



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

**to serve and be served,
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

Children from PreK to 7th grade are invited to leave now for their Church School Classes. 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 436

Just a Closer Walk With Thee

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Katie Omberg

RESPONSIVE PSALM

Psalm 146

- L: Praise be to God! Praise God, O my soul!
C: **I will praise God as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.**
L: Do not put your trust in nobles, in mortals,
in whom there is no help.
C: **When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans shall perish.**
L: Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Sovereign their God,
C: **who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;**
L: who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
C: **God sets the prisoners free;
God opens the eyes of those who cannot see.**
L: God lifts up those who are bowed down;
God loves those who are righteous.
C: **God watches over the strangers;
and upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked God brings to ruin.**
L: The Sovereign will reign forever, your God,
O Zion, for all generations.
C: **Praise be to God!**

READING Mark 12:38-44

SERMON Dan Smith

*HYMN 415 *When We Are Living*

SHARING OUR LIFE TOGETHER

ANNOUNCEMENTS Taj Smith

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD Karin Case

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.)

**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 *Lord We Beseech Thee* Adrian Batt

*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 467 *I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me*

*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

I've Got Peace Like a River

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 are Karin Case, Minister, and Taj Smith and Katie Omberg, Ministerial Interns. Our liturgist is Jennifer Stuart. Louise Munding is playing the organ and directing the choir. They are joined by the Thinkin' Big Trio--Jonah Francese, trumpet; Aleida Bautista, trombone; Joel Gardella, bari sax.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED Please pray for members of the Islamic Center of Burlington in the aftermath of anti-Muslim vandalism against their mosque last week. Pray for the peace of Israel and Palestine in the face of rising violence and for relief for migrants and refugees from Syria and other regions. Please pray for our nation as we confront an epidemic of police brutality against person of color. Please keep in your prayers people struggling with grief, illness, addiction or mental health concerns, job related transitions, marital or relationship troubles, or loneliness.

Portions of the **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** section of the bulletin are 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

TRAUMA, RACE, AND THE WORK OF FORGIVENESS — Moving towards Hope and Transformation, Today at 10:00 a.m., and Sunday, November 15, 10:00 a.m. and 12:30 p.m., in the Hastings Room. Join recent Harvard Divinity School graduates Melissa Bartholomew and our own Jennifer Stuart for three sessions exploring the role of trauma and forgiveness in the work of racial healing and what moves us toward hope and transformation. These offerings will be grounded in Christian theological reflection and in the rich and varied professional experiences of our presenters. We hope the sessions will offer a framework and a safe space for our congregation to begin to talk about this important work on an individual and community basis. Save the dates and stay tuned for more information!

END OF LIFE CARE CONVERSATIONS AND “CONVERSATION SABBATH”

Today during Morning Worship and 12:30 p.m. First Church in Cambridge is hosting a Conversation Sabbath, joining with over thirty 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. Following Morning Worship Ministerial Intern Taj Smith will lead a workshop in the Hastings Room. This will be the fourth in our series of discussions with the Conversation Project and the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization that began this past spring.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 7:00 p.m. (new time in effect through April 2016), Sanctuary This Sunday marks the return of Beneficia lucis, the ensemble of men, to Night Song this season. You will hear: Gregorian chant; Motets by Gibbons and Byrd; Psalm 4, plainchant Tone IV.1 alternating with Anglican chant by Bichel; the hymn "Jesus, Redeemer of the World" by Bichel/Van Ness; Tritone plainchant setting for compline by Bichel; Contemplative instrumental improvisations. Andrew Sheranian, Director; Beneficia lucis; Ben Schwendener, piano; Sarah Hughes, saxophone. A number of sound clips have been posted on the Night Song web site for your enjoyment. Go to www.nightsong.org and click on sound clips.

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

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. **We will not be meeting this Wednesday, November 11. The Church will be closed in observance of Veterans Day.**

CENTERING MEDITATION Take an hour out of your week and gather with First Church friends to explore centering meditation. 6:00-7:15 pm Mondays and Thursdays in Room 22 (The Well). No prior meditation experience necessary. Contact Karin Case for more information: KarinCase@firstchurchcambridge.org.

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. 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.

WELCOME NEWCOMERS! Interested in learning more about First Church? Whether you're new to the area or simply new to First Church, we're glad you're here! Please take a moment during church to fill out a pew card with your name and contact information, or stop by one of our tables after worship. You'll find a Welcome Table in Margaret Jewett Hall with information about First Church and someone to greet you and answer any questions you may have. We'd love to know that you've been here and help you connect with opportunities that interest you at First Church. Here are some ways to get connected:

- Request a nametag (Easy! Fill out a pew card and we'll have one ready for you next Sunday.)
- Receive First Glance, our succinct, weekly e-communication about the events of the week. (Just check the box on your pew card and you'll receive next week's issue on Friday.)
- Receive EVENT, our e-newsletter (Also available in paper form) that comes out every couple of months. (Yup, check the box on your pew card to sign up.)
- Check out our web site: <http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/>
- Find us on Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/firstchurchincambridge>
- Watch the Sunday bulletin for information about the many activities and opportunities in our worship and community life.

Please come back and explore the rich worship, spiritual and community life at First Church!

WHO CAN WE INVITE to become members of our musical family? Join us to share in this **All-Church Forum** to discuss, discern, and dream on **Sunday, November 22**, following Morning Worship. Come with your ideas and your hopes for the future of worship music at First Church!

THE UCC MIDDLE EAST INITIATIVE Sunday, November 22, 10:00 a.m., in the Hastings Room The Global Ministries Middle East Initiative of the UCC and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) invites the whole church to focus on the region of the Middle East for an extended period of time. Through highlighting aspects of mission and partnership, the Initiative offers an opportunity for the church to become familiar with the range of denominational partners in the region and the issues they face and the context in which they face them.

SAVE THE DATE! Advent Meditation Retreat on Saturday November 28, 9 am to 12 noon Treat yourself to a morning of meditation and reflection in preparation for the Advent Season. Join Karin Case on Saturday November 28- the day before Advent begins. We will open ourselves to scripture and sacred music and we'll have plenty of time to explore a variety of meditation approaches including breath-centered meditation, walking meditation and compassion meditation. No experience necessary. All are welcome. Childcare at the church can be arranged upon request. **Please register now on the First Church web site**, <http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org/> or e-mail Karin Case karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org to reserve a space.

COLLECTING TIN CANS AND GLASS JARS FOR THE ADVENT WORKSHOP. Please consider donating clean tin cans and glass jars from your recycling bins to the Advent Workshop. We will be accepting cans and jars on November 15 and 22, in advance of the workshop on November 29. Contact Sarah Higginbotham (shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org) with questions.

VOLUNTEER FOR THE ADVENT WORKSHOP, NOVEMBER 29 Do you enjoy crafting? Would you enjoy helping others enter the Advent season in a creative way? Consider volunteering to supervise a craft table at our annual Advent Workshop after worship on the First Sunday of Advent, November 29. You can choose which craft you'd like to teach; instructions for your activity will be provided. Responsibilities include set-up and craft tutorial during the 10:00 o'clock hour and staffing of the table from 12:30 to 2:00 pm. Contact Sarah Higginbotham (shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org) to sign up.

THE FIRST CHURCH SHELTER welcomes donations of volunteer time and meal or dessert items for then upcoming Thanksgiving Holiday. If you want to help out, please contact Jim Stewart (jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org or 617-694-7894).

MASSACHUSETTS CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT Please consider signing the sheet at Fellowship 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.

THE ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE TASK FORCE at First Parish and the Walking in Love Social Justice Committee at Christ Church Cambridge invite you to a showing of Merchants of Doubt on Friday, November 13, 7:00 p.m. (doors open at 6:30) at First Parish Cambridge Unitarian Universalist, 3 Church Street, Harvard Square. This 90-minute documentary exposes a concerted strategy to create doubt about the threats of climate change. Based on the book by Naomi Oreskes, it interviews the author, industry reps, pundits, environmentalists, and climate scientists in a riveting behind-the-scenes look at how the fossil fuel industry has succeeded in deceiving the public and blocking government action on climate. Join us for light refreshments and a discussion following the movie. For more information contact: EJTF@firstparishcambridge.org

TOWARD AN IMPROVED UNDERSTANDING OF ISLAM AND YOUR MUSLIM NEIGHBORS. Thursday evenings, ongoing 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.

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. If you are interested in going with people from First Church, contact Jean Bellow at jean_bellow@comcast.net.

THANKSGIVING AT THE FRIDAY CAFÉ

Friday Café would be very happy for contributions of Thanksgiving side dishes and pies to serve on Friday, November 27. If you have the day off from work and have been waiting for a chance to participate in the Café, volunteers are also needed! Get in touch with Kate Layzer at klayzer@gmail.com.

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, November 8

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. "Trauma, Race, and the Work of Forgiveness," Part I, Hastings Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Milton Academy Jazz Musicians, Dan Smith, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes for preschoolers-7th grade
- 12:30 p.m. The "Conversation Project" Session, Hastings Room
- 12:30 p.m. Christian Formation Team Meeting, Library
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

Monday, November 9

- 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)

Tuesday, November 10

- 6:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Mental Health, Room 204
- 6:30 p.m. Faith and Life: I Was a Stranger, Tower Room
- 7:00 p.m. Faith and Life: Faith and Work, Room 22 (the Well)
- 7:15 p.m. Faith and Life: What Words Can You Use, Dan Smith's Office

Wednesday, November 11

(Church closed in observance of Veterans Day)

Thursday, November 12

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

Friday, November 13

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

Sunday, November 15

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal
- 9:45 a.m. Coffee/Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. "Trauma, Race, and the Work of Forgiveness," Part II, Hastings Room
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Katie Omberg, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School: Classes for preschoolers-7th grade
- 12:30 p.m. "Trauma, Race and the Work of Forgiveness," Part III, Hastings Room
- 12:30 p.m. Newcomers Orientation and Lunch, McKenzie Library
- 2:00 p.m. Youth Group Trip to Walden Pond (meet in church lobby)
- 4:00 p.m. Confirmation Class, Room 22
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Rev. Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister	Rev. Dr. Karin Case 617-547-2724, ext. 26 karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org
Minister of Stewardship & Finance	Rev. Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 karenmc@firstchurchcambridge.org
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FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL

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