Here in This Place (Gather Us In)

***GREETING**

Susie Neubauer

L: Siblings in the Spirit, come in, and know the goodness of God's love!

C: Enter into this sanctuary of rest and healing.

L: Come in, and know this community of justice and joy.

**C: Come in, and hear stories of hope and challenge;
drink of God's beauty and mercy!**

L: Friends, gather and regather, from near and far,
enter anew into this space of wonder and grace,

All: and let us give our hearts to God's praise!

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

God of Mercy, God of Grace

Jerry Davidson

*God of mercy, God of grace, show the mercy of Thy face;
shine upon us, Savior, shine, fill Thy church with light divine,
and Thy saving health extend, until earth's remotest end.
Let thy people praise Thee, Lord, be by all that live adored;
let the nations shout and sing "Glory to their Savior King!"
Let all be below, above, one in joy, and light, and love.*

CONFESSION

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SUNG PRAYER

**Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true.
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
sanctuary for you!**
(sing twice through)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

**You are invited to stand. Hymns preceded by a "C" are found in the beginning section of the hymnal. This section contains hymns written and composed by current and past members of First Church in Cambridge.*

GREETING OF PEACE

Children up through 6th grade are now invited to Church School classes. Godly Play (PreK-4th grade) and Bible 101 (5/6th grade) students can meet their teachers at the side door by the Children's Book Corner. Caregivers can find the children in the Chapel after worship.

***HYMN 340**

Peace Before Us

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Jaz Buchanan

READING

Psalms 121

READING

Luke 18:1-8

Lexi Boudreaux

A TIME FOR HEALING

REFLECTION AND INVITATION

BLESSING OF OIL AND HANDS

Carla Carbajal

HYMNS

- 396** Strong, Gentle Children
- 393** Out of the Depths, O God, We Call
- 395** We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness

CONCLUDING PRAYER

Ahmaad Edmund

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 OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jaz Buchanan

OPENING HYMN

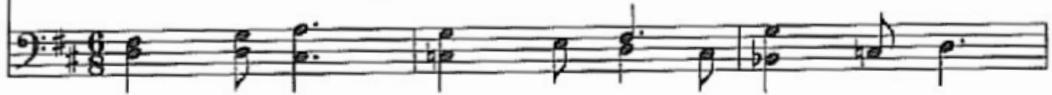
250

Here in This Place
(Gather Us In)

Unison



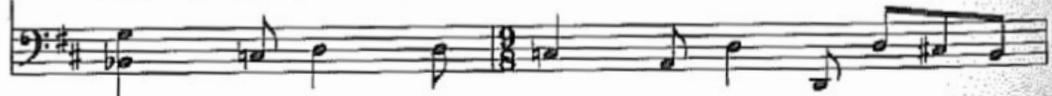
1. Here in this place, the new light is stream-ing, now the dark night has
2. We are the young- our lives are a mys-tery; we are the old, who
3. Here we re-ceive new life in your wa-ters; here we re-ceive the
4. Not just in build-ings, small and con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,



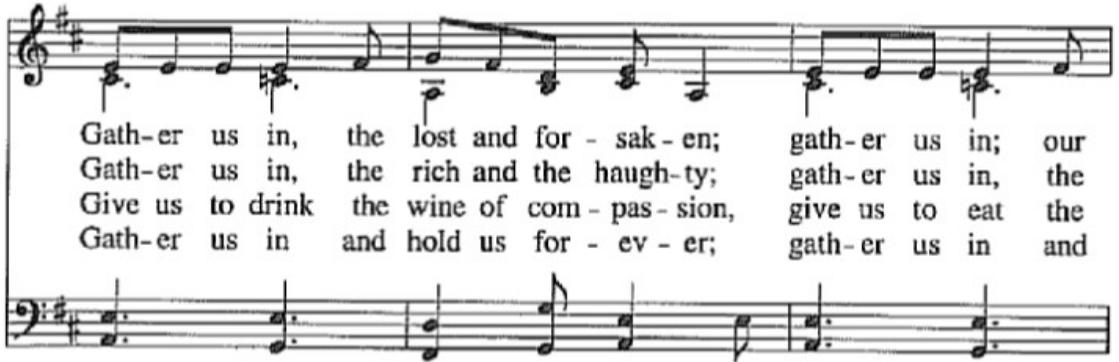
van-ished a-way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,
yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
bread of new birth; here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
light years a-way, here in this place the new light is shin-ing;



brought here to you in the light of this day.
called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
now is God pres-ent, and now is the day.



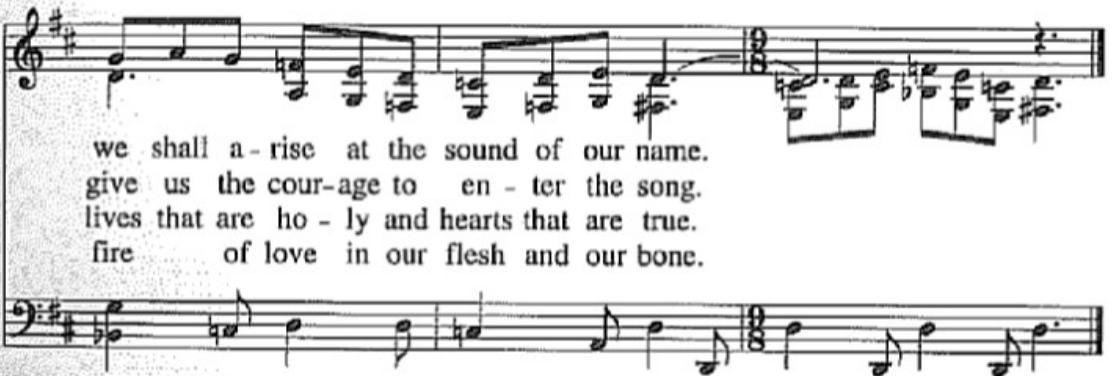
OPENING HYMN



Gath-er us in, the lost and for - sak - en; gath-er us in; our
Gath-er us in, the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in, the
Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
Gath-er us in and hold us for - ev - er; gath-er us in and



spir - its in - flame. Call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en;
proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low - ly;
bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,



we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

340

Peace Before Us



1. Peace be - fore us, peace be - hind us, peace be - neath our feet.
2. Love be - fore us, love be - hind us, love be - neath our feet.
3. Light be - fore us, light be - hind us, light be - neath our feet.
4. Christ be - fore us, Christ be - hind us, Christ be - neath our feet.



Additional verses: joy, truth, hope.

WORDS: David Haas, (b.1957), alt., based on a Navaho prayer
 MUSIC: David Haas, (b.1957); harm. FCC, 1997

PRAYER FOR PEACE
 445.447

Words, music © 1987 GIA Publications, Inc.
 Harm. © 1998 FCC Houston TX



- Peace with - in us, peace a - bove us, let all a - round us be peace.
 Love with - in us, love a - bove us, let all a - round us be love.
 Light with - in us, light a - bove us, let all a - round us be light.
 Christ with - in us, Christ a - bove us, let all a - round us be Christ.



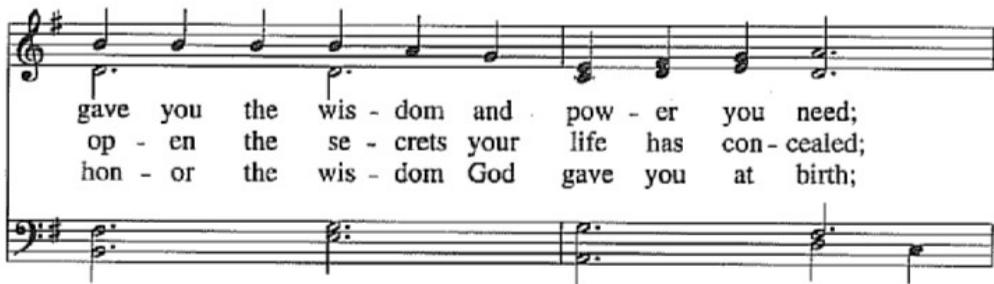
Strong, Gentle Children

396

Unison



1. Strong, gen - tle chil - dren, God made you beau - ti - ful,
 2. Strong, hurt - ing chil - dren, an - gry and ter - ri - fied,
 3. Strong, know - ing chil - dren, ut - ter your cry a - loud,



gave you the wis - dom and pow - er you need;
 op - en the se - crets your life has con - cealed;
 hon - or the wis - dom God gave you at birth;



speak in the still - ness all you are long - ing for;
 though you are wound - ed, know you are not to blame;
 speak to your el - ders till they have heard your voice;



live out your call - ing to love and to lead.
 cry out your sto - ry till truth is re - vealed.
 sing out your vi - sion of heal - ing on earth.

HEALING HYMN

393

Out of the Depths, O God, We Call

Unison

1. Out of the depths, O God, we call to you.
 2. Out of the depths of fear, O God, we speak.
 3. God of the lov - ing heart, we praise your name.

*Wounds of the past re - main, af - fect - ing all we do.
 Break - ing the si - lenc - es, the sear - ing truth we seek.
 Dance through our lives and loves; a - noint with Spir - it flame.

Fac - ing our lives, we need your love so much.
 Safe a - mong friends, our grief and rage we share.
 Your light il - lu - mines each fa - mil - iar face.

Here in this com - mu - ni - ty, heal us by your touch.
 Here in this com - mu - ni - ty, hold us in your care.
 Here in this com - mu - ni - ty, _____ meet us with your grace.

HEALING HYMN

395 We Yearn, O Christ, for Wholeness

1. We yearn, O Christ, for whole - ness and for your heal - ing touch;
 2. We long to have com - pan - ions who trav - el by our side,
 3. We need your liv - ing pres - ence, O Christ of Gal - i - lee,

too long have we felt help - less; our bur - dens seemed too much.
 strong friends to call and an - swer with whom we are al - lied;
 a pres - ence that re - vives us and sets our spir - its free.

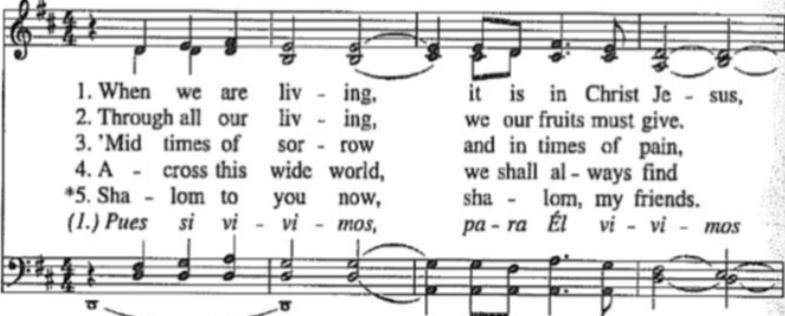
For - get - ting all pre - tens - es we make our plead - ings heard,
 as we lift up each oth - er when strug - gles lay us low,
 No long - er are we fear - ful, your love per - vades each place.

in hope and ex - pec - ta - tion a - wait your gra - cious word.
 com - mu - ni - ty will flour - ish; our faith and car - ing grow.
 Em - pow - er us with cour - age to claim your heal - ing grace.

CLOSING HYMN

415

When We Are Living
(Pues Si Vivimos)



1. When we are liv - ing, it is in Christ Je - sus,
 2. Through all our liv - ing, we our fruits must give.
 3. 'Mid times of sor - row and in times of pain,
 4. A - cross this wide world, we shall al - ways find
 *5. Sha - lom to you now, sha - lom, my friends.
 (1.) *Pues si vi - vi - mos,* *pa - ra Él vi - vi - mos*



and when we're dy - ing, it is in the Lord.
 Good works of ser - vice are for of - fer - ing.
 when sens - ing beau - ty or in love's em - brace,
 those who are cry - ing with no peace of mind,
 May God's full mer - cies bless you, my friends,
y si mo - ri - mos pa - ra Él mo - ri - mos.



Both in our liv - ing and in our dy - ing,
 When we are giv - ing, or when re - ceiv - ing,
 wheth - er we suf - fer, or sing re - joic - ing,
 but when we help them, or when we feed them,
 in all your liv - ing, and through your lov - ing,
Sea que vi - va - mos o que mu - ra - mos,

Refrain



(1-4.) we be - long to God, we be - long to God.
 (5.) Christ be your sha - lom, Christ be your sha - lom.
 (1.) *so - mos del Se - ñor,* *so - mos del Se - ñor.*

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

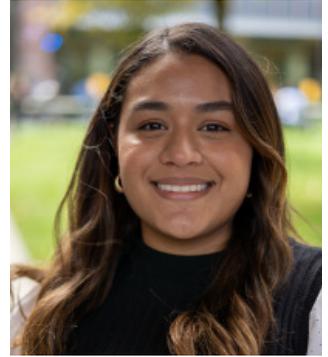
- We pray for healing and strength for Ann Riker’s brother Lyman Morrill, who is being tested and treated for a new area of cancer after surviving previous occurrences with treatment.
- We pray for First Church Sexton Kimel Williams’s wife Robin, who will be undergoing breast cancer surgery next week.
- We pray for Alice Kidder, who is facing ongoing health challenges.
- We pray for First Church Shelter staff, guests, and family members who are grieving the loss of Shelter guest George McKenna, who died unexpectedly in Harvard Square recently.
- We pray for all who are in treatment for cancer: Anita Anger; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones’s mother; Penny Kilburn, Nancy Kilburn’s mother; Karen Anne Zee’s daughter Becky Collet, and her sons-in-law, Denis Collet and Stewart Bailey; Beth and Polly, Ann McCann’s sisters; and friend of Homeless Ministries Brian O’Donovan.
- We pray for all those grieving the loss of life and the destruction caused by Hurricane Ian, as well as for the people of Puerto Rico as they continue to recover from Hurricane Fiona.
- We pray for all impacted by the recent shooting at a child care center in northeastern Thailand, where more than 30 people, including at least 20 children, were killed.
- We pray for the people of Haiti, where water, food, and fuel shortages are leading to widespread protests, violence, and civil unrest.
- We pray for the people of Iran, especially women, as anti-government protests continue, sparked by the death of Mahsa Amini, a 22-year-old Kurdish Iranian woman who was arrested by the Guidance Patrol because of an “improper hijab.”
- We pray for the people of Pakistan, where recent devastating flooding has led to widespread loss of housing, food, and safe living conditions.
- We pray for the residents of Jackson, MS, who are experiencing a catastrophic water emergency stemming from years of neglect rooted in systemic racism.
- We pray for those experiencing the loss of vital reproductive rights across the nation, and all those who care about them, especially as threats of a national abortion ban loom.
- We pray for the people of Ukraine as they experience increased attacks in an ongoing war.
- We pray for all who are affected by COVID-19, especially as case counts rise in our area.
- We pray for the 14 men who are finding sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter, and we pray for the guests of the Friday Café, who are finding food and listening ears. We pray for all who are experiencing deprivation and hardship in these uncertain times.

[Join the First Church List](#) to see and offer up more community prayer requests.

MEET OUR MINISTERIAL INTERNS

Meet Ministerial Intern Carla Arevalo Carbajal

Carla is an international student from Tegucigalpa, Honduras, and identifies as a mestiza. She earned her Bachelor of Arts in Religious Studies with a minor in Pastoral Ministry from Trevecca Nazarene University in Nashville, Tennessee. Carla is completing her Master's Degree in Divinity at Harvard Divinity School and is passionate about liberation theology, decolonial theory, and community life. Her biggest motivations are her family and friends that have supported her with so much love and care throughout her journey. Carla's favorite place is her home at Christmas; she also loves coffee, ice-cream, and plantains. Often, Carla describes her life in ministry as a journey into discovering all the beautiful and magical worlds within Christianity, constantly referring to one of her favorite magical worlds in *The Lord of The Rings*. She is truly honored and excited to start this new part of her journey at First Church in Cambridge.



Meet Ministerial Intern Ahmaad Jahi Edmund

Ahmaad is a Master of Divinity student from Louisville, Kentucky. He earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science with a minor in Leadership Studies from Hampton University in Hampton, Virginia. Ahmaad's passions include Black liberation theology, racial justice and healing, and community empowerment. He loves coffee, bowling, biking along the Charles River, and spending time with his grandparents during school breaks. Ahmaad describes his life in ministry as an opportunity to make positive deposits of love, justice, and healing in our world. He is truly honored to begin serving at First Church in Cambridge.



In Memoriam

A memorial service for longtime, beloved First Church member Pauline Fennel will take place on All Saints Sunday, November 6, at 2:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary and via livestream with a reception to follow. Pauline died on Tuesday, September 13, 2022, following a year-long struggle with cancer.

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH



Where Are We Now? Perspectives on the American Church Today 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

Behind all of the headlines about religion in the United States and all of the threats of polarization and evidence of dwindling church membership, there are deeper stories to tell.

Picking up from our summer read of Bill McKibben's memoir,

The Flag, the Cross and the Station Wagon, we will look at the big picture of what researchers have learned about the strengths and weaknesses of American church life and what they've concluded about the future of mainline Protestantism. We will think together about what it all means for First Church and how we relate to that bigger story. First Church Deacon Peggy Bendroth will lead our exploration and discussion. Peggy is the former director of the Congregational Library and Archives, and a historian of American religion with an abiding interest in all of this—past, present, and future.

Today is a Healing Sunday

In Morning Worship, we have an opportunity to reflect together on God's healing peace and to participate in a simple healing ritual involving a brief prayer, laying on of hands, and—for those who wish—anointing with oil, an ancient Christian practice now being revived across the ecumenical spectrum of churches. At the time of the sermon, we offer instead a brief introduction to the ritual and then invite forward all who would like to participate. For those who prefer to remain seated, there will be music and a time of silence for individual prayers.



Coffee Hour with Meet and Greet, MJH and [Zoom Coffee Hour](#)

Today at 12:00 p.m.

Join us in person or online for social connection and the making of new friends. We'll host a Newcomers Meet and Greet in MJH during Coffee Hour; be sure to put on a nametag and introduce yourself to someone new!



TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH

Green Faith Forum

Today, 12:15 - 1:00 p.m.

Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

Join First Church's Earth Stewardship group after worship, either in person or virtually, as we share local green initiatives and resources like Third Act and 350 Mass. We will begin discerning together how First Church can help support green justice work in our neighborhoods.



Youth Programs at First Church



Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 7/8th Graders
Today, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m.

Old South Church, Boston

7th and 8th graders meet for OWL, a comprehensive sexuality education curriculum produced by the United Church of Christ and the Unitarian Universalist Association.

Confirmation Class for 9/10th graders

Today, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m., Harter Room

Our Confirmands meet today for a session entitled "Creation Meets Evolution."

Night Song

Sundays, 7:30 - 8:15 p.m., Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)

Night Song is a worship opportunity that offers stillness and sublime music in a darkened sanctuary for respite and reset...

[Read more about Night Song.](#)



Invitation to Contribute to Coffee Hour

Please help us make worship as delicious as it is spiritually sustaining! For Coffee Hour each week, we are looking for 2-4 households to bring 3 dozen cookies each, or the equivalent of snacks, such as cheese & crackers or fruit. In general, the church has a "No Nuts" policy; a brief list of relevant ingredients for those with allergies would be appreciated. Please leave food donations on the kitchen island. Thank you for providing sustenance for our gathered community!

FALL AT FIRST CHURCH



Rev. James Ross, Guest Preacher

Next Sunday, October 23

We are so pleased to welcome Rev. James Ross as our guest preacher in Morning Hybrid Worship on October 23. James currently serves as the Minister for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for the Southern New England Conference UCC. He is also a First Church member, having recently joined in November 2021. James lived most recently in St. Louis, where he was Pastor at Pilgrim

Congregational United Church of Christ. He previously lived and served congregations in Washington, D.C. A former journalist, James also worked in organizational and political communications, and as an advocate for sentencing reform and racial, economic, and queer justice. We are thrilled that James will be leading us and breaking open God's holy word for us!

Church Staffing and Finance Forum **Sunday, October 23, 12:15 - 1:30 p.m.**

Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

Join church leaders for an important after-worship conversation about our church's finances and future staffing plans. Given Covid, we're just now coming through a highly unusual stretch, in terms of our demands and opportunities related to our staff and budget. We are now needing a clear-eyed assessment and realignment of where we are and where we are going in our ministry. We welcome, need, and value your input and insight in this moment of challenge and opportunity!



Youth Group:

Scary Movie and Caramel Apple-Making - Bring a friend!
October 23, 1:30 - 3:00 p.m., Harter Room

Bring a friend to join the Youth Group to watch a Halloween movie while decorating caramel apples! Bringing other projects to work on while watching the movie together is welcome.

FALL AT FIRST CHURCH

Young Adults Night at the Parsonage Wednesday, October 26, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m. 44 Garden St., Cambridge

First Church is home to a small community of 20- and 30-somethings, some who are settling into their longtime church home, some who're here for a season or a semester. Whether you're looking for some spiritual connection, or just some new friends, the Young Adults group is a good place to start. We gather for fellowship a couple times each month, and folks are encouraged to drop in as able. Join us on 10/26 when we'll get to know each other at the home of Senior Minister Dan Smith. Snacks and beverages provided, just bring yourself!



An Invitation to Covenant Dinner Saturday, October 29, 6:00 p.m. Home of Bill Hsiao, Cambridge

Would you like to reconnect with old friends, meet new friends and fellow congregants, and take a moment to reflect on what it means to be part of the church community? Would you like to share conversation, food, and drink with interesting people over a potluck dinner? Winnie Yip of the Stewardship Committee invites you to a Covenant Dinner, hosted at the

home of Bill Hsiao in Cambridge. Please RSVP to Winnie at: wyip@hsph.harvard.edu. We look forward to breaking bread together!

Interested in Joining First Church on Sunday, October 30?

Have you been thinking about exploring membership at First Church in Cambridge? Do you have a growing sense that First Church is where you belong?

Membership at First Church involves joining the church through covenantal promises to be an active member of our community of faith and gives you the opportunity to vote at congregational meetings. If you would like to join the church during Sunday Morning Worship on October 30, ***the deadline for submitting your information and an introductory bio to be put in the bulletin is next Sunday, October 23.*** New Member Registration form here: <https://forms.gle/hT8NjrEPqpyDk19>



FALL AT FIRST CHURCH



Celebration of Longtime Members Joining Sunday, October 30

In Hybrid Morning Worship on Sunday, October 30, we will welcome new members to our covenant community and recognize those who have been members for many decades! Join us for this special celebration that will feature new friends and those who have been in covenant and worshiping with us for 50, 60, and even 70-plus years (can you guess who they are?). We have some ideas, but if you know you joined First Church before 1982, please be in touch with Dan Smith. What a gift it will be to give thanks to God for guiding our community from generation to generation, from strength to strength!

First Church Shelter presents the 2022 Doris Beauvais Luncheon & Mitch Snyder Awards Sunday, October 30, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m. Margaret Jewett Hall

The Shelter Oversight Committee hopes you will make time to attend this year's Doris Beauvais Luncheon on Sunday, October 30, at 12:30 p.m. in Margaret Jewett Hall. The event commemorates and recommends the leadership and example of the late Doris Beauvais, a First Church member who, 35 years ago, played a crucial role in the First

Church community's decision to open and support a shelter for homeless adults. The luncheon will be free; donations to support First Church Homeless Ministries will be gratefully accepted.

The 2022 Mitch Snyder Awards will also be presented. This year's recipients include:

- Chris Alba, *Substance Use Initiative, Revere*
- Kim Powers, *Access Hope*
- Mary Wheeler, *Healthy Streets, Lynn*
- Joe Freitas, *First Church Shelter*
- Nikki Bell, *Living in Freedom Together, Worcester*

First Church Shelter
presents

The 2022
Doris Beauvais
Luncheon &
Mitch Snyder
Awards

Sunday, October 30
12:30 - 2:00 p.m.



Emergency Appeal for UCC Hurricanes 2022 Fund

The 2022 hurricane season started slowly – until, in the space of 10 days, two catastrophic storms slammed Florida, Puerto Rico, Cuba, Bermuda and even Canada. The United Church of Christ has launched an emergency appeal to help with response and recovery. The UCC “Hurricanes 2022” appeal will be used to help those impacted by Hurricanes Ian and Fiona – and storms still to come.

[Please consider giving generously by clicking here.](#) If you prefer, you may mail a check payable to the United Church of Christ, PO BOX 71957 Cleveland, OH 44194. Please be sure to note “Hurricanes 2022 Fund” in the memo section.

Investing for Racial Equity

[The UCC Cornerstone Fund](#) is offering a Racial Equity Bonus Fund that asks the investor to give back at least 10% of their earnings from a 5-year certificate of deposit fund to a nonprofit organization of the investor’s choice that addresses racial inequality. Included in the national listings are Black colleges affiliated with the UCC. [Learn more here.](#)



Learn more about the work and ministries of our national denomination, the [United Church of Christ](#), and our regional conference, the [Southern New England Conference of the UCC](#).

LOOKING AHEAD TO NOVEMBER

Adult Formation: The Doctrine of Discovery Sundays, November 13 & 20, 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Harter Room and [via Zoom](#)

The Christian Formation Committee invites you to a two-part series on the Doctrine of Discovery.

November 13: Session 1

What exactly is the “Doctrine of Discovery?”

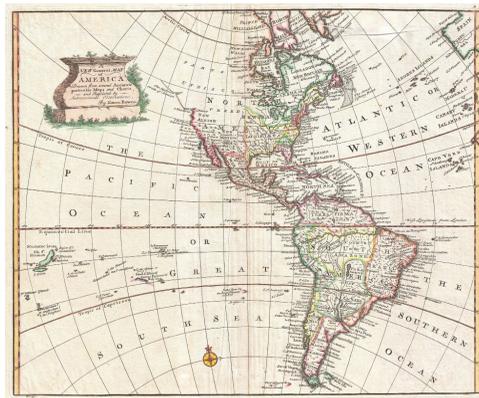
Did you ever hear of Johnson v. McIntosh?

What is “Manifest Destiny?”

How did, and how do, these rulings affect Native Americans? We’ll view a TED talk by a powerful American Indian speaker and explore some issues it raises.

November 20: Session 2

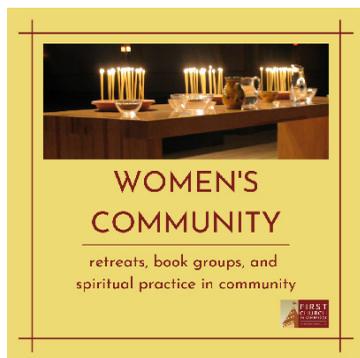
We’ll talk religion. How might our theology blind us to American Indian spiritual identity? The Promised Land: promised to whom by whom? How can the church support a new sense of God’s mission among American Indian Christians? We’ll view a video prepared by the Episcopal church, which was the first denomination to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery.



Women’s Community Book Club

Tuesday, November 15, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m., via Zoom

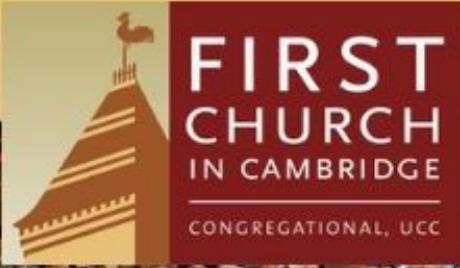
All First Church people who identify as women are invited to join us for a discussion of *The Sentence* by Louise Erdrich. We promise to have a thoughtful and lively discussion of Erdrich’s newest novel. If you have trouble finding the book, let us know, and we will do our best to find one for you.



Do you want to follow the hyperlinks, but you’re holding a paper bulletin in your hand?

Use your phone’s camera to hover over the QR code to the right marked “scan me;” this will take you to the Members & Friends page of our website, where you’ll find the bulletin online, as well as links to news, events, and more.





THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, October 17

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Gathering, via Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Deacons' Meeting, via Zoom

Tuesday, October 18

- 7:15 a.m. Reflective Conversations with Brent Coffin, via Zoom
- 10:30 a.m. Communications Team Meeting, Harter Room
- 3:00 p.m. Aging with Grace Group, Harter Room and via Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. Faith & Life Group: Metaphors for God, via Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. Shelter Oversight Committee, via Zoom
- 8:00 p.m. Faith & Life Group: Prophetic Voices of the 20th Century, via Zoom

Wednesday, October 19

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room and via Zoom
- 7:30 p.m. Missions and Social Justice, via Zoom

Thursday, October 20

- 10:00 a.m. Faith & Life Group: Fall Revelations, Harter Room
- 5:00 p.m. Stewardship Committee, via Zoom
- 5:30 p.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room
- 6:00 p.m. Drop-in Bible Study, via Zoom

Friday, October 21

- 9:30 a.m. Friday Café food dropoff, Tower Room
- 12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Tower Room and Lawn

Saturday, October 22

- 9:00 a.m. Buildings & Grounds Work Party, Sanctuary

See our [Events Calendar](#) for
Zoom links and details.

Sign up [here](#) to receive our
weekly e-newsletter.

THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Sunday, October 23

- 10:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, MJH
- 10:15 a.m. Coffee and Conversation, Hastings Common
- 11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Rev. James Ross, preaching Sanctuary and via livestream
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Godly Play and Bible 101 Classes
- 12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour in MJH and via Zoom
- 12:15 p.m. Church Staffing and Finance Forum, Harter Room and via Zoom
- 1:30 p.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 7/8th graders, Old South Church
- 1:30 p.m. Youth Group: Scary Movie and Caramel Apple-Making, Harter Room
- 7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

See our [Events Calendar](#) for Zoom links and details.

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First Church in Cambridge, Congregational, UCC
11 Garden St. • Cambridge, MA 02138

617-547-2724 • info@firstchurchcambridge.org • www.firstchurchcambridge.org

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