



A Service of Healing

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC
October 13, 2013
A SERVICE OF HEALING

VOLUNTARY *Vesper Voluntaries, op. 14* Edward Elgar

*HYMN 100 *By Gracious Powers*

*GREETING Joanne Paul

L: Grace, mercy and peace to you from God.
C: **To our neighborhoods, to our city, to our world, peace.**
L: Our God meets us wherever we are,
C: **in sorrow and fear, in faith and doubt, in gratitude and hope.**
L: In all things, God brings our spirits strength and comfort, solace and peace.
C: **Then let us assemble now, and give thanks and praise to God.**

WORDS OF WELCOME Dan Smith

ANTHEM *Christ Be With Me* Noel Rawsthorne

*Christ be with me, Christ within me, Christ behind me, Christ before me,
Christ to guide me, Christ to comfort and restore me.
Christ beneath me, Christ above me, Christ in quiet, Christ in danger,
Christ in hearts of all that love me, Christ in care of friend and stranger.*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray for healing, pardon, and peace.
All: **God of tender mercy and love,
we confess that we sometimes lose sight
of your abiding and sure presence in hard times.
We long to share our burdens and joys
with each other and with you,
and yet even now we may resist.
Be a present help through stress and struggle.
Be our rock and our strength.**

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

**Restore us and renew us that we may
walk in your ways of grace and peace and love.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

Children from Preschool to 8th grade are now invited to leave for church school. Teachers will meet children at the side door to accompany them to their classrooms. Parents can meet their children in Lindsay Chapel (through Margaret Jewett Hall and to the left) after worship.

*HYMN 340

Peace Before Us

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

RESPONSIVE PSALM 46

- L: God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
- C: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**
- L: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
- C: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.**
- L: The nations are in an uproar, the empires totter;
God's voice resounds, the earth melts.
- C: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**
- L: Come, behold the works of God;
see what desolations the Holy One has brought on the earth.
- C: God makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
God burns the shields with fire.**
- L: 'Be still, and know that I am God!
I am exalted among the nations,
I am exalted in the earth.'
- C: The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

READING

James 5: 13-16

A WITNESS AGAINST VIOLENCE

Introduction

A Testimony offered by Angel Padilla

Reading of Names

INVITATION TO A TIME OF HEALING

BLESSING OF OIL AND HANDS

HYMN 399 *From the Crush of Wealth and Power*

HYMN 400 *There Is a Balm in Gilead*

HYMN 441 *Eternal Spirit of the Living Christ*

HYMN 427 *My Life Flows on in Endless Song*

CONCLUDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Karen McArthur

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

All: Our Father, 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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

O Pray for the Peace of Jerusalem

Thomas Tomkins

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem. They shall prosper that love thee.

*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Praise God, the source of life and birth,

Praise God, the Word, who came to earth,

Praise God, the Spirit, Holy Flame,

All glory, honor, to God's name. Amen.

*HYMN 352

Go Forth for God

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Send me, Jesus (Thuma Mina)

Hymn 344

The congregation is invited to join in the singing of this response.

Send me, Jesus, send me Jesus

Send me, Jesus, send me Lord

Lead me, Jesus...

Fill me, Jesus...

Thuma mina, thuma mina,

Thuma mina, somandla

VOLUNTARY

Fanfare

Jacques Lemmens

WELCOME TO FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE...

Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, we are thankful that you are with us today, and we hope that you will stay for a bit after worship for refreshments and conversation. First Church is an open and affirming, just peace congregation of the United Church of Christ. If you'd like to know more about us, please introduce yourself to one of the ministers after church and explore our website at **www.firstchurchcambridge.org**.

Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available.

Please ask a greeter for assistance.

Children of all ages are welcome in our worship. Picture books, children's Bibles and activity packets can be found in the Children's Book Corner located by the door to the parish building (to the right of the chancel). Children may visit the Book Corner at any point during worship. Nursery care for infants and toddlers is located through that door and down the hallway (up four stairs to the door on the right). Fussy babies and their caregivers are invited to the Hastings Room, just across the hall from that same door, where the service is broadcast through speakers.

LEADING THE SERVICE TODAY ARE Dan Smith, Senior Minister, and Karen McArthur, Affiliate Minister of Stewardship & Finance. Our liturgist is First Church member Joanne Paul. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir.

The YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED section of the bulletin is omitted in the online version to protect the privacy of those mentioned. For more information on who we are praying for this week, you may contact the church office at parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org or 617-547-2724.

NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS HIGHLIGHTS

In an effort to reduce paper consumption and be better stewards of the environment, we will no longer be printing weekly bulletin announcements along with the liturgy. Instead, we will print bi-weekly booklets with news, announcements, and calendars, which will be available at the sanctuary entrances. For more information about these and other announcements, please pick up a News and Announcements booklet or visit the Latest News section of the website at www.firstchurchcambridge.org.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING PRELUDE DISCUSSIONS October 13, 20 and 27 at 10 a.m. Hastings Room. Please join various church leaders starting on October 13 for three 10 a.m. hour conversations about important matters in need of congregation wide discernment. Topics include discussion of proper distribution and storage of our archives, a proposal from our Stewardship Committee about memorial funds, a proposal from our Earth Stewardship team about divestment from fossil fuels, and also a first look at our 2014 budget.

HEALING SERVICE OCTOBER 13 During today's worship we will 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. We'll also lift up victims of gun violence in the Boston area.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING PRELUDE DISCUSSION - CATCHALL OPPORTUNITY October 13 at 12: 30 p.m., Hastings Room Can't make it to all three congregational meeting prep 10 o'clock hours? Please join us today for an after church catch-all session to cover all the relevant topics.

CELEBRATE AFTER WORSHIP TODAY The altar flowers this morning are in celebration of the marriage of Don Johnson and Kate Layzer. Please stay after worship for a lunch and cake reception in Margaret Jewett Hall—even if you don't know the happy couple!

SOLUTIONS AT WORK CLOTHING DRIVE Sunday, October 13 You are invited to donate gently used children's clothing, shoes, children's books, and interview appropriate adult clothing. A box will be the Narthex. Clothes go to Solutions at Work, which is partially supported by our Mission and Social Justice committee. For information, call , Alice Kidder at (617) 924-7236.

SPIRITUALITY & MENTAL HEALTH GROUP Sundays at 2 p.m., Tower Room We meet as persons with questions about our inner lives, pursuing wellness, and to consider how our faith and our soundness inform each other. Participation in the group is open to any and all who identify with our purpose. For a warm welcome and to learn more, see Carter West or e-mail him at cartergw24@gmail.com.

NEW "FAITH ON TAP" GROUP FOR YOUNG ADULTS Thursday, October 17, 8 p.m., Cambridge Common First Church 20s and 30s! All are welcome to come by for casual drinks and conversation, Contact our ministerial intern, Jennifer Wenz, jwenz@firstchurchcambridge.org.

SOCIAL JUSTICE FILM FESTIVAL 2013 October 18, 7:00 p.m. , Margaret Jewett Hall The final film, *Hitting Home*, about gun violence, will leave you inspired and ready to work against injustice.

MONTHLY NEWCOMER SESSIONS AND NEXT JOINING SUNDAY Our next Newcomer Session will be **October 20 at 12:15 p.m.** If you feel like you are ready to join First Church, please contact Dan Smith (dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org). Our next Joining Sunday will be **October 27**.

FIRST CHURCH SHELTER'S 2013 DORIS BEAUVAIS LECTURE AND LUNCHEON Sunday, October 20, 12:30 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall The First Church Shelter Committee invites the First Church community to the 2013 Doris Beauvais Lecture and Luncheon, Sunday, October 20, following Morning Worship, in Margaret Jewett Hall. This year's lecturer is Cris Parque, Executive Director of Homeless Services United (HSU).

First Church Covenant Testimony

Adopted 1990

We believe that our covenant with God and each other calls us:

To love God with all that we are, and our close and distant neighbors as ourselves;
To seek peace with justice and equity for all people;
To engage in non-violent resistance to evil;
To respect and preserve God's earth;
To foster community across every barrier and division;
To attend to God's unfolding and reconciling word;
To support each other in our frailties and strengths, that we may embody that love which overcomes fear and death.

This we testify, confessing always our reliance on God's grace in Christ, and in the power of the Holy Spirit.

FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE
CONGREGATIONAL
375 YEARS
ON·THE·WAY

The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister of Mental Health & Healing	Rev. Terry McKinney, on leave
Affiliate Minister of Stewardship and Finance	Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 treasurer@firstchurchcambridge.org
Ministerial Interns	Jennifer Wenz, jwenz@firstchurchcambridge.org Sheehan Scarborough, sscarborough@firstchurchcambridge.org
<i>Havruta</i> Scholar-in-Residence	Rev. Brent Coffin
Director of Music	Peter Sykes, 617-645-0833 psykes@aol.com
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Staff Composer	Patricia Van Ness
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United Church of Christ

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