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**Easter tide**

**FIRST CHURCH  
IN CAMBRIDGE**

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC

April 22, 2012

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

VOLUNTARY

*Prelude in C Major*

J. S. Bach

\*HYMN C-26

*Lord, Your Grace Shines Like the Morning*

\*GREETING (from Psalm 96)

Devin Hansen

L: O Sing to God a new song;  
sing to God, all the earth!

**C: Sing to God, bless God's name!  
Tell of God's salvation from day to day.**

L: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;  
let the sea roar, and all that fills it.

**C: Let the field exult, and everything in it,  
and all the trees of the forest  
sing for joy before God.**

L: God is coming to bring justice to the earth.

**C: Alleluia! God will judge the world with righteousness,  
and the peoples with truth.**

WORDS OF WELCOME

Sarah Higginbotham

*Children from PreK to 8th 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.*

ANTHEM

*Love is Come Again*

Traditional, arr. P. Sykes

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: We've rejoiced in the trumpets,  
O God, we've shared in the Alleluias,  
but deep down we still aren't sure how to live as Easter people.  
Even now we have our doubts  
about whether Christ is really here,**

*\*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.*

**alive with us.  
Sometimes it feels as if nothing has changed—  
not in the world around us,  
not in our hearts.  
Come to us, we pray, ready for you or not.  
Open our eyes to see you shining out at us everywhere we look.  
Show yourself to us in places we'd rather not go  
and people we'd rather not meet.  
Put such love inside us that fear no longer has any say over us,  
and then set us free to take resurrection out into the streets.  
In the power of our Risen Christ we pray. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

\*GREETING OF PEACE

\*HYMN 409

*How Can We Name a Love*

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

Terry McKinney

RESPONSIVE PSALM 30

- L: I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up,  
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.  
O Lord my God, I cried to you for help,  
and you have healed me.
- C: You brought up my soul from Sheol,  
you drew me from the Pit and restored me to life.**
- L: Sing praises to the Lord, O you faithful ones,  
and give thanks to God's holy name.
- C: For God's anger is but for a moment;  
God's favor is for a lifetime.  
Weeping may linger for the night,  
but joy comes with the morning.**
- L: You hid your face; I was dismayed.  
To you, O Lord, I cried and made supplication.
- C: "What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit?  
Will the dust praise you?  
Will it tell of your faithfulness?"**
- L: Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me!  
O Lord, be my helper!"

*Children from PreK to 8th grade are invited to leave after the hymn for their Church*

**C: You have turned my mourning into dancing;  
you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy,  
so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.**

**All: O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever!**

READING John 21:1–19

SERMON Kate Layzer

\*HYMN 215 *Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY *Angelus Autem Domini* Felice Anerio

*Ángelus áutem Dómini descéndit de coélo, et accédans revólvit lápidem, et súper éum sédit, et díxit muliéribus: nólite timére: scío énim, quía crucifixum quaéritis: jam resurréxit, veníte et vidéte lócum, úbi pósito erat Dóminus, allelúia, allehúia, allelúia. — Matthew 28b:2,5–8.*

*The Angel of the Lord came down from heaven, and rolled away the stone, and sat upon it; and said to the women, "Do not be afraid; you seek him who was crucified: he is risen, come and see the place where the Lord's body was." Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

\*EASTER DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**O Jesus, risen now to bless,  
Do thou thyself our hearts possess;  
that we may give thee all our days  
the willing tribute of our praise! Amen.**

PRAYERS FOR CHURCH AND WORLD Dan Smith

L: God be with you.

**C: And with your spirit.**

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.**

\*HYMN 241

*We Will Build Your Church, O Christ*

\*BENEDICTION

\*CHORAL RESPONSE

*Sending Forth*

Paul Sawyer

*We have been gathered from the world to be judged and received.  
Now we are sent forth into that world,  
to be the scattered church of Jesus Christ,  
declaring through our word and deed,  
"The Lord is risen! The Lord is risen indeed! Alleluia!"*

VOLUNTARY

*Fugue in C Major*

J. S. Bach

*The 2011-2012 bulletin cover art series was designed by Perry Neubauer and constructed by many hands, large and small. The Eastertide bulletin cover was created by Melissa Dee.*

## **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 hope that you will stay for a bit after worship for refreshments and conversation. (Follow the crowd.) 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 speak to one of the ministers after church, or visit us on the web at [www.firstchurchcambridge.org](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org)

**Large print bulletins and assistive listening devices are available.**

**Please ask a greeter for assistance.**

Activity packets for children's use during worship are also available near the sanctuary doors. Nursery care for infants and toddlers (through age 4) is located down the hallway and up four stairs to the door on the right. The worship service is also broadcast in the Hastings Room, across from the sanctuary entrance.

**PREACHING TODAY IS** Kate Layzer, First Church member and ordained UCC minister. Assisting with worship are Dan Smith, Senior Minister, Terry McKinney, Affiliate Minister of Mental Health Outreach, and Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts. Our liturgist is Gifts Discernment/ Nominating Committee member Devin Hansen. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir.

The **YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED** section of the bulletin is omitted from this online version to preserve the privacy of those mentioned. If you'd like more information on the people we're praying for this week, please contact the church office at [parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org](mailto:parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org) or 617-547-2724 and we'll get the information to you.

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING AND MARCH LISTENING SESSIONS SUMMARY** Today at 12:30 pm we will gather for our congregational meeting to vote on Terry McKinney's ordination. In addition, leaders of our March after church listening sessions will be offering a summary of those conversations and making some suggestions for next steps as we look ahead to fall. Please join us for these important conversations. All are welcome, even if you missed the March listening sessions. A light lunch will be provided.

**INTRODUCTORY SHOWING OF "CENTERING PRAYER: A TRAINING COURSE FOR OPENING TO THE PRESENCE OF GOD"** Today and April 29, 10 a.m., Hastings Room This course was developed by Father Thomas Keating, a leading proponent of Christian contemplative prayer, and the founder of the international organization, Contemplative Outreach. Several congregation members have viewed the course, donated to First Church, at home (6 DVD's, a workbook, and other material). Based on their enthusiasm, and general interest in Christian contemplative prayer within First Church, highlights of this course will be presented in two interactive sessions, as a Christian Formation activity. For more information, contact Stan Goldin (stan\_goldin@hms.harvard.edu)

**FIRST CHURCH HAS A NEW WEBSITE** Our brand new website is now "live". Please click on [www.firstchurchcambridge.org](http://www.firstchurchcambridge.org) to check it out! Don't miss photos of the congregation, audio recordings of music and sermons, video on the Havruta, History, Shelter and Special Music pages, a monthly calendar, a latest news and a 'take action' button on every page to keep you up-to-date on social justice efforts. Special thanks to Alicia Pritt and Theory One Design and to many First Church members who have made this site possible! Be sure to share our web address with all your friends. Also, please be sure to "like" our new Facebook and/or link to our new Google + pages. And please stay tuned—we are still adding features, pages and events.

**HEALING EARTH DINNER, WITH BILL MCKIBBEN** First Church in Cambridge, Thursday, April 26 Join Cooperative Metropolitan Ministries (CMM) and First Church in welcoming internationally recognized founder of 350.org, Bill McKibben, Thursday, April 26. CMM plans an interfaith worship service, beginning at 5:00 p.m., on the banks of the Charles River (near JFK Street), followed by a walk/bike ride through Harvard Square, and concluding with a "locavore" dinner and address at First Church, at 6:30 p.m., in Margaret Jewett Hall.

**COME TO A TALK BY HOPEWELL GUMBO** On Friday, April 27th First Church welcomes directly from Zimbabwe, Hopewell Gumbo, a spokesperson for the Zimbabwe Coalition on Debt and Development. (ZIMCODD) His speaking at First Church is the first stop on a national US tour, sponsored by JubileeUSA. Please come to hear the impact of global debt on nations eager for economic growth and development. Mr. Gumbo is a leading human rights, social and economic justice activist and political analyst. Currently he is Senior Program Officer with ZIMCODD. From 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. there will be a wonderful potluck supper, with the talk beginning at 7:30 p.m. (both are in Margaret Jewett Hall.) Please come, and bring a friend.

**TRAUMA AND GRACE** What faith practices do we have that can help us to hold and make meaning of current and past traumas? What role can forgiveness play and what are some other options for healing? Some resources have been prepared to help individuals deal with these very issues. If you would like a copy of these resources or would like to explore the subject further, please contact Dan Smith (dsmith6@firstchurchcambridge.org) or Terry McKinney (temckinney@msn.com)

**STAFF EVALUATIONS STARTING UP** The process of staff evaluations has begun. Members of committees assigned to carry out each evaluation will send questionnaires to representative groups from the congregation with a request that you return the evaluation to a particular person on that team. If you receive an evaluation form know that we very much depend on your experience and opinion and hope you will fill out the form and return it to the designated person by the deadline. This is a vital part of the support we offer our staff and your input will be invaluable. Thanks in advance to all of you who do participate!

**THE MASSACHUSETTS COUNCIL OF CHURCHES ANNUAL MEETING** The Massachusetts Council of Churches would like to invite you to its Annual Meeting on April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2012. This year's theme is Christian Unity in the Digital Age. We are bringing together a panel and workshops to discuss the complexities and importance of having a presence online. Our meeting will be held at the Wellesley Congregational Church. For any questions please contact Fred Hayes at fred@masscouncilofchurches.org or 617-523-2771.

**SOCIAL JUSTICE FORUM** April 29 at 12:30 p.m. Consider joining a delegation to Israel/Palestine. Come to hear about the active peace making sponsored by Interfaith Peace Builders when Mike Daly, Program Coordinator, and members of former delegations come to speak to us. IFPB delegations bear witness to the every day violence of war and occupation in Israel-Palestine and learn from those committed to nonviolent struggle, human rights and peace with justice. IFPB then empowers delegates to become forces for change in their own communities. To learn more visit their website at [www.interfaithpeacebuilders.org](http://www.interfaithpeacebuilders.org). If you might be interested in going contact Gay Harter at [asharter@verizon.net](mailto:asharter@verizon.net).

**GOT A SILENT AUCTION ITEM TO BENEFIT RIM?** Refugee Immigration Ministry is soliciting unused items for our Silent Auction table at the Annual International Concert in Malden on May 2. Perhaps there is a perfectly good gift you have received in your closet that could be put to good use. Contact Ruth Hsiao at 617-491-8683.

**PARENTS' NIGHT OUT** First Church is offering its first ever Parent's Night Out. On Friday, May 4, from 5:30-8:00 p.m. drop your child off and enjoy a night out in Harvard Square. Parent volunteers will supervise arts and crafts for older children and free play for younger children in the basement play space. Pizza will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Amy Matias at [Amy.matias@verizon.net](mailto:Amy.matias@verizon.net)

**FEEDING SUNDAY** Join us Sunday, May 6, at 11:00 a.m. for a special celebration of First Church's relationship with the Outdoor Church, a ministry to homeless men and women in the Harvard and Porter Square areas. The entire congregation will be invited to participate in the monthly practice of making lunches for the Outdoor Church community. First Church's support of the Outdoor Church includes both direct financial contribution and the monthly sandwich ministry of our Creative Worship & Arts program.

**SOUP AND STORIES (S AND S)!** Building the Beloved Community invites you to the third in a series of dinners and conversations about race and culture in our lives, our faith and our church. We'll meet at First Church for this session, from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, May 6, in Margaret Jewett Hall. Everyone is welcome, whether or not you were at either of the two earlier S and S. Lunch will be provided. We'll open by framing the question: "How does my experience of race and culture in life and at First Church inform how we can live into our vision of hospitality?" A small panel of First Church folks will relate their experiences and stories. We'll gather in small groups, to share reactions to the panel, as well as our own stories and experiences of race and culture at First Church. Then we'll regather to discuss how we move forward toward a renewed vision of hospitality. Questions? Please contact Jean Bellow (617-492-2685), [jean\\_bellow@comcast.net](mailto:jean_bellow@comcast.net)).

**BOSTON CHILDREN'S CHORUS -- GET VOCAL!** The Boston Children's Chorus (BCC) brings kids together from all over the Boston area -- inner city kids, suburban kids, kid who might never have had the opportunity to meet -- and offers them the opportunity to harmonize socially, through a shared love of music. BCC singers perform around Boston, as well as nationally and internationally, sharing the kids of experiences that will shape their lives forever. Auditions for the 2012-2013 season will take place on May 11 and May 12 at the BCC South End office, and at area schools and community organizations. For more information, visit [www.bostonchildrenschorus.org](http://www.bostonchildrenschorus.org) or talk to Julian or Nellie Baxandall!

**YOU DON'T HAVE TO BE PURITAN TO GO ON A "PURITAN ROOTS" TOUR!** The Congregational Library is offering a 12-day tour (June 18-20) that traces the path traveled by the Puritans who settled New England -- only in reverse. It begins in Salem, Mass., and winds up in East Anglia, the area northwest of London where many of the Puritans came from. In Old England, the tour includes London, Cambridge, Ipswich and other Puritan sites as well as some fun side trips to places such as the Viking ruins in Sutton Hoo. For more information, go to [http://www.ipswichtours.com/east\\_anglia.html](http://www.ipswichtours.com/east_anglia.html) or contact Janet at Olde Ipswich Tours, 978-356-5163.

**SUPPORT PROJECT BREAD AND THE WALK FOR HUNGER** This year Nicole Haas-Loomis is participating in the Walk for Hunger. She looking for pledges and hopes the First Church community will makes some contributions. The Walk for Hunger takes place May 6th and people can contribute on her webpage: <http://tinyurl.com/bupqp5w>. This is a great way to give back to the community and the rest of Massachusetts. Thank you for your time and support!

## SMALL GROUP AND WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

**THIRD-SUNDAY JAZZ WORSHIP** There are now regular monthly Jazz services! After experimenting with a variety of worship formats last year, it became clear that our Jazz service has the greatest draw and staying power. We are thrilled that Carolyn Wilkins and friends will continue to bring us vibrant and eclectic Jazz, Gospel, and African-American spirituals. Nancy Weil will continue to work with our staff to resource this service. The next service is **Sunday, May 20 at 5:00 p.m.** in **Margaret Jewett Hall** and will be followed by a time of fellowship.

**NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE** Every **Sunday through April 29 at 7 p.m. in the sanctuary** Bask in the beauty of Renaissance polyphony, Gregorian chant, introspective modal improvisations by jazz musicians, incense and icons. Participation in Night Song, about an hour in length, is through listening and silent prayer. It is not meant to be a performance, but rather a transformation – a medium for achieving inner peace, centering and spiritual renewal. Set apart from the sights, sounds, and values of current culture, Night Song helps participants enter an inner mystical silence. You are invited and encouraged to attend and to tell others about this new opportunity at First Church.

**MONTHLY NEWCOMER SESSIONS ON THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH, 12:15 P.M.** We are blessed to be graced by many visitors and newcomers to our church community. While we have always held newcomer sessions around a joining Sunday, we will now be offering monthly gatherings with a topical focus. Hopefully this will allow newcomers to get to know one another and to enter into engaging dialogue around topics ranging from our faith journeys to basic tenets of the Christian journey. We will also continue to share information about First Church and the UCC. Current members are also encouraged to attend to get to know people and share in the dialogue. Please fill a plate with lunch in Margaret Jewett Hall, and bring it with you to the Hastings Room. **The next Newcomer Session will be May 20 at 12:30 p.m.**

**MENTAL HEALTH & SPIRITUALITY GROUP** How do emotional struggles and mental health difficulties affect your relationship with God? Does your faith change your experience of mental health issues? Join us in the Tower Room each Sunday from 2:00 to 3:30 p.m. as we hold these questions and our experiences in the healing light of Christ. The group is open: you may attend as often or as little as you like, and newcomers are always welcome. Talk to or e-mail Terry McKinney ([temkinney@msn.com](mailto:temkinney@msn.com)) or Carter West ([stbosal@arczip.com](mailto:stbosal@arczip.com)).

**TUESDAY FAMILY NIGHT** Family Night continues **every other Tuesday evening, 5:30 - 7:00 p.m., in Sage Hall.** Parents and children gather for a simple potluck supper, some active play in the indoor play space, and a chance to share the joys and challenges of family life together. If you have young kids and are looking for an easy weeknight dinner plan with friends, join us! Family Night is a wonderful way for families with children to spend time together outside of the Sunday morning routine. While most families who attend have preschool-aged children, families with older children are welcome as well! The main dish (usually pasta and sauce) is provided; bring a side dish, dessert, or drink to share. The last three Family Nights of the year are scheduled for May 1, 15 and 29.

## The Week Ahead

### Today, Sunday, April 22

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, Margaret Jewett Hall
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Kate Layzer, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School Classes (PreK-Grade 8)
- 12:30 p.m. Congregational Meeting and Lunch, MJH
- 2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

### Monday, April 23

- 2:00 p.m. Sexton Meeting, Dan Smith's office
- 6:30 p.m. Staff Relations Committee, Dan Smith's office
- 7:30 p.m. Executive Council, Hastings Room

### Wednesday, April 25

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's office
- 7:30 p.m. Gifts Discernment/Nominating Committee, Dan Smith's office

### Thursday, April 26

- 7:00 p.m. Bill McKibben Healing Earth Dinner, MJH
- 7:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

### Friday, April 27

- 6:30 p.m. Hopewell Gumbo Lecture, MJH

### Sunday, April 29

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
- 9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, MJH
- 10:00 a.m. Christian Formation
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Terry McKinney, preaching
- 11:20 a.m. Church School Classes (PreK-Grade 8)
- 12:30 p.m. Social Justice Forum, Hastings Room
- 2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room
- 2:30 p.m. Metro Boston Association, UCC, Spring Meeting
- 7:00 p.m. Night Song, Sanctuary

## 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.



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## The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

Senior Minister	Dan Smith, 617-547-2724, ext. 23 dsmith@firstchurchcambridge.org
Director of Music	Peter Sykes, 617-661-0570 psykes@aol.com
Director of Creative Worship & Arts	Sarah Higginbotham, 617-547-2724, ext. 42 shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org
Shelter Director	Jim Stewart, 617-661-1873 jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org
Parish Administrator	Kirsten Manville, 617-547-2724, ext. 21 parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org
Administrative Assistant	Amy Click, 617-547-2724, ext. 41 aclick@firstchurchcambridge.org
Affiliate Minister of Mental Health Outreach	Terry McKinney, 781-643-7324 temckinney@msn.com
Affiliate Minister of Stewardship and Finance	Karen McArthur, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 treasurer@firstchurchcambridge.org
Affiliate Minister to the Outdoor Church	Jed Mannis, 978-456-0047 jedmannis@charter.net
Sextons	William Glass, Tina Quimby, George Williams, Kacy Williams, 617-642-3980



**FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL**

*United Church of Christ*

11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

617-547-2724