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## **FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE**

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

**FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL, UCC**

**July 1, 2012**

**THE FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

VOLUNTARY

\*HYMN 537 *God of the Ages, Whose Almighty Hand*

\*GREETING Dick Harter

L: May the peace of God be upon this house,  
and upon all who enter herein.

**C: We have gathered in the presence of God,  
who has created us and given us the gift of life.**

L: We have gathered in the name of Jesus Christ,  
who has taught us to love one another.

**C: We have gathered in the strength of the Holy Spirit,  
who has infused us with energy and dreams, with power and potential.**

L: Come, let us worship our triune God together.

WORDS OF WELCOME Terry McKinney

ANTHEM *O Thou, Who at Thy Eucharist Didst Pray* Woldike

INVITATION TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**C: Dear God, there have been many times  
when we have been afraid, ashamed, unloving to ourselves;  
we have turned away from your great gift to us,  
your miracle of strength and beauty.  
Teach us to love our whole selves:  
our bodies, as well as our hearts and souls.  
Help us to cherish them, and give our thanks to you through them.  
Lead us to reach out to one another  
with your gifts of acceptance and peace.  
This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

DECLARATION OF GOD'S FORGIVENESS

*\*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.*

\*GREETING OF PEACE

\*HYMN 531

*My Country, 'Tis of Thee*

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

READINGS

Wisdom of Solomon 1:13-15, 2:23-24  
Mark 5:21-43

HOMILY

*Generative Forces*

Karen McArthur

\*HYMN 532

*O Beautiful, for Spacious Skies*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

*Domine, Non Sum Dignus*

Vittoria

\*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.**

PENTECOST COMMUNION-IN-THE-ROUND

\*INVITATION TO GATHER

\*COMMUNION PRAYER

L: May God be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

L: Give God your hearts.

C: **We give our hearts to God, and to each other.**

L: Let us celebrate our love for God.

C: **As we celebrate God's love for us.**

L: Heart of the universe, giver of all gifts, life who loves us into being,  
We are your people, who come together to celebrate your gifts to us.  
Be with us and join us, as we lift our voices, giving thanks and saying:

C: **Holy, holy, holy One, God of power and might,  
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of our God.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

- L: Holy and gracious God, out of love you created the universe and filled it with the treasure of your limitless imagination. You breathe the splendor and the terror of the storm, the breathless silence of the moment just before the dawn. You call forth life in all its billion forms, delicate beyond belief and stunning in its majesty and strength.
- C: Out of love, you called us into being, called us to share the wonder of creation with you, gave us your power to love and create, the gift of your desire and your imagination.**
- L: You have felt it with us, celebrated it, delighted with us in the wonders of the senses you created.
- C: You are the one who touches us, who feels with us, who shares our pleasure.**
- L: Be with us all as we share the gift of this meal: tasting the wonder the food that feeds us, body and soul.

\*WORDS OF INSTITUTION

\*PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

\*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.**

\*SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

*All who seek to follow Jesus' way of compassion, justice and peace are welcome to this table.  
Please take a piece of bread as it is served to you, and dip it into one of the cups. Red wine will be offered in a clear glass. White grape juice will be served in a ceramic chalice. Persons who for any reason are not able to come forward will be served in the pews. Young and old alike are welcome to share in the gift of holy communion!*

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

L: Let us give thanks  
for what we have received and shared.

**All: Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus,  
for gladness in this bread and cup,  
for love that cannot die,  
for peace the world cannot give,  
for joy in the company of friends,  
for the splendor of creation,  
and for the mission of justice you have made our own.  
Give us the gifts of this holy communion:  
oneness of heart, love for neighbors,  
forgiveness of enemies,  
the will to serve you every day,  
and life that never ends.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

\*HYMN

*This is My Song*

Text: Lloyd Stone, 1934  
Tune: Finlandia

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for lands afar and mine;  
this is my home, the country where my heart is;  
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:  
but other hearts in other lands are beating  
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,  
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;  
but other lands have sunlight too, and clover,  
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine:  
O hear my song, thou God of all the nations,  
a song of peace for their land and for mine.*

\*BENEDICTION

*The 2011-2012 bulletin cover art series was designed by Perry Neubauer and constructed by many hands, large and small. Today's bulletin cover was created by Campbell Pelton-Cairns, Liam Simons, and Sarah Higginbotham.*

## **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](http://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, toddlers and preschoolers 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** Karen McArthur, Affiliate Minister of Stewardship & Finance. Assisting with worship is Terry McKinney, Minister of Mental Health & Healing. Our liturgist is First Church deacon Dick Harter. Lousie Mundinger, is playing the organ and directing the choir. Peter Sykes, Director of Music, is teaching this week at the San Francisco Early Music Society's Baroque Music and Dance Week. Dan Smith, Senior Minister, is away this week.

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.

**AN OPPORTUNITY FOR HEALING PRAYER** Every Communion Sunday, the deacons and ministers offer prayers for healing, peace, and reconciliation for anyone who desires them. The healing prayer teams will be positioned in the chancel (near the baptismal font). If you would like to share a healing prayer, receive an anointing or laying on of hands, please approach one of the teams at the end of the service and make your need known. In addition to healing prayers offered after the service today, members of the First Church community are welcome to contact a minister at any time for prayer or conversation about what is on your mind and heart.

**OUTDOOR CHURCH OFFERING** On Communion Sundays, it is our practice to prepare 3 dozen lunches for the Outdoor Church to distribute to those in need on the streets of Cambridge. In the summer months, the lunches are put together by helpful volunteers during coffee hour. Please take a few minutes to join the sandwich-making assembly line at one of the three tables at coffee hour this morning. We are always looking for volunteers to deliver the lunches to the Outdoor Church worship service on the Common at 1:00 pm. If you can help with delivery today, please speak to the sandwich-making coordinators. Thank you!

**IN MEMORIAM** Longtime First Church member Ruth Gates died on June 13th at Carlton Willard Village in Belmont. Services will be held at Carlton Willard on July 10th at 10 a.m. Please keep the Gates family, especially Ruth's daughter Judy, son Richard and Elizabeth in your prayers.

**THOMAS KEATING CENTERING PRAYER Sundays, beginning today, July 1, 11:15 a.m. in the Hastings Room** Given continued interest in viewing Thomas Keating's DVD Series "Centering Prayer: A Training Course for Opening to the Presence of God," we will begin showing the full course in segments with time for comments and discussion for 4-6 Sundays, beginning Sunday, July 1. The showings will begin around 11:15-11:30 a.m., in the Hastings Room, following Morning Worship. It must be emphasized that anyone who participates need not feel obligated to attend all or even most of the scheduled viewings. Each segment stands alone and is readily accessible to all, especially those who were able to attend one of the four introductory sessions that were offered this spring. Appreciation to Dan, Terry, and all participants for your assistance and encouragement!

**THE MISSIONS AND SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE** will be collecting non-perishable items for the Food Pantry on today, July 1. If you have items to share, please place them in the large basket in the narthex. Thank you for thinking of our sisters and brothers who are experiencing economic hardship at this time.

**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 (temckinney@msn.com) or Carter West (stbosal@arczip.com).

**AFTER CHURCH HOSPITALITY** Have you ever found yourself thinking about how to improve our after-church hospitality? Are you hungry for different ways that we may feed each other, perhaps more abundantly, more nutritiously? Have you wondered about how our coffee hour set up happens or have ideas on how to make our after church and whole church gatherings more eco-friendly, more fulfilling, and more welcoming and hospitable to one and all, newcomers - long time members, and those in-between? Following worship on July 8, First Church members Ann McAnn and Joanne Paul will facilitate an open brainstorming session about hospitality, feeding and fellowship at First Church. Come to the Library following the 10:00 am service and share your ideas and visions for how we can make our coffee hour, meals and potlucks all the more robust, welcoming and delicious!

**"PICKUP CHOIR"** For the summer, the First Church Choir continues to sing for Sunday services, but does not rehearse on Thursday night. 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 really fun and nice group of people! Ask Peter Sykes for more details.

**LANDSCAPING PROJECTS AT FIRST CHURCH** This summer, the church is undergoing several improvements to our grounds. We are replacing the fence and gate, putting in a new walkway with a more accessible grade, improving drainage, and bringing in fresh loam to level off the front yard closest to Garden Street. In addition, we had to remove several diseased trees near the sanctuary entryway. Many have remarked on how open and inviting the entrance now looks, and we plan on refinishing the doors as well to further emphasize our Open Door. We have an opportunity to select what is planted by the front doors. If you would like to designate a particular planting in memory of someone special, please contact Rich Goode (rgoode99@comcast.net) to discuss this. Otherwise, Buildings & Grounds will select the most appropriate plantings to complement our refreshed exterior look. Thanks for your patience as we complete these projects over the summer.

**SHELTER INTERN** The Shelter Committee is asking for an interested high school junior or senior to participate in an intern program. The objective of the program will be to create a pamphlet or other appropriate materials to explain the details how the Shelter fulfills its mission of providing shelter to homeless men and assisting in their transition back into permanent housing. There are a lot of details to this process as well as a wider context of social discussion on the issue of homelessness and how to best address the challenge. For example, there are other models of providing this kind of service to the community. How does how we do it at the First Church Shelter compare to other accepted models? This is intended as an opportunity for the Shelter to engage in the life of the Congregation through the contribution of a caring and interested young adult. At this point no stipend is envisioned, although this could be the subject of discussion. As a motivational point, this sure would look good on a college resume! Structure for the program will be provided by Michael Swartz, Chair of the Shelter Committee with support from Jim Stewart, Shelter Director, and other members of the both the Committee and the Shelter Staff. Interested individuals should contact Michael Swartz at michael.swartz@perkinelmer.com.

**COOKIES FOR COFFEE HOUR ALERT** Janet Lyman will shortly be resuming her former role soliciting cookies for Coffee Hour, phoning from her nursing home setting in Brookline. Please continue to respond to calls for cookies as you are able. Your caller ID will indicate a call from Brookline. When you receive a message from Janet, be sure to use the number she left in her message.

**ORGANIC VEGETABLES FROM ROCKVILLE MARKET FARM!** Now's the time to sign-up for a farm share from Rockville Market Farm. Sign-up at <http://rockvillemarketfarm.com/> and select First Church Cambridge as your location. A bag of organic produce will be delivered to our Parsonage at 44 Garden Street each Thursday with your name on it. Easy pick-up from our garage fridge, whenever you can come by. Deliveries begin in mid to late June, can be paused for vacations, and are truly delicious!! Questions? Email Nancy at [nkkilburn@comcast.net](mailto:nkkilburn@comcast.net). Thank you for supporting organic farming!

**FAMILY SUMMER PROGRAM AT CRAIGVILLE RETREAT CENTER, AUGUST 5-11** For many years, a handful of First Church families have enjoyed a week on the Cape at Craigville Retreat Center. This year, PACE (Parent and Child Experience) includes a morning children's program, adult bible study, discussion groups, and art classes, and afternoon free time with beach privileges. Accommodations are in an historic inn with private bedrooms and three meals a day. \$545.00/adult; \$265.00/child; \$75.00/children before 1st grade; children under 2 are free. All are welcome - come to be refreshed and renewed to rejoice. Call Joanne Hartunian for more information, 617-484-0776, and speak with the Wendelin, Rohan Ball, or Jeffers Lo families for great stories of Craigville summer memories.

**SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 3RD ANNUAL FALL FAMILY RETREAT** Families of all ages and sizes are invited to join us on the third annual Fall Family Retreat at Craigville Conference Center on October 13-14, 2012. Spend 24 hours on the Cape with your church friends - we'll play, sing, eat, worship, laugh, and pray together. If you know you're in, please email Sarah Higginbotham, so she can coordinate housing needs with Craigville. Check the summer issue of EVENT (coming soon) for more information about how to sign up and for payment information.

**NEWS FROM UTE AND MARK** We are happy to let you know that things are moving forward for us. I have accepted an invitation to become interim minister of a UCC church in Albuquerque, NM. The church has about 250 members and is very active in social justice ministries, including work with homeless families. They are an ONA congregation and located near the University of New Mexico. My ministry with them will begin in August, and I am now actively looking for housing options. Mark will join me before beginning a teaching adventure in Europe next spring. They say the sun shines somewhere close to 300 days in Albuquerque (when the wild fires don't interfere)! We look forward to this next part of our journey and will remember you with great fondness. Thank you again for all your care and support. We wish you God's blessings as you continue to minister to one another and to the wider world in Christ's name. Shalom, Ute

## SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE

*Starting now and continuing throughout the summer children are invited to remain in the sanctuary for the entire worship service. We hope that kids will join in our congregation's singing, praising, praying, and peace-passing. For quieter moments, such as the readings and sermon, books and activity packets are available in the corner by the side entrance. We encourage children to pick a quiet activity to help them settle in during this time. If younger children are especially fidgety, families are welcome to move to the Hastings Room (with books and activity packets in hand), where speakers connected to the sanctuary sound system allow you to hear the service.*

*Through the months of July and August, **worship will be held 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 as usual, and a sexton will be in the building at all times.*

### SMALL GROUP AND WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

First Church maintains a busy schedule of small group activities and worship opportunities throughout the year, but we slow down a bit in the summer months. Here's a quick guide to what's happening when:

#### Worship Services

***Night Song** continues to offer a 30-minute Compline service at 8:30 p.m. on Sundays through the summer and fall will resume its schedule of full services on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. in November.*

***Third Sunday Jazz at 5:00 pm** will return in September with a Regathering celebration on September 16th.*

#### Small Groups

***Third Sunday Newcomer Sessions** after morning worship will be offered again beginning in September.*

***Tuesday Family Night** will re-start its bi-weekly schedule in late September.*

## The Week Ahead

### Sunday, July 1

- 9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary  
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Multigenerational Communion (A time for healing prayer offered immediately following the service), Karen McArthur, preaching  
11:15 a.m. Introduction to Centering Prayer, Hastings Room  
1:00 p.m. Outdoor Church, Cambridge Common  
2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room  
8:30 p.m. Night Sing Compline, Sanctuary

### Wednesday, July 4

Building and office closed in observance of Independence Day

### Sunday, July 8

- 9:00 am Pick up Choir  
10:00 am Morning Worship, Dan Smith preaching  
11:15 am Centering Prayer Series, Hastings Room  
2:00 pm Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room  
8:30 pm Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

## Looking Ahead

### Sunday, July 15

- 9:00 am Pick up Choir  
10:00 am Morning Worship, Terry McKinney preaching  
11:15 am Centering Prayer Series, Hastings Room  
11:15 am Disability/Access Team Meeting, Library  
2:00 pm Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room  
8:30 pm Night Song Compline, Sanctuary

### Sunday, July 22

- 9:00 a.m. Pick up Choir  
10:00 a.m. Morning Worship, Karen McArthur, preaching  
11:15 a.m. Centering Prayer Series, Hastings Room  
2:00 p.m. Mental Health and Spirituality Group, Tower Room  
8:30 p.m. Night Song Compline, 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

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**FIRST CHURCH IN CAMBRIDGE, CONGREGATIONAL**

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