



FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

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

FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC

June 22, 2014

THE SECOND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

VOLUNTARY

Komm, heiliger Geist

J. S. Bach

*HYMN 1

We Limit Not the Truth of God

*GREETING

Nicole Haas Loomis

L: Sisters and brothers, a new day has begun!

C: **God's gifts are every morning new!**

L: Gifts of grace, beauty and peace —

C: **For us and for the whole world!**

L: Then let your hearts find gladness here!

C: **We lift our hearts to God; our praise will never cease!**

L: Then let us praise God now, and bless her holy name!

WORDS OF WELCOME

Dan Smith and Sarah Higginbotham

ANTHEM

Joy Flows Down

Patricia Van Ness

*Joy flows down like radiant moon on hidden and quiet forest.
O Creator of all joy, all Earthly beauty unceasingly extols you.
May my heart find words to sing a hymn of love to you, O God, forever.*

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

SILENCE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

L: Let us pray for healing, pardon and peace.

C: **God of all mercy and understanding,
forgive us when we are quick and careless judges
of ourselves, of others and of creation.
Grant us your sense of time,
your sense of proportion,
your sense of the future.
Expand our narrow minds and hearts
until we know the fullness**

**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.*

**of your truth, light and grace.
This we ask in Jesus name,
Amen.**

*GREETING OF PEACE

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*HYMN 363

In the Midst of New Dimensions

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READING

Romans 1:7-12

RESPONSIVE PSALM 118:1-6a, 26-29

- L: O give thanks to God, for God is good;
God's steadfast love endures for ever!
- C: Let Israel say,
'God's steadfast love endures for ever.'**
- L: Let the house of Aaron say,
'God's steadfast love endures for ever.'
- C: Let those who fear the Lord say,
'God's steadfast love endures for ever.'**
- L: Out of my distress I called on God;
God answered me and set me in a broad place.
- C: With God on my side I do not fear.
What can mortals do to me?**
- L: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
We bless you from the house of the Lord.
- C: The Lord is God,
and has given us light.**
- L: Bind the festal procession with branches,
up to the horns of the altar.
- C: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;
you are my God, I will extol you.**
- All: O give thanks to God, for God is good,
for God's steadfast love endures for ever.**

READING

Mark 6:30-34

REFLECTION

Dan Smith, Karin Case and Rachelle LaMaster

LITANY OF WELCOME AND BLESSING

Gaylen Morgan

- L: First Church, let us join our hearts together
in a spirit of welcome and celebration:
- C: We promise to receive your gifts with gladness,
to give the time you need to get settled into this position,
to treat this relationship as new (even if we already know you!)
and honor your three quarters time commitment and Sabbath rest.**
- All: May God strengthen our community
and relationships with power and new insight.
May God grant us grateful hearts, a sense of humor,
openness to learning new things,
and the ever reconciling peace of Christ.
May God open our hearts
to receive the gifts of this new partnership.
May God bless this new beginning
with all wisdom, courage, peace and joy! Amen.**

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Morning Has Broken

First Church Bell Choir

PRAYERS FOR THE CHURCH AND WORLD

- L: God be with you.
- C: And also with you.**
- L: Let us pray (silence, intercessions, 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 THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Ubi Caritas

Maurice Duruflé

*Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.
Congregavit nos in unum Christi amor.
Exultemus, et in ipso iucundemur.
Timeamus, et amemus Deum vivum.
Et ex corde diligamus nos sincero.*

*Where charity and love are, God is there.
Christ's love has gathered us into one.
Let us rejoice and be pleased in Him.
Let us fear, and let us love the living God.
And may we love each other with a sincere
heart.*

*PENTECOST 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 444

Lord of All Hopefulness

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE

Ultimate Jude

Paul Sawyer

VOLUNTARY

Komm, Gott Schöpfer, heilger Geist

J. S. Bach

Today's bulletin cover was created by Alex and Amy Matias.

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 ARE Dan Smith, Senior Minister, Karin Case, Minister, and Rachelle LaMaster, Deacon Co-Chair. Assisting with worship are Sarah Higginbotham, Director of Creative Worship & Arts and Gaylen Morgan, Moderator. Our liturgist is First Church member and Ministerial Search Committee member Nicole Haas Loomis. Susie Longfield is directing 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

WE WELCOME OUR NEW MINISTER THE REV. DR. KARIN CASE! This morning we welcome our new minister, Karin Case, to First Church—fresh from her adventures in Nepal and over a month off since leaving her last post as Interim Senior Minister at Wellesley Hills Congregational Church! We will take time in worship to welcome and get to know her. A celebration reception will be held after church in Margaret Jewett Hall after worship. This reception will include time to share with her some of our recent work of 'going deeper' into our faith and into our relationships. We look forward to welcoming Karin to our community and to our staff. Karin will be working with us 3/4 time as a full colleague with our Senior Minister, Dan Smith.

SPIRITUALITY & MENTAL HEALTH GROUP Today at 2:00 p.m., Tower Room We meet as persons with questions about our inner lives, pursuing wellness. Yet we don't seek a fix for our problems. Instead, we bring our difficulties alongside our experience of that healing Spirit to consider how our faith and our soundness inform each other. We continue to meet every Sunday afternoon from 2:00 to 3:30 in the Tower Room. Participation in the group is open to any and all who identify with our purpose. For a warm welcome and to learn more, see Carter West or e-mail him at cartergw24@gmail.com.

NIGHT SONG: SOLEMN MYSTICAL COMPLINE Today at 8:30 p.m., Sanctuary (Please note the time change for the summer months) Night Song is based on Compline, the last daily service of Christian worship, dating back to monastic life in the Middle Ages. Offered in the quietness of the evening, Night Song invokes a sense of protection and peace for the night that is to come. Tonight, hear Gregorian chant, Lord hear my prayer by Byrd, Kyrie by Lotti and Ave Maria by Monteverdi. Beth Spaulding, cantus, Michael Terranova, altus, Daryl Bichel, bassus. We will not be using incense this Sunday.

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 6:00–7:00 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.

ECCLESIASTICAL COUNCIL FOR ELLEN ROHAN BALL Wednesday, June 25 at 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary The Ecclesiastical Council for Ellen Rohan Ball has finally arrived! What is this event? It is a gathering of church representatives in the MBA who will hear some of Ellen's views on theology and church, ask questions, and then vote on her fitness for ministry. It is the final approval for Ellen before she seeks a call to ministry. Any and all are welcome to come and be present for this event!

NIGHT SONG ENSEMBLE OF MEN AT THE OPENING NIGHT OF THE NATIONAL CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN GUILD OF ORGANISTS On Monday, June 23rd, Beneficia lucis, the Night Song ensemble of men, will represent First Church in presenting compline on the opening night of the national convention of the American Guild of Organists. This will take place at 10 p.m. at St. Cecilia Church in the Back Bay, following a concert of music for orchestra and organ at Symphony Hall. Compline is sold out, and has a waiting list. The music includes motets by Byrd, Morales and Sheppard; a compline setting and psalm setting by Daryl Bichel; and a hymn jointly composed by Bichel and Patricia Van Ness.

OPPORTUNITIES WHILE CHURCH SCHOOL IS OFF FOR THE SUMMER While our Nursery continues to be staffed for infants and toddlers by our regular caregivers during the worship hour, children of the Church School have a choice for their participation on Sundays. We invite all Church School-aged children to remain in the sanctuary for the entire worship service. We hope that kids will join in the singing, praising, praying, and peace-passing. For quieter moments, such as the readings and sermon, books and activity packets are available in the Children's Worship Corner by the side entrance. If younger children are especially fidgety, families are welcome to move to the Hasting Room, where speakers connected to the sanctuary sound system allow you to hear the service. This year, parents are organizing to have two adults on the outdoor playground (or in the case of rain, in Sage Hall) during the latter half of the service. If you'd like to volunteer to supervise the playground on one summer Sunday, please contact Will Erickson (will.erickson@theshareunion.org).

SUMMER CHOIR AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE For the summer, the First Church Choir continues to sing for Sunday services, but does not rehearse on Thursday night. For the remaining Sundays in June, the pick-up choir will rehearse at 10 a.m. in the sanctuary. For the months of July and August, the pick-up choir will rehearse at 9 a.m. The music we sing during the summer is less complicated and perhaps more familiar to the average choral singer, and participation is open to anyone who would like to give it a try. The ability to read music and hold a part is desirable, and music for the following Sunday's service will be made available for those who would perhaps like to take it home and prepare over the week. This is a great opportunity to worship God in song, to sing some great music, and to meet a wonderful group of people! Ask Peter Sykes or any member of the choir for more details.

PARENT AND CHILD EXPERIENCE (PACE) AT CRAIGVILLE RETREAT CENTER, August 3-9, 2014 Enjoy a week of family camp at Craigville Beach on Cape Cod with your family this summer! Morning programming for children & teens and free afternoons to enjoy Craigville Beach and the rest of the Cape. Six nights and 17 meals are included in the reasonable price. All families are welcome. Contact Joanne Hartunian to learn more and to register (joannehartunian@gmail.com or 617-484-0776).

FIRST CHURCH FALL RETREAT 2014 - REGISTER NOW! Mark your calendars and register now for our annual First Church Retreat at Craigville Retreat Center on Cape Cod, October 3-5. Join us for a community gathering that will include time for beach-walking, game-playing, small group sessions, large group worship, music and art-making, and more. Registration is online - go to www.firstchurchcambridge.org/fall-retreat-2014-registration to sign up. We need to have a good sense of the number of participants by the end of June, so please register today

SOCIAL JUSTICE NEWS AND OPPORTUNITIES

BETHEL TABERNACLE PENTECOSTAL CHURCH'S CARNIVAL DAY Please volunteer and join Members of our Mission and Social Justice committee at the Bethel Tabernacle Pentecostal Church's Carnival Day on Saturday, June 28th from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m. Carpools leave First Church for Dorchester at 8 a.m. Share your love of fun, help award prizes, and make some new friends. Please RSVP to Alice Kidder at flintkiddr@aol.com or (617) 276-6227. Bring your kids and enjoy the day.

HELP REDUCE GUN VIOLENCE...CONTACT YOUR REP Please take a few minutes to reduce gun violence by calling your state representative in the coming week in SUPPORT of H4121, an Act relative to the reduction of gun violence. H4121 is a strong bill that will close loopholes in Massachusetts gun laws, but legislators are under intense pressure from gun rights activists and the NRA to defeat it. We need to tell our Reps that we support H4121 and will support their vote in favor of it. Want details? Google Mass Coalition to Prevent Gun Violence or speak to Ann McCann, Alice Kidder or Dan Smith at First Church. *You can find who your representative is on the website www.wheredoivotema.com.* Your call can be quite brief, but it will save lives.

WELCOME, KARIN!

On Wednesday, June 18th, the Rev. Dr. Karin Case joined our staff as a new Minister. We are thrilled to have her as a partner in the sacred work of pastoring this congregation. Here's some info you may find helpful as she gets settled in.

Contact Information

Karin's office at First Church is on the second floor. She can be reached by telephone at 617-547-2724, ext. 26, and by e-mail at karincase@firstchurchcambridge.org. Karin's day off is likely to be Friday though this may shift as she gets to know the rhythms of our life together. Karin and Dan will be sharing "on-call" duties for pastoral emergencies and pastoral coverage in general. Karin has been called to work 3/4 time which for the time being will mean she will be "out of the office" two weeks out every two months. (When she is here, she will be working full-time.) Let's be respectful of this time, not as "time off" but as the way Karin has chosen to apportion her 3/4 time schedule with us.

What is Her Role with Us?

Karin will share in the full life and leadership of First Church, preaching regularly, leading worship, teaching, attending committee meetings, praying for us and caring for us all. She is here to share her many gifts with us "so near as God shall give her grace." She'll be helping us all to grow spiritually, through leading 10 a.m. hours, small groups, helping us to discern our gifts and more fully respond to God's vision for each of our lives and community.

How You Can Help

Karin will need time to get to know us (again), our 375 year old history, our customs, virtues and quirks. A lot has changed for her and for us since she was with us as an Interim Minister five years ago. You can help her to get to know us and to get to know you! Don't hesitate to point things out to her, things she may or may not already know. Remind her of names (yours and those of others), and help her find her way around. Tell her what you love about First Church, and feel free to tell her about the hard parts too. She's a quick study, no doubt, but a little help can go a long way, especially when it comes to getting to know a place as complex as First Church. Finally please be sure to pray for Karin, and for the rest of the staff, and for our entire community as we build this new relationship and move forward together into God's future.

Whenever we welcome a new minister, we all become new. Perhaps the best welcome we can give to Karin is to re-commit ourselves to our covenant, to our ongoing process of "going deeper", and to open ourselves to the sacred and joyful transformation that God has in store for us through our new ministry together.

Looking Ahead

Sunday, June 22

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary (No Christian Formation)
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Welcoming Karin Case
- 12:30 p.m. Welcome Reception for the Rev. Dr. Karin Case, Margaret Jewett Hall (MJH)
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

Monday, June 23

- 6:30 p.m. Executive Council Cook-Out, Parsonage (44 Garden St)

Tuesday, June 24

- 4:00 p.m. Witness Against Gun Violence and Inequality, Dan Smith's office

Wednesday, June 25

- 7:30 p.m. Ecclesiastical Council for Ellen Rohan Ball, Sanctuary

Sunday, June 29

- 10:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary (No Christian Formation)
- 11:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Karin Case, preaching
- 2:00 p.m. Spirituality and Mental Health Group, Tower Room
- 8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

*Through the months of July and August, **worship begins at 10:00 a.m.**, with pick-up choir meeting at 9 a.m. The First Church office will be closed on Fridays throughout the summer. The building will remain open during usual business hours and a sexton will be in attendance.*

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
378 YEARS
ON-THE-WAY

The Staff of First Church in Cambridge

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