



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC
October 27, 2013
THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

VOLUNTARY *Ein feste Burg ist unser Gott* Dietrich Buxtehude

*HYMN C-23 *Come, All You Thirsty*

*GREETING Guy Stuart

- L: Sisters and brothers, grace and peace to you from God!
C: **And to the earth and every living thing, peace!**
L: Come, gather in this abiding place, in this welcome place.
C: **Come, gather in, here, where strangers become friends,
and friends become family.**
L: Here, where God welcomes us just as we are,
C: **with our faith and doubt, with our joys and our tears,
with our convictions and with our questions.**
L: Here, where there is room for us all.
C: **Let us worship then and give praise to God most high!**

WORDS OF WELCOME Sarah Higginbotham

CALL TO CONGREGATIONAL MEETING Gaylen Morgan

ANTHEM *Simple Gifts* Shaker hymn, arr. Robert Lehman

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- L: Now let us pray for the healing, pardon and peace.
All: **God of grace and courage,
we confess our brokenness and our failings,
what we have done, and what we have failed to do.
Touch us with your healing and forgiveness,
and make our hearts alive again to our truest names—
beloved daughters, cherished sons,
brothers and sisters in faith,**

**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.*

**children of God everyone of us,
always precious in your sight. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 31

O Sing to the Lord

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS AND THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

INVITATION

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Questions of Parents, Godparents and Congregation

Blessing of the Water

Baptism

Prayer

(After the baptism Children from Preschool to 8th grade are now invited to leave for a Creative Arts Project. Parents can meet their children in the Choir Room after worship.)

NEW MEMBER PROMISES

*COVENANT OF FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

Lindsay Miller

**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 other,
so near as God shall give us grace.**

*ADDRESS

*WELCOME AND CONGREGATIONAL PROMISES

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

*HYMN C-20 *The Household of God*

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING 1Thessalonians 2:1-9

SERMON

Dan Smith

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

L: The Lord be with you.
C: **And with your spirit.**
L: Let us pray . . . (silence, intercessions and Lord's Prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER

(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

Know that God Loves You

Carson Cooman

*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 (*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,

Thuma mina, somandla

VOLUNTARY

Nun Bitten wir den Heiligen Geist

Dietrich Buxtehude

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 Dan Smith, Senior Minister. Assisting with worship is Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts, and Lindsay Miller, First Church Deacon. Our liturgist is Guy Stuart, First Church Treasurer. Reading the Call to Congregational Meeting is Gaylen Morgan, First Church Moderator. 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 respect the privacy of those mentioned. To find out who we are praying for this week, please contact the church office at parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org or by calling 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.

FAMILY CHOIR October 27 and November 3 at 10 a.m. in the Choir Room First Church's multi-generational choir will gather for rehearsals in the 10:00 hour in preparation for singing in our All Saints Sunday worship on November 3.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL October 27 at 10 a.m. in Lindsay Chapel Join Susie Longfield in a new music initiative. New and experienced ringers alike are welcome.

LIFE TOGETHER LUNCH Sunday, October 27 at 12:30 p.m. in Margaret Jewett Hall Sundays at First Church tend to be full of many different activities and general busyness. To provide some balance, we celebrate Life Together lunches on the last Sunday of each month. No other activities will be scheduled until 1:30 p.m. on these Sundays and we'll have a chance to connect as a whole community in food, fellowship and fun.

CREATIVE AGING BOOK GROUP Sunday, October 27 at 1:30 p.m. in the Hastings Room We'll be discussing the final two chapters and the epilogue of the book.

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. To learn more, see Carter West or e-mail him at cartergw24@gmail.com.

CAMBRIDGE CONCENTUS PERFORMS HANDEL'S LA RESURREZIONE Sunday, October 27 at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary First Church's Ensemble-in-Residence kicks off its seventh season with Handel's spectacular oratorio *La Resurrezione* ! You won't want to miss this opportunity to see this rarely-performed work in a Boston debut performance led by acclaimed Handel interpreter **Kevin Mallon**.

TRAUMA AND HEALING: CONVERSATIONS WITH AN ISRAELI AND PALESTINIAN PHYSICIAN Friday, November 1 at 7:00 p.m. in Margaret Jewett Hall The Israel/Palestine Task Team invites you to attend *Trauma and Healing: Conversations with an Israeli and Palestinian Physician*. Dr. Ruchama Marton is President and Founder of Physicians for Human Rights-Israel and Dr. Allam Jarrar is the Director of the Palestinian Medical Relief Society. Their Presentation and Discussion will focus on the impact of the Israeli occupation on health.

STRONGER TOGETHER - GREATER BOSTON INTERFAITH ORGANIZATION AT 15 Tuesday, November 12, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m., at Temple Israel, Boston GBIO will be celebrating 15 years of powerful action related to affordable housing, healthcare for all, financial literacy, youth jobs, and more. Save the date for this ticketed fundraiser. Special guests will include Gov. Deval Patrick. For tickets please contact Jean Bellow (jean_bellow@comcast.net).

LIFE AND LEGACY RETREAT Saturday, November 16, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., Margaret Jewett Hall Okay, so you know how you would spend \$100,000, if you had it. Now, tell us, "How would you like to be remembered?" Come to the Life and Legacy Retreat. Participants Specific workshops will be offered addressing all the paperwork involved at end of life, how to organize a memorial service or funeral, where to find good health care, and planned giving. Register on line at the First Church website or email Tim Seery at tseery@college.harvard.edu by November 11.

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
Director of Creative Worship & Arts	Sarah Higginbotham, 617-547-2724, ext. 42 shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org
Staff Composer	Patricia Van Ness
Shelter Director	Jim Stewart, 617-661-1873 jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org
Parish Administrator	Kirsten Manville, 617-547-2724, ext. 21 parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org
Pastoral Associate	Julie Rogers, 617-547-2724, ext. 41 jrogers@firstchurchcambridge.org
Facilities Manager	Dan dos Santos ddossantos@firstchurchcambridge.org
Sextons	Ronaldo dos Santos, Tina Quimby, George Williams, Kimel Williams, 617-642-3980



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United Church of Christ

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