



Pentecost Sunday

**FIRST CHURCH
IN CAMBRIDGE**

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC

May 15, 2016

PENTECOST SUNDAY

GATHERING

VOLUNTARY

Come, Holy Spirit

J. S. Bach

*HYMN C-25

Let There Be Life in This House

*GREETING

Paul Sawyer

- L: Sisters and brothers,
the peace of Christ be with you!
- C: And on the whole world, peace!**
- L: The Spirit is coming to us all,
- C: to give us gifts for sharing,**
- L: to change our hearts for loving,
- C: to fill the Church for singing,**
- L: to wake up the world for living,
- C: to tell God's name for praising!**
- L: The Spirit is coming to us all—
- C: the gift of God, poured out today!**
- L: Now lift your hearts in worship and praise!

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Psalm 108

Patricia Van Ness

*Wake up, my spirit; awake, lute and harp, I myself will waken dawn.
Your loving-kindness is greater than the heavens, and your faithfulness.
Exalt yourself above the heavens, O God, your glory o'er all the Earth. Alleluia.*

CONFESSING

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION HYMN 281 *Spirit of the Living God*

Please remain seated for the hymn.

**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.*

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*GREETING OF PEACE

*HYMN 439

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

INVITATION

Sarah Higginbotham and Karin Case

PROMISES

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

L: ...are asking to be confirmed in the faith and family of Jesus Christ.
You have heard the promises they made. What is your will?

**C: By God's grace, they are worthy.
Let them be confirmed!**

PRAYER FOR THE CANDIDATES

LAYING ON OF HANDS

ADDRESS TO NEW MEMBERS

*COVENANT OF FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

**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 to himself,
do solemnly and religiously,
as in his most holy presence,
promise and bind ourselves to walk in all his 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.**

WELCOME

L: Friends, let us welcome these new members and friends
and affirm the ministry we share in Jesus Christ. We also invite forward
Alice Dyer who is part of our class, our community and our hearts but who has
decided that she does not wish to be confirmed at this time.

**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!**

*HYMN C-29

Perfect Yet Unfinished

OPENING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

THE PENTECOST STORY

Acts 2:1-12

Katie Omberg, Taj Smith,
Sarah Higginbotham, Dan Smith

REFLECTION AND CELEBRATIONS

Dan Smith, Kate Layzer,
Paul Sawyer and Patricia Van Ness

*HYMN 33

When in Our Music God is Glorified

SHARING OUR LIVES

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT OF CONCERN

Will Erickson

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

Karen McArthur

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

GRACE

Patricia Van Ness

*God of grace
God of grace
God of grace
Creator of grace
Source of grace
Font of grace
Wide and wide
Fathoms and fathoms
Sweeping and sweeping
Grace and strength
Grace and compassion
Grace and hope
Courage and grace and grace
Amen*

*PENTECOST 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 427

My Life Flows on in Endless Song

*BLESSING FOR PETER SYKES ON HIS 30TH ANNIVERSARY AS DIRECTOR OF
MUSIC

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Ultimate Jude

Paul Sawyer

*Praise ye the Lord, above, praise ye the Lord!
Now unto the One who is able to keep you from falling,
and present you faultless before the presence of Glory with exceeding joy!
to the only wise God, our Savior, be glory and majesty,
both now and forever, amen!*

VOLUNTARY

Fugue in G Minor

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 Dan Smith, Senior Minister. Assisting with worship are Karin Case, Minister, Kate Layzer, Minister of Street Outreach, Karen McArthur, Minister of Stewardship & Finance, Katie Omberg, Ministerial Intern, Taj Smith, Ministerial Intern, and Patricia Van Ness, Staff Composer. Giving the Moment of Concern is Will Erickson, First Church Greater Boston Interfaith Organization leader. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is playing the organ and directing the choir. Our liturgist today is First Church member and Choir Member Paul Sawyer.

YOUR PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED in celebration and gratitude for Peter Sykes, and his 30 years of service to First Church as Director of Music. We also pray in joy and celebration with today's confirmands as they take this next step on their faith journeys, and with recent and soon to be graduates as they look ahead to a new phase of life. Please also pray for all those affected by the cross-border raid in Ethiopia. We pray for all members of the LGBTQ community who face discrimination, especially those affected by the state laws passed or under deliberation that are debating and dismantling protections for LGBTQ people. Please pray for all refugees and immigrants, for Syrians, and all who live with the threat of escalating violence. Please pray for a spirit of wisdom and understanding in this season of divisive election politics. 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

CELEBRATING PENTECOST! *And Confirmation Sunday! And Peter Sykes's 30th Anniversary! Today in Morning Worship* Today will be a day of great celebration for First Church! It's Pentecost Sunday! It's Confirmation Sunday! And, it's Peter Sykes's 30th Anniversary as First Church's Organist and Director of Music! Not only will we celebrate the gift of Holy Spirit to the early church, we will honor the culmination of a year of learning and growth by our confirmation class, and we will celebrate 30 years of Peter Sykes sharing his incredible musical gifts with us.

CELEBRATING PETER SYKES Today at 10:00 a.m. in the Hastings Room On May 15, 1986, Peter Sykes was hired by First Church in Cambridge as Organist and Director of Music. For 30 years Peter has accompanied and led the music of our choir and of Sunday morning congregation. Sunday after Sunday, Peter has revealed to us God's wisdom and beauty through his profound ministry of music. Please join us as we give God thanks for the gift of the Spirit that is Peter Sykes and as we celebrate Peter's many gifts to us. Join us before the service at 10 a.m. for a special conversation with Peter and a chance to thank him directly for the ways his ministry has touched you. The celebration will continue through the service with special acknowledgements and musical offerings by Staff Composer Patricia Van Ness and others.

NEWCOMERS LUNCH Today at 12:30 p.m., in the Hastings Room Interested in learning more about First Church? About our history? Or our community? Or our denomination? Or our ministries? Interested in meeting other folks who are new to First Church? Karin Case and other church leaders will host a Newcomers Exploration Lunch following Morning Worship And if you are feeling ready to join First Church, please email Karin Case at karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org and mark your calendars. Our **next Joining Sunday** will be **Sunday, May 22, during Morning Worship.**

ELLEN ROHAN BALL ORDINATION Today at 3:00 p.m., First Congregational Church in Chelsea (26 Country Road, Chelsea) All are invited to attend Ellen's ordination. A reception will follow the service in the church hall. First Church attendees are invited to bring desserts! All varieties welcome, and bring to the lower level fellowship hall as you arrive. **PARKING** may be found on street, or simply drive to the church and a greeter will give directions to a parking lot a few minutes away off of the Parkway. We are looking forward to this celebration.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Tonight at 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary Join us for these contemplative and spiritually transporting candle-lit experiences of choral literature, ancient and contemporary chant, and instrumental music. There is no spoken word, no sermon— just the opportunity to experience the Divine through music, being still, and silent meditation. Tonight: Gregorian chant from the Liber Usualis, Psalm 121, plainchant alternating with Anglican chant by Bichel, Sequence hymn for Pentecost: Veni Sancte Spiritus, Motets by Palestrina, Harriet Bridges, soprano, Michael Terranova, alto, Erik Bertrand, tenor and cantor, Bill Leonard, bass.

FUTURE HAPPENINGS

FCC GARDEN GROUP WORK DAYS Saturday, May 21, 10:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. and Sunday, May 29, 11:20 a.m. - 12 p.m. Come join us for the following work times - no green thumb needed, but experienced gardeners encouraged to join us! On Saturday May 21 we will be spreading mulching, weeding, planting and planning. Come for an hour or two of work for any ability from nurturing seedlings to using shovels and pitch forks. On Sunday, May 29 join in on the All Generations Creative Arts Project planting during second part of service. June Margolis and Sarah Higginbotham will be leading this project. Please contact Jim Rissling at jrisslingcls@yahoo.com for more information or Laurie Friedman at laurieannfriedman@gmail.com if you want to be added to our email list.

A FAREWELL CONVERSATION WITH KATIE AND TAJ Sunday, May 22 at 10:00 a.m. in the Hastings Room Our fabulous ministerial interns, Katie Omberg and Taj Smith, are graduating from their respective Masters of Divinity programs at Boston University School of Theology and Harvard Divinity School. They may not be leaving Boston just yet but their time at First Church is sadly coming to a close. For the past two years they have shared their gifts of preaching, teaching, worship leadership, pastoral care, and more. Don't miss this chance to say farewell and to send Taj and Katie off with our best wishes for their futures, wherever God should lead them next. At 10 a.m. we will have a time of appreciation about what we have learned together over these past two years. We will also celebrate and honor their ministry in morning worship on May 22 with a reception to follow in Margaret Jewett Hall.

FAMILY CHOIR Sundays, May 22, June 5 and 12, 10:00 a.m., in the Choir Room The Family Choir will be learning a bluegrass hymn with refreshing new lyrics by Amy Sens, a former First Church member and now minister of a UCC church in Baltimore. All are invited to join the Family Choir; children and adults with any level of musical experience are welcome. The Church School is learning the song in their Chapel Sing time after classes — so, adults, come at 10:00 a.m. to learn it as well! We will offer the song in worship on Children's Sunday, June 12.

FOSTERING RELATIONSHIP / TELLING OUR STORIES Sunday May 22, 12:30 p.m., in the Hastings Room Come to an inspiring afternoon of facilitated conversation and shared stories. You will be invited to reflect on your own experience and to listen to other people's stories of how race impacts our daily lives. We hope this will deepen our relationships and our understanding of one another, as well as inform our understanding of why race matters. Lunch will be provided. Led by members of the Beloved Community Group

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR CHURCH SCHOOL CREATIVE ARTS, MAY 29 Front lawn The Church School will be spending their Creative Arts Sunday in May on the front lawn, planting colorful annuals in our flower beds. Several adult volunteers are needed to supervise and assist the children; please contact Sarah Higginbotham, shigginb@firstchurchcambridge.org, if you can help on May 29 during Morning Worship.
GOSPEL MUSIC PROGRAM WITH GUEST MUSIC DIRECTOR ISSA BIBBINS

"SING TO THE LORD A NEW SONG (PSALM 91:1) Sundays, May 29, 10:00 a.m., in the Hastings Room, and June 19, in Morning Worship Join as we worship God through song on May 29 and June 19 with the leadership of Issa Bibbins, Minister of Music of Roxbury Presbyterian Church. On May 29 during the 10 O'Clock Hour he will lead an educational discussion about Gospel Music and its influence on the church. An ensemble led by Issa Bibbins will then share some Gospel songs with the congregation in Morning Worship that Sunday. He will return on June 19 with an opportunity for us to share in worship and fellowship together through the singing of Gospel. At 10:00 a.m., in the Sanctuary, he will be teaching Gospel songs in a "pick-up choir" rehearsal for all who are interested. During Morning Worship, at 11:00 a.m., we will all have an opportunity to enjoy and participate. Issa is looking forward to magnifying the name of the Lord with us all!!

MEN'S RETREAT June 4-5 We will be having a Men's Retreat in Jaffrey, NH, co-hosted by Marc O'Brien and David Torrey. We will share rides, outdoor activities and meals to refresh the body and the spirit. To sign up and learn more, please email davidtorrey@comcast.net.

SAVE THE DATE FOR CHILDREN'S SUNDAY, JUNE 12 We'll celebrate the end of the Church School year with a multigenerational worship service full of gratitude and celebration for our experiences of Christian Formation throughout the year. After worship we'll head to the lawn for the annual All-Church Picnic. Don't miss it!

FRIDAY CAFÉ WISH LIST The Friday Café is currently accepting donations of:

- *Used clothing:* men's and women's pants (L & XL preferred), large unisex shirts, sturdy shoes in good condition
- *White socks* (new only, please)
- *Underwear* (men's and women's, M-XL, new only)
- *Foot powder and sunscreen*

Supplies may be handed to Kate Layzer at church or dropped off at the church office. Thank you for supporting homeless neighbors!

SOCIAL JUSTICE OPPORTUNITIES

"SUPPORT HOUSE BILL 529 Today *"The second part of the Great Commandment -- to love our neighbors as ourselves- shames us all when we allow the poor and homeless to be treated in this way, to live below the poverty line."* -Jim Stewart, FCC Shelter Director, April, 2016. The Mission and Social Justice Committee urges you to support House Bill 529, by signing the card in today's bulletin. Whether or not you sign, kindly return the cards in the baskets provided as you exit the church for use elsewhere. For more information on the bill, go to the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless website. www.mahomeless.org. "Put Your Faith Into Action. Make A Difference! Support House Bill 529 to Strengthen EAEDC (Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children) Assistance." EAEDC is a state funded program that provides cash assistance to people who are unable to work because of a disability.

GBIO SPRING ACTION, May 24, 2016, 7:00 - 9:00 p.m., Old South Church, Copley

Square. Join the people-power of GBIO (Greater Boston Interfaith Organization) in a major event to translate our strength into action in four priority areas: affordable housing; criminal justice reform; *Do Not Stand Idly By*, a campaign for gun violence prevention; and health care cost containment. Be a part of another great First Church turnout, in line with our outstanding showing in 2015 at Trinity Church. For more information, contact Will Erickson (will.erickson@theshareunion.org), Ann McCann (ann.mccann44@gmail.com) or Dan Smith (dsmith6@firstchchcambridge.org).

MASSACHUSETTS CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING June 17 - 18, 2016 University of Massachusetts, 1 Campus Center Way, Amherst, MA *“Boldness” to Characterize the 217th Annual Meeting!* The Annual Meeting is an opportunity to gather around God’s immense table of grace, to spend some time in a season of discernment concerning our future. It is a time when bold new initiatives are presented, worship is creative and uplifting, networking is possible at every turn, new ideas are introduced, and the people and ministries of the Massachusetts Conference of the UCC shine with the boldness, the cheekiness, the impudence of the audacious good news of Jesus the Christ. Come celebrate, worship and be joyful together as the Body of Christ! If you are interested in representing First Church and attending the annual meeting as one of our delegates, please contact Joanne Paul at jpaulandscape@aol.com

Peter Sykes’s closing voluntary today is a piece he played as part of his 1986 audition for the position as First Church’s Director of Music, inspired by his case design of the Frobenius organ, made in Denmark and installed in the sanctuary in 1972. The bulletin cover rendering of the organ is by Perry Neubauer.

The Week Ahead

Sunday, May 15

Pentecost Sunday

- 9:00 a.m. Earth Stewardship Team, Tower Room
9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, MJH
10:00 a.m. A Conversation with Peter Sykes, Hastings Room
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Multigenerational Pentecost Celebration, Confirmation Sunday and Celebration of Peter Sykes's 30th Anniversary at First Church, Dan Smith, preaching
12:15 p.m. Reception in honor of Confirmands and Peter Sykes, MJH
12:30 p.m. Newcomers Lunch, Hastings Room
3:00 p.m. Ordination and Installation of Ellen Rohan Ball, First Congregational Church of Chelsea
8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Monday, May 16

- 7:30 p.m. Deacons Meeting, Hastings Room

Wednesday, May 18

- 9:30 a.m. Staff Meeting, Dan Smith's office

Thursday, May 19

- 7:45 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Hastings Room

Friday, May 20

- 1:00 p.m. Friday Café, MJH

Sunday, May 22

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
9:45 a.m. Community Gathering Time, MJH
10:00 a.m. A Conversation with Taj and Katie, Hastings Room
10:00 a.m. Family Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Joining Sunday, Karin Case, preaching
11:20 a.m. Church School Classes
12:15 p.m. Reception in honor of Taj Smith and Katie Omberg, MJH
12:30 p.m. Fostering Relationship / Telling Our Stories, Hastings Room
12:30 p.m. Christian Formation Committee Meeting, Choir Room
8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline

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
Minister of Street Outreach	Rev. Kate Layzer, 617-851-5074 klayzer@gmail.com
Ministerial Interns	Katie Omberg, katie@firstchurchcambridge.org Taj Smith, taj@firstchurchcambridge.org
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 www.patriciavanness.com
Poet-in-Residence	Jean-Dany Joachim jeandany@gmail.com
Shelter Director	Jim Stewart, 617-661-1873 jstewart@firstchurchcambridge.org
Parish Administrator	Kirsten Manville, 617-547-2724, ext. 21 parishadmin@firstchurchcambridge.org
Administrative Assistant	Lang Haynes 617-547-2724, ext. 41 Lang@firstchurchcambridge.org
Financial Assistant	Chelsea Turgeon, 617-547-2724, ext. 22 chelsea@firstchurchcambridge.org
Facilities Manager	Dan dos Santos ddossantos@firstchurchcambridge.org
Sextons	Douglas Casey, Tina Quimby, George Williams, Kimel Williams, 617-642-3980



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL

United Church of Christ

11 Garden Street, Cambridge, MA 02138

617-547-2724