



Lent
March 9, 2025

**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.

FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE
CONGREGATIONAL

389 YEARS
ON THE WAY

1636 – 2025

March 9, 2025

Liturgist

Preaching Today

Leading Worship

Dave Kidder

Emma Mitchell, *Pastoral Associate*

Lisa DiNardo, Will Erickson, Beth Spaulding, Mary Martha Thiel,
and Linda Ziebell, *Deacons*

Kate Layzer, *Minister of Street Outreach*

Lee Prouty, *Facilities Manager*

Mike Solberg, *Interim Senior Minister*

Peter Sykes, *Music Director*

Bulletin Cover Image photography by Audrey Bellinger

Today's Programs and Events

- | | |
|------------|--|
| 9:15 a.m. | Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary |
| 9:30 a.m. | Young Adults: Newcomers Breakfast, Flour Bakery + Café |
| 10:00 a.m. | Lenten Formation: Connecting with Truth Tellers,
Harter Room & via Zoom |
| 11:00 a.m. | Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream |
| 11:20 a.m. | Church School: Godly Play & Bible 101 classes, Library & The Well |
| 11:45 a.m. | Bible 101 class departs for field trip to SSJE |
| 12:15 p.m. | Refreshments in Hastings Common |
| 12:30 p.m. | Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 7/8th graders, The Well |
| 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 clipboards or this "[virtual visitor card](#)" so that we might connect with you about our community.

Give to First Church

You can give electronically by using the QR code in the bulletin or explore more options for giving at: www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give

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

"Always, always connect with people.

Please say what you have in your heart, and we will learn from each other."

- Deqa Dhalac, truth teller featured
in the *Americans Who Tell the Truth* project

VOLUNTARY

Contrapunctus I (Art of Fugue)

J. S. Bach

*HYMN C-23

Come, All You Thirsty

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Beth Spaulding

- L: Sisters, brothers, siblings, come,
you who thirst for wellsprings in the wilderness,
C Come, you who long for healing and wholeness!
L: Beloved, come, you who yearn for a deeper life and a fairer world.
C: Come and find this courage through the Spirit's call
L: to the truth that sets us free,
to love deep as an aquifer and wide as the sea!
C: Come now, draw near to God with thanks and praise!

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Kyrie from Messe "aux chapelles"

Charles Gounod

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

SUNG PRAYER OF CONFESSION

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

- L: The peace of Christ
be with you!
C: And also with you!

O Lord, Hear My Prayer

199

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer, when I call an - swer me. O Lord, hear my prayer. O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and lis - ten to me." The score ends with a double bar line.

WORDS: from Psalm 102:1,2
MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1982

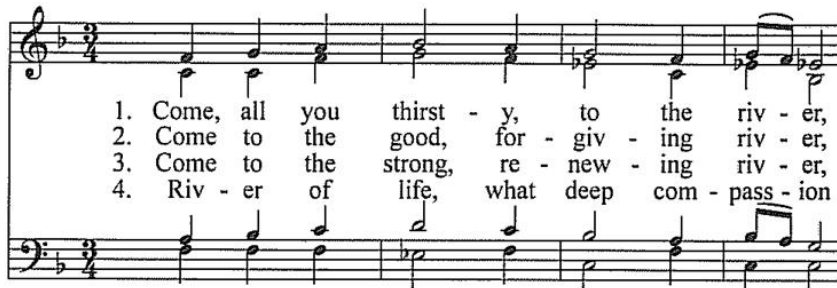
PRAYER
556.556
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**You are invited to stand. Hymns preceded by a "C" are found in the beginning section of the hymnal. This section contains hymns written and composed by current and past members of First Church in Cambridge.*

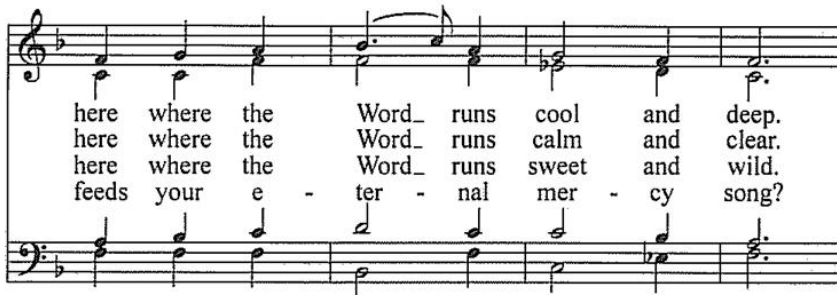
OPENING HYMN

Come, All You Thirsty

C-23



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 - fleg - 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

380

We Are Not Our Own

Unison

1. We are not our own. Earth forms us, hu - man
 2. We are not a - lone. Earth names us: past and
 3. Through a hu - man life God finds us; dy - ing,
 4. There - fore let us make thanks - giv - ing, and with
 5. And if love's en - coun - ters lead us on a
 6. Let us be a house of wel - come, liv - ing

leaves on na - ture's grow - ing vine, fruit of man - y
 2. pre - sent, peo - ples near and far, fam - i - ly and
 liv - ing, love is ful - ly known, and in bread and
 4. jus - tice, will - ing and a - ware, give to earth, and
 way un - cer - tain and un - known, all the saints with
 6. stone up - hold - ing liv - ing stone, glad - ly show - ing

gen - er - a - tions, seeds of life di - vine.
 2. friends and stran - gers show us who we are.
 wine re - minds us: we are not our own.
 4. all things liv - ing, lit - ur - gies of care.
 prayer sur - round us: we are not a - lone.
 6. all our neigh - bors we are not our own!

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1987

MUSIC: Brian Wren, 1987; harm. Fred Graham, 1987

YARNTON
89.85

Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ

441

Unison

1. E - ter - nal Spir - it of the liv - ing Christ, I know not how to
 2. Come, pray in me the prayer I need this day; help me to see your
 3. Come with the vi - sion and the strength I need to serve my God, and



ask or what to say; I on - ly know my need, as deep as
 pur - pose and your will, where I have failed, what I have done a -
 all hu - man - i - ty; ful - fill - ment of my life in love out -



life, and on - ly you can teach me how to pray.
 miss; held in for - giv - ing love, let me be still.
 poured — my life in you, O Christ, your love in me.



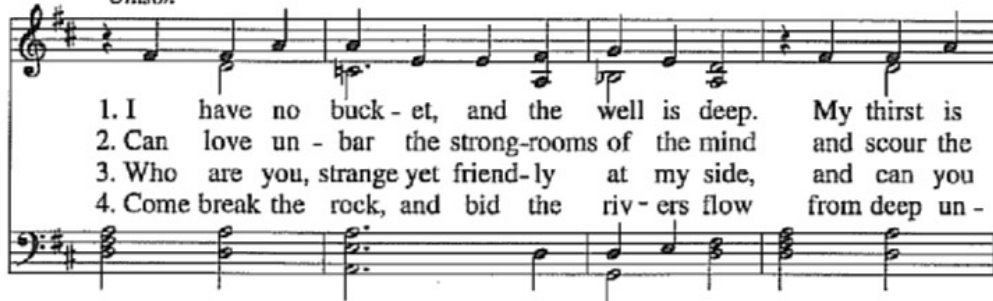
WORDS: Frank von Christerson, 1974, rev. 1979
 MUSIC: Alfred M. Smith, 1941

SURSUM CORDA
 10 10.10 10

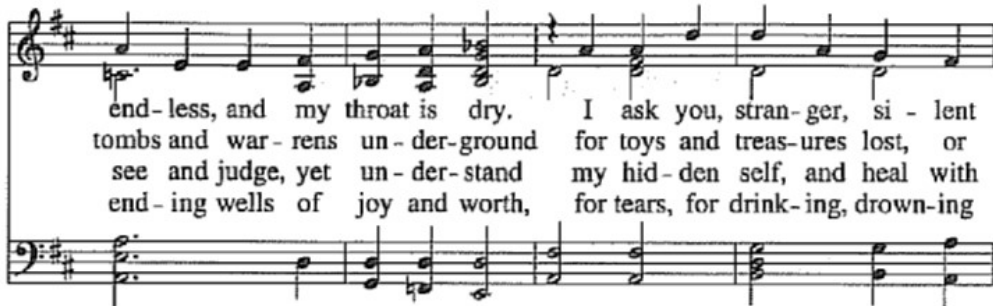
HEALING HYMN

I Have No Bucket, and the Well Is Deep 394

Unison



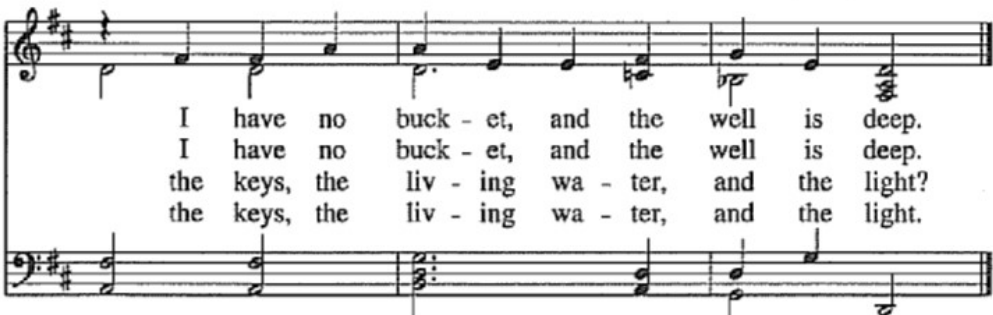
1. I have no buck - et, and the well is deep. My thirst is
 2. Can love un - bar the strong-rooms of the mind and scour the
 3. Who are you, strange yet friend - ly at my side, and can you
 4. Come break the rock, and bid the riv - ers flow from deep un -



end - less, and my throat is dry. I ask you, stran - ger, si - lent
 tombs and war - rens un - der - ground for toys and treas - ures lost, or
 see and judge, yet un - der - stand my hid - den self, and heal with
 end - ing wells of joy and worth, for tears, for drink - ing, drown - ing



at my side, can words re - fresh my long - ings if you speak?
 nev - er found, for all I can - not name, yet ache to find?
 wound - ed hands? Are you the path, the gate - way and the guide,
 and new birth, and I shall find and give my - self, and know



I have no buck - et, and the well is deep.
 I have no buck - et, and the well is deep.
 the keys, the liv - ing wa - ter, and the light?
 the keys, the liv - ing wa - ter, and the light.

424 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

1. We walk by faith and not by sight;
 2. We may not touch Christ's hands and side,
 3. Help then, O Christ, our un - be - lief;
 4. That, when our life of faith is done,

no gra-cious words we hear from Christ who spoke as
 nor fol - low where Christ trod; but in con - fess - ing
 and may our faith a - bound to call on you when
 in realms of clear - er light we may be - hold you

none e'er spoke, who still we know is near.
 we re - joice: our Sav - ior and our God!
 you are near and seek where you are found:
 as you are, with full and end - less sight.

HEALING HYMN

400

There Is a Balm in Gilead

Refrain %

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole;

Fine

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul.

1. Some - times I feel dis - cour - aged, and
 2. Don't ev - er feel dis - cour - aged, for
 3. If you can't preach like Pe - ter, if

think my work's in vain. But then the Ho - ly
 Je - sus is your friend, and if you look for
 you can't pray like Paul, just tell the love of

D.S.

Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain.
 knowl - edge he'll ne'er re - fuse to lend. There is a
 Je - sus, and say he died for all.

WORDS and MUSIC: African-American spiritual
 Here is a positive response to the question asked in
 Jeremiah 8:22: 'Is there no balm in Gilead?' Hope
 for the future is sustained in the painful present.

BALM IN GILEAD
 76.76 w. refrain

CLOSING HYMN

Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days

1. Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and pray,
2. As you with Sa - tan did con-tend, and did the vic-tory win,
3. And thro' these days of pen - i - tence, and thro' your pas-sion - tide,
4. A - bid with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,

teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to con-quer sin.
for - ev - er - more, in life and death, O Christ with us a - bid.
an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at last at - tain!

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It features a treble and bass staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with the piano accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are printed below the treble staff.

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873, alt.
MUSIC: Adapt. from John Day's *English Psalter*, 1562

ST. FLAVIAN
CM



SCAN ME

First Church Land Acknowledgment

We, gathered here, acknowledge that we are meeting on land which has been the traditional ancestral homeland of the Massachusett people. We acknowledge that this land is unceded and remains sacred to the Massachusett, and to their close neighbors and relatives, the Nipmuc and Wampanoag peoples.

You can find a longer version of this acknowledgment [here](#) or with the QR code.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Shelter employee Dennis Kaveney, who is recovering from surgery.
- We pray for Ellen Rohan Ball and her family as they mourn the loss of Ellen's father, who died recently at the age of 103.
- We pray for Sexton Jonathan Splaine and his family as they mourn the loss of Jonathan's grandfather Nathaniel Joseph Nichols, who died at the age of 105.
- We pray for Susan Ohman as she recovers from surgery to repair a broken knee.
- We pray for Peggy Bendroth and her family as they mourn the loss of her sister Ruth, who died last Saturday, March 1, after a long struggle with cancer. We pray for Ruth's husband David, her children Emily and Stephen, and for numerous grandchildren.
- We pray for all who are living with significant health challenges and their families and caregivers: Ellen Frith, who is living with a serious chronic illness; Poppy Coffin, who is experiencing Alzheimer's Disease; Carter West, who is experiencing a chronic neurological disorder; and Keith Manville, who has atypical Parkinsonism. We also pray for those in treatment for cancer: Dana Hunt, Claire Morgan's mother; Ellen Smith, Devin Hansen's aunt; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones's mother; Karen Anne Zee's daughter Becky Collet and her son-in-law Stewart Bailey; and Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters.
- We pray for all those impacted by the deadly and devastating wildfires in southern California, and we continue to pray for our earth and all creation in the face of the climate crisis.
- We pray for our nation. Most of all we pray that we, as Church, will see and embody the way of Jesus Christ in this time and place, even, if need be, at cost to ourselves. We pray for all whose lives are being upended by the policies of the presidential administration, both domestically and internationally, especially those whose wellbeing is again being sacrificed for the political power of the few.
- We continue to pray for peace in Eastern Congo, where millions are displaced due to the fighting between the Rwandan-backed M23 militia and the Congolese army. We pray that the children and staff of the Congo Peace School will be safe, and that God's presence may be with them and all the loved ones of Amani and Amini Matabaro Tom.
- We pray for Gaza, that the fragile ceasefire agreement continues to hold. We pray for all who will try to rebuild their lives in Gaza.
- We pray for our neighbors all over the world. Especially we pray for all whose lives are affected by political upheaval and war around the globe. We pray for the dead, for their loved ones, and for their broader communities.
- We pray for the 14 men finding sustenance and protection in our First Church Shelter; and we pray for the guests of the Friday Café, who are finding resources and listening ears.



In Memoriam

A memorial service for beloved long-time member Perry Neubauer will take place at 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 12, in the Sanctuary and via livestream, with a reception to follow.

TODAY AT FIRST CHURCH



Young Adults: Newcomers Breakfast at Flour

Today, 9:30 - 10:30 a.m., Flour Bakery in Harvard Square

If you are new, or feeling new as a young adult (20s and 30s) at First Church, you are invited to breakfast. We'll gather for casual fellowship down the road before walking to church. It's a great way to meet new friends and to ask questions about faith, life, and First Church. To learn about upcoming events, email: youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org

Lenten Formation Series: Connecting with Truth Tellers

Today and Sundays, March 16, 23, 30, 10:00 - 10:45 a.m.

Harter Room and via Zoom

The Christian Formation Committee invites you, once again, to engage with portraits of truth tellers as we walk together through the season of Lent. Join us for any or all of the four sessions dedicated to grounding ourselves in the stories of activists for immigrant justice, environmental sustainability, and trans rights, as well as a journalist who spoke truth to power with a generous dose of humor. In this “wilderness” time for our nation, come connect with these wellspring sustenance and inspiration for our own action.



Bible 101 Class Field Trip to the Society of St. John the Evangelist

Today, 11:45 - 1:00 p.m., SSJE, 980 Memorial Drive, Cambridge

Our Bible 101 students and teachers will be taking a field trip to the monastery of the Society of Saint John the Evangelist (SSJE) to take in the Noontime Prayer service to hear psalms being chanted. The class has been studying the Psalms in recent classes.

Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 7/8th graders

Today, 12:30 - 2:00 p.m., The Well

7th and 8th graders from First Church and Old South Church meet for a session of their year-long sexuality education curriculum.



Night Song

Today, 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.

Learn more about Night Song.

WELLSPRINGS IN THE WILDERNESS



Lent 2025: Wellsprings in the Wilderness

Each year the season of Lent begins with the story of Jesus spending 40 days in the wilderness, being tempted by “the Slanderer” (a.k.a. Satan) as Jesus begins his public teaching. “The wilderness” seems like a particularly poignant image for many of us these days, both in personal and public life. During this Lenten season, we will reflect on our experiences of wilderness and take hope that, even in the wilderness, there are wellsprings that sustain us. Because truth and truth tellers are one of those wellsprings, we’ll be blessed again by engaging with four powerful portraits from the [*Americans Who Tell the Truth*](#) project. Come, and drink from wellsprings in the wilderness.

FAITH & LIFE GROUPS



Faith & Life Group Registration: Lent/Spring 2025

You are warmly invited to consider registering for one (or more!) of five Faith & Life Groups on offer for our Lent/Spring session. You can read the full descriptions on [the signup form](#) and in the “Latest News” on our website.

Please register by Monday, March 17.

Questions?

Please reach out to Beth Spaulding (bspaulding68@gmail.com) or the leader of the group directly.

- **To Live in the World as Prayer** with Carter West and Duncan Hollomon
- **Exploring our Faith as Adults through the Confirmation Curriculum, Part II** with Meredith Quinn and Lindsey Baker
- **Cross Purposes: What Jesus Did on the Cross** with Rev. Norm Bendroth
- **Breathing Prayer and Midday Mindfulness** with Sunessa Schettler
- **Church: A Larger Picture** with Henry Gates

LENT FIRST CHURCH

Join Black Churches in Boycotting Target During Lent

Rev. Jamal Bryant of New Birth Missionary Baptist Church in Stonecrest, Georgia, is recruiting “100,000 conscientious Christians,” to join a Lenten fast from Target, a retail chain store that recently announced it would pull back from its diversity, equity, and inclusion programs, including one dedicated to diversifying the suppliers it uses to stock its shelves.

Black churches and denominations, such as Washington’s Metropolitan AME Church, which hosted 40 First Church pilgrims in 2019, are urging white churches to join the effort. The Missions & Social Justice Committee and the Beloved Community group hope that 100 people at First Church in Cambridge will join this Lenten fast by signing your name to a poster that will be available during Coffee Hour on Sunday, March 9, or by emailing our Racial Justice group at: belovedcommunity@firstchurchcambridge.org to have your name included.

Supporters of the boycott are urged to support Black businesses instead. Among the resources on the [Racial Justice](#) section of the First Church website is [a list of Boston area Black-owned businesses](#), current as of March 1, 2025.

More information about the Target boycott and other Lenten efforts of protest and prayer by groups such as Sojourners and the National Council of Churches can be found at: <https://religionnews.com/2025/02/26/boycotts-accompany-prayer-as-faith-leaders-prepare-for-lent/>

40-Day Target Fast

Beginning March 5 - Concluding April 17, 2025



www.targetfast.org

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH



GBIO Listening Session for Trans/Non-binary People and Their Loved Ones

Wednesday, March 12 at 7:00 p.m.

Reservoir Church, 15 Notre Dame Ave., Cambridge

This Spring, trans/nonbinary people and their loved ones will be holding a series of facilitated listening sessions with the goals to:

- Bring together trans/nonbinary people of faith and people who love them for solidarity and community-building
- Hear stories of what's impacting our folks in these days -- whether directly/explicitly related to "trans issues" or not
- Identify people with a strong personal interest in organizing trans/nonbinary people and those who love them, who might like to grow their leadership
- Begin to notice areas of mutual interest or concern that might be an issue for future action -- though nothing will be decided, nor will potential actions or solutions be discussed at this point. Right now, we're just sharing stories and building relationships.

[Sign up for the first listening session here.](#)

GBIO is busy organizing across several different issues this Spring, including housing, immigration, returning citizens and health care. As part of this work we're going to be reaching out to many First Church members for one-to-ones in the coming months. To find out more, contact Phil Servello-Jones (p.robennolt.jones@gmail.com), Kathy Williams (kathypricewilliams@gmail.com), or Will Erickson (wericks2002@gmail.com).

Young Adults: Faith on Tap

Wednesday, March 12, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

Harvard Gardens, Beacon Hill, Boston

Come join other young adults (20s and 30s) from First Church for casual fellowship with food and drink. This event is open to anyone in the age group, whether you're just exploring First Church, or have been here a while and are looking to meet some new folks. Please RSVP so we know to expect you. Email: youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org



In Memoriam

A memorial service for beloved First Church member **Carol Wilson-Braun** will take place at 11:00 a.m. on **Saturday, March 15**, in the Sanctuary and via livestream, with a video presentation beginning at 10:00 a.m. and a light luncheon to follow.

COMING UP AT FIRST CHURCH



Aging with Grace Monthly Meeting

Tuesday, March 18, 3:00 - 4:15 p.m., via Zoom

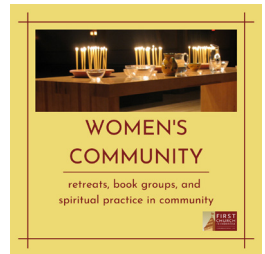
Please join our Graceful Aging Zoom to continue our conversation about Elder Activism/Contribution as part of our monthly sharing with each other about the challenges and joys of becoming Elders in today's society. Newcomers are always welcome; please reach out to Linda

Ziebell (lindaziebell@comcast.net) or Martha Mueller Cook (marthamuellercook@gmail.com) for further information.

Women's Community Book Group

Tuesday, March 18, 6:30 - 7:45 p.m., via Zoom

Please join us for our March book discussion as we share our thoughts about James McBride's [*The Heaven and Earth Grocery Store*](#). Set in a neighborhood of immigrant Jews and African-Americans in a Pennsylvania town, the novel is a fascinating whodunit that contemplates how two very different groups of people learn to value and love one another. We look forward to hearing your reflections.



Family Choir to Sing on Palm Sunday

Anyone and everyone at First Church is invited to sing with the Family Choir in Palm Sunday worship on April 13. People of all ages and all experience levels are welcome to learn a compelling song of walking together. Join Sarah Higginbotham for **three short rehearsals after worship on Sundays, March 23, 30, and April 6, 12:30 - 1:00 p.m.**, then plan to arrive early on Palm Sunday to prepare our musical offering for worship.

Wade in the Water Featured in

Quilts250: Stitching in the Spirit of Democracy

Saturday-Sunday, March 22-23

Concord Academy Gymnasium, 132 Main St., Concord, MA

First Church's fabric artwork that remembers and honors First Church members who were enslaved by other members of our congregation will be part of Quilts250, an exhibit for the 250th commemoration of the Battles of Lexington and Concord that mark the birth of our nation's democracy. Quilts250 will display as many as 250 quilts that visually express through fabric and thread themes related to our country's founding and evolution and the dynamic range of quilting arts in the last 250 years. Tickets are \$10; [learn more and purchase tickets](#).



LOOKING AHEAD

Young Adults: Bowling

Friday, March 28, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.

American Flatbread (Sacco's), Davis Square, Somerville

Come join our active young adults group (20s and 30s) for a fun night of bowling and casual fellowship. It's a great way to meet new friends and to ask questions about faith, life, and First Church. This group gathers a few times a month on a rotating basis. Please RSVP so we know to expect you: youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org



Discovery Team Conversations

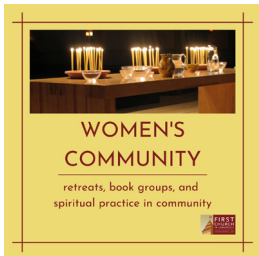
Sundays, April 6 and May 4, 10:00 - 10:45 a.m., Harter Room and via Zoom

The Discovery Team is eager to engage you in conversation on topics that directly relate to our upcoming search for a new Senior Minister. Join us for our April and May conversations! Each person's contributions will be important in our discovery and discernment process.

Understanding Human Trafficking Today

Sunday, April 27, 10:00 - 10:45 a.m., Harter Room and via Zoom

While the Emancipation Proclamation ended the legality of slavery in the United States, it did not end its practice – either domestically or abroad. By many accounts, there are more people facing enslaved conditions today than at any other time in history. Over a quarter are women and children, the vast majority of whom are victims of sexual exploitation. We welcome Mark van de Fliert to lead a discussion about modern slavery, exploitation, and trafficking. What are the signs that a person might be trafficked? How prevalent do we think trafficking and exploitation are in a metropolis like Greater Boston? And what might faith communities do to combat exploitation and support survivors? Mark has a background working on issues of human trafficking and modern slavery around the world. He currently works in our First Church Shelter while pursuing graduate studies at the Harvard Divinity and Kennedy Schools.



Save the Date: First Church Women's Retreat

Saturday, May 3, 9:00 - 12:00 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall

All who identify as women in the First Church community are invited to save the date of Saturday, May 3, for our annual Women's Retreat. This year, the focus will be on themes found in Robin Wall Kimmerer's new gem of a book [*The Serviceberry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World*](#). While reading the book is neither required nor necessary, we would

encourage reading the book, if you can. We have several copies of the book and will pass them around in the next few months as needed/requested. Contact Alex (alex@steinert-evoy.com) or Sue (susanreynolds235@gmail.com) to learn more and borrow a book.

FIRST CHURCH NEWS

Deacons Offering Home Communion

In 2024 the Board of Deacons spent time focused on Communion, its theology, and its place in the life of the church. They developed a Service of Communion, similar to the one used monthly at First Church, and they now extend an offer to bring it into the homes of the members and friends of First Church. If you wish to receive such a visit, please contact: deacons@firstchurchcambridge.org



Youth Greeters Wanted

The Deacons would like to offer an opportunity for more generations to participate in providing a warm welcome into our church home! We are asking for youth volunteers to help with greeting on Sundays. If your child (age 7 and up) would like to participate in greeting at the beginning of worship on a Sunday morning, please use this form to sign up. Questions? Contact: deacons@firstchurchcambridge.org

Building Use at First Church

Our building is used by many music, dance, and non-profit groups mornings, afternoons, and evenings, seven days a week, but we have openings and would like to share it even more! Do you know of a person or group that might be interested in our space? We can house anything from conferences to birthday parties, small groups to big concerts, recurring or one time events. Our kitchen is also available! Please consider the church for a group you are connected to, or for your own use, and suggest us to others. More information can be found on our website at: firstchurchcambridge.org/weddings-building-use/





Check out this excerpt from last week's edition of The Friday Café newsletter:

Well, we were busy to overflowing on Friday, and it wasn't even a cold day! 153 guests in total, and all fed, thanks to our amazing cooks, kitchen crew, and servers. It never ceases to amaze me the way our program comes together every Friday. Do you know how many cooks and on-site volunteers are needed to make the Friday Café a reality each week? 86! 86 people dedicating time, skill, and spirit to re-create the Café from scratch, piece by piece: shopping for ingredients, preparing the dishes and delivering them, setting up the Hall, Library, and Chapel, heating the food, making the coffee, organizing the

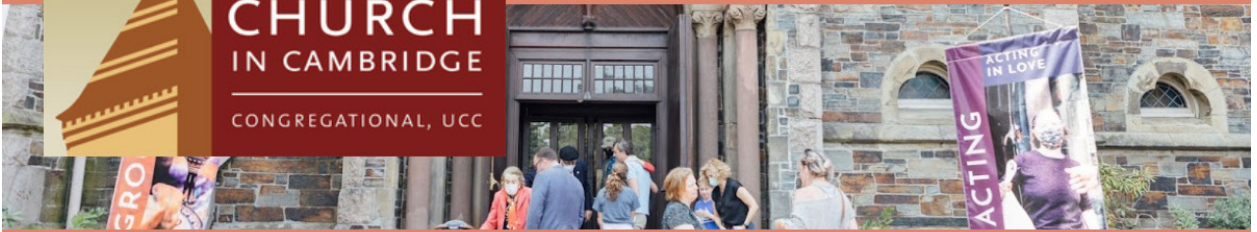
volunteers, putting flowers on the tables, serving food, pouring water, bussing, wiping up messes... 86 people, plus donors. What amazing generosity, and what an amazing weaving together of the threads of all those lives. Let's see: 153 guests plus 86 volunteers and cooks... that's 239 threads making up this week's community tapestry. Alone, each of those threads seems pretty frail. Together, we become a body of surprising strength and resilience.

[Subscribe to the Friday Café newsletter,](#)
and learn how you can contribute to this vital and vibrant part of our community!



THIS WEEK

Looking ahead to this week's programs and events



Monday, March 10

- 4:30 p.m. Contemplative Practices Gathering, via Zoom
6:00 p.m. Faith & Life Group: Care Group for the Caregivers, via Zoom

Tuesday, March 11

- 7:00 p.m. Communications & Arts Committee, via Zoom

Wednesday, March 12

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Harter Room and via Zoom
3:00 p.m. Buildings & Grounds Committee, via Zoom
7:00 p.m. Missions & Social Justice Committee, via Zoom
7:00 p.m. Young Adults: Faith on Tap, Harvard Gardens, Beacon Hill

Friday, March 14

- 12:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)

Saturday, March 15

- 11:00 a.m. Memorial Service for Carol Wilson-Braun, Sanctuary and via livestream

Sunday, March 16 - Second Sunday in Lent

- 9:15 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Lenten Formation: Connecting with Truth Tellers, Harter Room & via Zoom
11:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and via livestream
11:20 a.m. Church School: Godly Play and Bible 101 classes, Library & The Well
12:15 p.m. Refreshments in Hastings Common
12:30 p.m. Our Whole Lives (OWL) for 7/8th graders, The Well
7:30 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary and via livestream

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

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



SCAN ME

Have a church program or event to promote?

Complete the [First Church Communications Request form](#).

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