

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10, 2025

Preaching Today Duncan Hollomon
Liturgist Jenny Stuart
Assisting in Worship Sarah Higginbotham, *Director of Communications & Christian Formation*
Pastor Frank Mukiliza, *offering a Ministry Moment*
Lee Prouty, *Facilities Manager*
Mike Solberg, *Interim Senior Minister*
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*

Opening Voutary
Toccata - Frescobaldi

Opening Hymn
C-13 Christ, We Meet You On Our Way

Anthem
Bwana Awabariki - Swahili Hymn

Peace Hymn
194 Come and Fill Our Hearts

Reading
Isaiah 1:1, 10-20

Reading
Luke 12:32-40

Sermon Hymn
196 Stay With Me

Offertory
Da Nobis Pacem - Mendelssohn

Closing Hymn
333 Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

Voluntary
Canzona - Frescobaldi

Today's Programs and Events

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Multigenerational Morning Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
11:15 a.m. Refreshments on the Lawn (weather permitting)

New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for worship? Consider filling out a **welcome card** found on small clipboards in the pews or [online](#), so that we might connect with you about our community.

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

Minister On Call

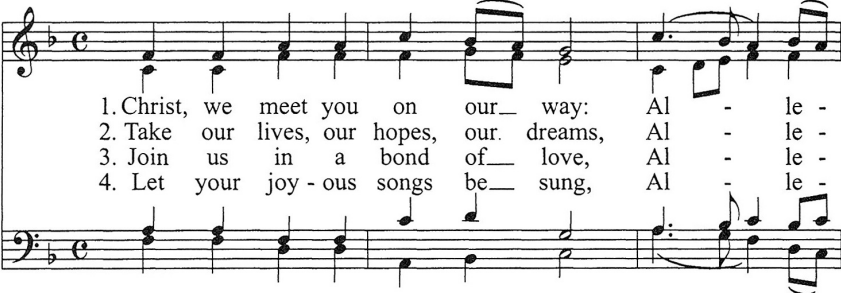
If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call 617-547-2724 ext. 222. Your call will be routed to a First Church minister based on a rotating schedule that covers staff time off.

*Our offering supports the many ministries of our church,
with 10% for missions in the community and beyond.
Please use our new [all-in-one link](#) for gifts from your
bank account or by credit/debit card:*

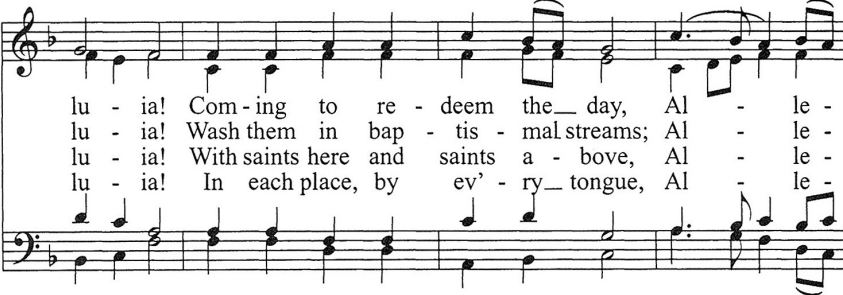


OPENING HYMN

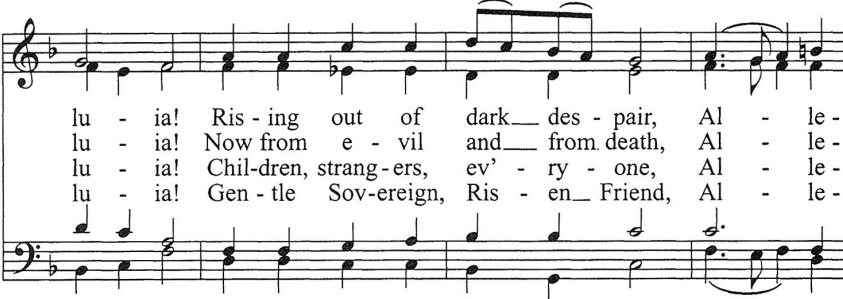
Christ, We Meet You On Our Way C-13



1. Christ, we meet you on our way: Al - le -
 2. Take our lives, our hopes, our dreams, Al - le -
 3. Join us in a bond of love, Al - le -
 4. Let your joy - ous songs be sung, Al - le -



lu - ia! Com - ing to re - deem the day, Al - le -
 lu - ia! Wash them in bap - tis - mal streams; Al - le -
 lu - ia! With saints here and saints a - bove, Al - le -
 lu - ia! In each place, by ev' - ry tongue, Al - le -



lu - ia! Ris - ing out of dark - des - pair, Al - le -
 lu - ia! Now from e - vil and from death, Al - le -
 lu - ia! Chil - dren, strang - ers, ev' - ry - one, Al - le -
 lu - ia! Gen - tle Sov - ereign, Ris - en Friend, Al - le -



lu - ia! You would claim a world so fair, Al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia! Raise us with re - new - ing breath, Al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia! You for us the vic - t'ry won, Al - le - lu - ia!
 lu - ia! Liv - ing Spi - rit, with - out end, Al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS: Allen Happe

MUSIC: Robert Williams

LLANFAIR

Come and Fill Our Hearts

194

The musical score is written for two staves, Treble and Bass, in the key of D major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. The melody is primarily in the Treble staff, while the Bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords. The lyrics are written below the Treble staff.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace. You a-lone, O Lord, are ho-ly.

Come and fill our hearts with your peace, al-le-lu-ia!

WORDS and MUSIC: Jacques Berthier and the Taizé Community, 1991

CONFITEMINI DOMINO
88.84

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196

Stay with Me

Stay with me, re-main here with me, watch and

pray, watch and pray.

WORDS: from Matthew 26, the Taizé Community, 1984
MUSIC: Jaques Berthier, 1984

BLEIBET HIER
35.33
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CLOSING HYMN

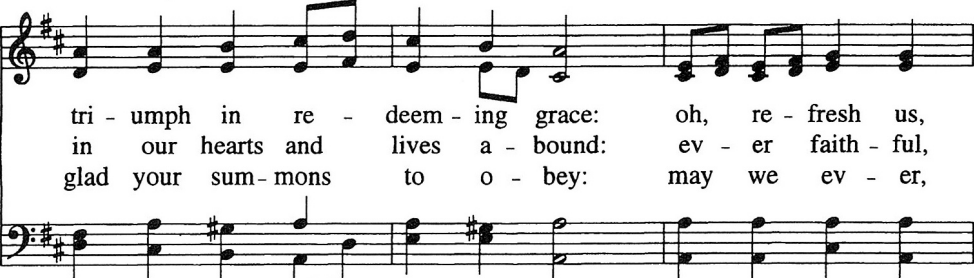
Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing 333



1. Lord, dis - miss us with your bless - ing; fill our hearts with
 2. Thanks we give and ad - o - ra - tion for the gos - pel's
 3. So that when your love shall call us, Sav - ior, from the



joy and peace; let us each, your love pos - sess - ing,
 joy - ful sound; may the fruits of your sal - va - tion
 world a - way, fear of death shall not ap - pall us,



tri - umph in re - deem - ing grace: oh, re - fresh us,
 in our hearts and lives a - bound: ev - er faith - ful,
 glad your sum - mons to o - bey: may we ev - er,



oh, re - fresh us, trav - eling through this wil - der - ness.
 ev - er faith - ful to the truth may we be found.
 may we ev - er reign with you in end - less day.

WORDS: Attr. John Fawcett, 1773, alt.

MUSIC: Sicilian melody, 18th century; *The European Magazine and Review*, 1792

SICILIAN MARINERS

87.87.87

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We pray for Mary Martha Thiel as she recovers at home from surgery.
- We pray for Henry Schoenfield's brother Tim, who was recently diagnosed with stage 4 bladder cancer.
- We pray for all who are living with significant health challenges and their families and caregivers: Poppy Coffin, who is experiencing Alzheimer's Disease; Carter West, who is experiencing a chronic neurological disorder; Katy Bauer, Sunnessa Schettler's mother, who is experiencing COPD; and Keith Manville, Kirsten's father, who has atypical Parkinsonism. We also pray for those in treatment for cancer: Betsy Opitz; Louise Higginbotham, Sarah's mother; 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 those impacted by gun violence in our nation, including those grieving after recent mass shootings in Montana and New York City.
- In this tense time in our country, we pray for all those standing up, in their homes or on the streets, to resist all abuses of power, especially those paying significant personal costs. We pray for strength to not turn away from our neighbors in need, even as our government dramatically expands funding for detention, disappearance, and deportation initiatives that ignore rights guaranteed by our nation's constitution.
- We lift up the Harvard University community, including people from our congregation, in the midst of a confrontation with the federal government over academic independence and freedom of speech.
- We continue to celebrate the dignity and worth of our trans and gender non-conforming siblings who are experiencing an onslaught of prejudicial discrimination condoned by the current administration and encouraged by recent rulings by the Supreme Court. We affirm that all of us are beloved in the eyes of God, just as we are.
- We pray for people around the world trapped in cycles of violence, especially all the innocent victims of the deadly power games of political rulers: in the Middle East, including in Gaza, where the lack of safe access to food is causing mass starvation; in Ukraine; in Haiti; and in the Democratic Republic of Congo.
- We pray for all those giving and receiving care, compassion, and needed services from First Church's homeless ministries, both in the First Church Shelter and at the Friday Café. We continue to pray and work for a just society where housing is recognized as a human right.
- We continue to pray for our earth and for all creation in the face of the climate crisis.

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



In Memoriam

A service of celebration and remembrance of the life of Ken Ziebell will take place on Saturday, August 16, at 11:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary and via livestream, followed by a light lunch reception in Margaret Jewett Hall.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

ONE MILLION RISING

Community Resistance Gathering

Sunday, August 24, 11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., Harter Room and via Zoom

Join with other First Church folks as we connect to [One Million Rising](#), a national effort to train one million people in the strategic logic and

practice of non-cooperation. Martha Mueller Cook and Alex Steinert-Evoy will facilitate the gathering, offering an opportunity to learn together and deepen our community connections in the face of authoritarian force being used across the country. Please email [Sarah Higginbotham](#) for the registration link.

WooSox Field Trip

Sunday, August 24, 11:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Polar Park, Worcester

The Young Adults group invites you to join a multigenerational outing to see the WooSox play at Polar Park! Email youngadults@firstchurchcambridge.org, or talk to Phil Servello-Jones to RSVP. We'll arrange carpooling to and from church.



Prayers for Liberty Labor Day Walk

Monday, September 1, 9:00 - 5:00 p.m., Lexington to Boston

On May 30, [Prayers for Liberty](#) held an interfaith clergy march from Lexington to Boston. Hundreds of faith leaders from all different sects and creeds, including our own Pastor Mike, came together in support of democracy and human rights. The organization is now planning to march again. And this time they're inviting as many lay people as possible to join for all or part of the walk, which will begin



register here

at the Lexington Battle Green and end at the statue of The Embrace in Boston Common. The walk will take place on Labor Day, all day from 9:00 to 5:00. We understand that this is a lot of effort for a day traditionally spent holidaying, but we believe the times demand this of us. [Register for the walk here](#), and let [Sarah Higginbotham](#) know that you've registered, so that we can look for and connect First Church folks to each other during the walk.



Register for the All-Church Fall Retreat

Friday, September 26 - Sunday, September 28, 2025

Registration is now open for the 2025 All-Church Retreat at Craigville! The retreat is an amazing opportunity to spend time with our multigenerational church community in a glorious location on the Cape. Join

Sarah Higginbotham, Leslie Pelton-Cairns, and other church leaders for a week-end of community-building in fellowship, formation, and fun. Arrive on Friday evening, September 26, and stay through midday on Sunday, September 28, for the full event; or come for a portion of the weekend, for just one night, or even a daytrip on Saturday. [Register here!](#)



register here

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH



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. [Sign up here.](#)



scan to sign up

Meet Our Pastoral Intern

We are very happy to announce that we will have a Pastoral Intern for the coming academic year! At the end of August we will welcome Noël Grisanti, who will be with us 15 hours per week and will be involved in a few areas of ministry: worship, pastoral care, stewardship and finance, communications, and street outreach. Noël introduces herself below, and we look forward to her ministry and learning among us, beginning on August 26.

And just to be clear, we also look forward to Emma Mitchell being back with us as our Pastoral Associate when her parental leave is complete, likely in the October/November timeframe!

Hi, everyone! My name is Noël Grisanti (she/her). I am a third-year Master of Divinity student at Harvard Divinity School, where I study social justice ministry with a particular focus on the role of the church at the intersection of racial, economic, and climate justice. During the 2024-2025 school year, I worked as a chaplain intern in the Office of the Chaplains and Religious Life at Brown University, and this summer I have been serving as an interfaith chaplain at UCLA Santa Monica Hospital.

I grew up in New York City as the oldest of four sisters (yes, I love Little Women.) Growing up, I attended a Southern Baptist church in midtown Manhattan: an incongruous mix of a warm, diverse church community with homogenous, conservative values. During my time at Amherst College, I discovered the United Church of Christ. Within the UCC, I have found a church home where my political life could be fostered and fed by my spiritual life, and vice versa. After several years teaching middle and high school Latin, I followed a call to divinity school and am now pursuing ordination as a Member in Discernment in the UCC.

This year I am eager to join the community at First Church in Cambridge. I am excited to learn about the ins and outs of church life and leadership, to participate in worship, and to support the needs of the community through various forms of ministry. I love iced coffee, astrology, red pandas, and crosswords; and I live in Cambridge with my husband Max.

