



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC
October 25, 2015
22ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY *Four Versets and Canzona* James Woodman

*HYMN 242 *God of Life*

*GREETING Moana Bentin

- L: Beloved of God, whether you are here for an hour or a lifetime,
welcome to this household of grace!
- C: Here, where our lives are grounded in the hope and healing of God.**
- L: Here, where we grow together in community and belonging.
- C: Here, where we act together in daring love for a better world.**
- L: Sisters, brothers, siblings in the Spirit, come gather in!
- C: Let us worship the God of our past, present, and future days.**

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM *This Little Light of Mine* Traditional

CONFESSING

INVITATION

SILENCE

SUNG CONFESSION *Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary*

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

(Sung twice through)

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

**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 in Cambridge.*

Children from PreK to 7th grade are invited to leave at this time for Creative Arts. Leaders will meet children at the side door to accompany them to Margaret Jewett Hall. Parents can meet their children in MJH after worship.

*HYMN 373

We Are Your People

RECEIVING NEW MEMBERS

INVITATION

Kate Layzer and Katie Omberg

PROMISES

*COVENANT OF FIRST CHURCH

L: United with the church of every time and place,
we covenant with Christ, with these sisters and brothers,
and with one another, saying:

**All: We who are now brought together
and united into one Church
under the Lord Jesus Christ, our Head,
in such sort as becometh all those
whom he hath redeemed and sanctified unto himself,
do solemnly and religiously,
as in His most holy presence,
promise and bind ourselves
to walk in all our ways
according to the rule of the Gospel,
and in all sincere conformity
to His holy ordinances
and in mutual love and respect
each to the other,
so near as God shall give us grace.**

ADDRESS

WELCOME

L: Friends, let us welcome these new members
and affirm the ministry we share in Jesus Christ.

**All: We welcome you with joy
into the common life of this church.
We promise you our friendship and prayers.
We will share with you the hope and labor of Christ.
By the power of the Spirit,
we are one family for the glory of God!**

CONCLUDING PRAYER

MUSICAL OFFERING

Take My Life and Let It Be

First Church Bell Choir

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 126

- L: When God restored the fortunes of Zion,
we were like those who dream.
- C: Then our mouths were filled with laughter,
and our tongues with shouts of joy;**
- L: then it was said among the nations,
“God has done great things for them.”
- C: God has done great things for us,
and we rejoiced.**
- L: Restore our fortunes, O God
like the water courses in the Negeb.
- C: May those who sow in tears
reap with shouts of joy.**
- L: Those who go out weeping,
bearing the seed for sowing,
- C: shall come home with shouts of joy,
carrying their sheaves.**

READING

Jeremiah 31:7-9

READING

Mark 10:46-52

SERMON

Karin Case

*HYMN 94

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Dan Smith

CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Phil LaFollette

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

- L: God be with you.
- C: And also with you.**
- L: Let us pray... (silence, intercessions, and The Lord’s Prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

L: Hear us now as we pray in the spirit of our brother, Jesus: Our Creator, our Mother...

**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

Holy Sound, Holy Sight

Jane Marshall

*DOXOLOGY

**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.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOING FORTH

*HYMN (see insert)

We Who Are Now Brought Together

*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 somandla

VOLUNTARY

All Glory Be to God on High

J. S. Bach

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.

PREACHING TODAY IS Karin Case, Minister. Assisting with worship are Dan Smith, Senior Minister; Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach; and Katie Omberg, Ministerial Intern. Our liturgist is Moana Bentin, member of the Stewardship Committee. Susie Longfield is leading the Bell Choir. 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. To find out who we are praying for this week, please contact the church offices at parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org or by calling 617-547-2724.

TODAY'S HAPPENINGS

STEWARDSHIP 10:00 A.M. HOURS In preparation for our annual Stewardship season, the Stewardship Committee will lead two 10:00 a.m. hours about Stewardship: Today at 10:00 a.m. in the Hastings Room, A Light-Hearted Look at Stewardship: What does Noah's Ark have to teach us about financial stewardship? How do you make choices about how you give away, spend, and invest your money? What effect does your faith have on your financial choices? And November 1st at 10:00 a.m. in the Hastings Room, Two Playful Ways to Think About Your Pledge: What do lilies, roses and apples have to do with your pledge? How important are coffee, crayons and peanut butter? Come find out. You might be surprised.

SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM Today at 12:30pm in the Hastings Room. General Synod 30 of the UCC passed a resolution last June entitled "A Call for the UCC to Take Actions Toward a Just Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict." This resolution calls for study of the Kairos Palestine document, certain divestment and boycott actions directed at the Israeli occupation of Palestinian land, and commends interfaith dialogue. While not binding on any individual church due to our UCC polity, it was endorsed by nine conferences as well as the Synod, and can be a source of discussion and inspiration. Gay Harter and Linda Ziebell will lead a discussion of the content of the resolution and the process of bringing it to the Synod. Dan Smith will offer comments, and a light lunch will be provided.

JOIN THE YOUNG ADULTS FOR A CASUAL, "COME AS YOU ARE" POST-SERVICE BRUNCH today at Grendel's Den in Harvard Square. The group will plan to meet at the back of the sanctuary following the service and will walk to Grendel's together. Please email Julie Pridham (julie.pridham@gmail.com) if you think you can make it or if you have any questions.

CELEBRATION OF ORDINATION FOR JULIE ROGERS at Church of the Covenant: First Church in Cambridge is warmly invited to a Celebration of Ordination Service for Julie Rogers on Sunday, October 25, at 2:00 pm at Church of the Covenant, 67 Newbury Street, Boston. Julie worked at First Church as our Affiliate Minister for Youth and Young Adults and Pastoral Associate from 2012-2014 and she is incredibly grateful for her First Church family for their support and inspiration on her journey towards ordination! A reception will follow the service and child care will be provided.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary Join us for this contemplative and spiritually transporting candle-lit experience. This Sunday, hear Motets by Francisco Guerrero; Psalm 134, set by Patricia Van Ness; Plainchant hymn "Te lucis ante terminum. Katie Yosua, soprano; Michael Terranova, alto; Cheryl Hayden, alto; Jason Connell, tenor and cantor; Daryl Bichel, bass. Please note that beginning next week, November 1, Night Song will begin at 7:00

BELL CHOIR Bell Choir is underway and always looking for ringers! No prior experience needed. Reading music a plus but not required. All ages welcome to come to a rehearsal and try it out! We

rehearse in the Chapel on the other side of Margaret Jewett Hall from 10:00-10:50 a.m. on Sunday mornings, and will play in church today. Come to rehearsals in November and December and play with us during the Unpageant on December 20. Please email susielongfield@gmail.com for more information.

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

GET YOUR CIDER DONUTS, MUMS, GOURDS and BULBS at Fellowship Hour these October Sundays, a fundraiser for RIM (Refugee Immigration Ministry), as we in First Church are continuing to support a persecuted young Muslim woman from Kenya.

FALL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND STEWARDSHIP LUNCH, next Sunday, November 1, in MJH. Items on the agenda include our 2016 budget, our new Mission Statement and Ministry Plan, approving a process for a Capital Campaign appeal. After the formal meeting adjourns, we will also launch our 2016 Stewardship Campaign.

WHO DO WE SAY THAT WE ARE? — A SERIES OF “FAITH IN CONTEXT”

CONVERSATIONS After a rich congregation-wide exploration last Lent of Jesus' question “Who Do You Say That I Am?” we want to continue the conversation this season with a focus on “Who Do We Say That We Are?” Who do we say that we are in light of our faith commitments and in light of real concerns that are facing our lives, communities and our planet. Can we bring our faith commitments into conversations about race, about climate change, about gender, about immigration? Please join Dan Smith for an upcoming series of one-shot, drop-in conversations (though by all means feel free to attend all). At our next meeting, we will share some faith-based reflections on the Pope’s Encyclical on climate change **We’ll meet in the Hastings Room, Tuesday, October 27, at 8:00 a.m.** Please join us!

OCTOBER COVENANT FRIENDSHIP MEAL Tuesday, October 27, at 6 pm in Cambridge (one block from Porter T). Looking for a few more guests—casual, potluck, no agenda, just a really nice evening. Email organizer Hilary Hopkins hopkinsjh@verizon.net or sign up in MJH on Sunday. Kids welcome too.

WEDNESDAY CHRISTIAN MEDITATION Christian Meditation is the ancient practice of opening the heart in silence to the indwelling presence of God. Join the circle any Wednesday from 6:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Lindsay Chapel. No experience is required, but all experience is welcome. Reach Kate Layzer at klayzer@gmail.com if you’d like to know more.

CENTERING MEDITATION Take an hour out of your week and gather with First Church friends to explore centering meditation. 6-7:15 pm Mondays and Thursdays in Room 22 (The Well). No prior meditation experience necessary. Contact Karin Case for more information: KarinCase@firstchurchcambridge.org.

ARE FOOD PANTRY ITEMS ON YOUR SHOPPING LIST? Next collection day November 1. Canned fruit, tuna, ketchup, tea are nice. Cookies for kids, too. Remember: if it's open, glass, or expired it will be tossed! Many thanks.

MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT Please consider signing the sheet at Coffee Hour about the Massachusetts Constitutional Amendment concerning tax rates for Massachusetts' millionaires and a way to fund urgently needed transportation and education assistance. This signature merely asks for the question to be put on the ballot, and does not require you to vote for or against when it goes on the ballot. For information, find us at a table at Coffee Hour. Thank you for considering this request. Please sign the sheet for your specific town or city. If you can gather signatures beyond First Church, please get the necessary instructions from Gaylen Morgan, Susan Redlich, Ann Curby, Margaret Gooch, Liz Rassweiler, or Alice Kidder. Thank you so much.

TOWARD AN IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM AND YOUR MUSLIM NEIGHBORS. Thursday evenings, October 22 through November 20, 7:00-8:30 p.m. in Classroom 101, Davis Hall, Andover Newton Theological School. Please consider attending one or more sessions of this series on one of the important Abrahamic faiths. Now in times of disconcerting demonstrations, we affirm our respect and concern for Muslims. The program is free and sponsored by the Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries. Register now on Eventbrite at: <http://islamcoursecmm.eventbrite.com>. For information contact Alice Kidder at flintkidr@aol.com.

END OF LIFE CARE CONVERSATIONS The Hospice of Cambridge Development Committee and VNA Care Network & Hospice will be hosting "What Do I Do and Say?" Crafting a Partnership with a Clinician About End-of-Life Care, an interactive discussion with Dr. David Weissman, a leading expert on palliative care and improving care for the seriously ill. Program is free and open to the public and will be held on Tuesday, November 3, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Cambridge Public Library. In addition, First Church in Cambridge will be hosting a "Conversation Sabbath" on November 8, joining with over 30 local congregations to promote end-of-life care conversations sponsored by the Institute for Healthcare Improvement's Conversation Project. The theme will be part of our morning worship service. Ministerial Intern Taj Smith will be leading a workshop after church that day. This will be the fourth in a series of discussions that we began with the Conversation Project and the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization this past spring.

THE MASSACHUSETTS INTERFAITH COALITION FOR CLIMATE ACTION is launching its first initiative: "Taking Our Call to the State House: A Legislative Action Day," Tuesday, November 10, 10 am to 1 pm (exact timing will depend on legislators). We need everyone to answer the call for climate action as we head to the State House to speak to our legislators about the legislative priorities that we believe will help build a clean and just energy future in Massachusetts. At coffee hour you can see the bills to support and sign up to join the event. If you missed the inspiring program at Temple Beth Elohim on October 12 you can watch the video on Wellesley Public Media's website. Questions or concerns? Please contact Susan Redlich at susan.redlich@gmail.com

CAMBRIDGE READS *Brown Girl Dreaming*—a memoir by Jacqueline Woodson has been chosen by the Cambridge Public Library for its citywide reading program this year. *Brown Girl Dreaming* is the recipient of the 2014 National Book Award, the Coretta Scott King Award, a Newberry Honor Award, the NAACP Image Award, and the Sibert Honor Award. Library Director Susan Flannery says: “Jacqueline Woodson’s rich and lyrical voice transcends time and place to bring readers of all backgrounds together to share her experience of coming of age in South Carolina and Brooklyn.” This memoir is written in free verse accessible to both children and adults. Cambridge Reads will host author Jacqueline Woodson on November 18 at 7:00 p.m. at Cambridge Rindge and Latin. Multiple copies are available from local libraries, and FCC has purchased several copies which you can borrow or purchase for a \$10.00 contribution to offset the cost of the book.

THREE EASY WAYS TO HELP HOMELESS NEIGHBORS

Clothing

The Friday Café is currently accepting donations of warm clothing, shoes, and boots in good condition—men’s and women’s, all sizes. No used socks or underclothing, please. Bag or box your donations and leave them in the office or hand them to Kate Layzer on Sunday.

Traveling?

Save your hotel soaps and shampoos and hand them to Kate at church or drop them by the office, and we’ll pass them along at the Friday Café.

Volunteer!

A shift is only 2 ½ to 3 hours. Share the gift of yourself with the community, feel lifted up yourself. What a nice end to the week! firstchurchcambridge.org/friday-café

PLEASE KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR VALUABLES Please be reminded that First Church is an open building, and petty theft does occur here. Please make sure to not leave wallets, purses, phones, etc. unattended. And if you see anything suspicious, please contact a sexton immediately. Thank you for your vigilance and care.

Today’s bulletin cover was created by Perry Neubauer.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, October 25

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation, led by Stewardship Committee, Hastings Room
- 10:00 a.m. Family Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Creative Arts/All Saints Puppet Prep
- 12:30 p.m. Social Justice Forum: Actions Toward a Just Peace in the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, Hastings
- 12:30 p.m. Young Adult Brunch, Grendel's Den (meet at back of Sanctuary)
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Monday, October 26

- 4:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Racism, Room 22 (the Well)
- 6:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Centering Meditation, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:30 p.m. Executive Council Meeting, Hastings Room

Tuesday, October 27

- 8:00 a.m. Faith in Context: Pope's Encyclical on Climate Change, Hastings Room
- 6:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Mental Health, Room 204
- 6:30 p.m. I Was a Stranger and You Welcomed Me, Tower Room
- 7:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Faith and Work, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:30 p.m. Gifts Discernment Committee, Dan Smith's Office

Wednesday, October 28

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's office
- 6:00 p.m. Christian Meditation, Lindsay Chapel

Thursday, October 29

- 6:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Centering Meditation, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

Friday, October 30

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café, Margaret Jewett Hall

Sunday, November 1

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Bell Choir, Lindsay Chapel
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation, led by Stewardship Committee, Hastings Room
- 10:00 a.m. Family Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship
- 11:20 a.m. Church School
- 12:30 p.m. Fall Congregational Meeting and Stewardship Lunch, MJH
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
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Minister of Stewardship & Finance	Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 karenmc@firstchurchcambridge.org
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