

SUNDAY, JULY 28, 2024

Preaching Today Rev. Henry Schoenfield, *Community Minister*
Liturgist Owen Duke
Assisting in Worship Sarah Higginbotham, *Creative Worship & Arts Director*
Kate Layzer, *Minister of Street Outreach*
Lee Prouty, *tech support*
Peter Sykes, *Music Director*
Bulletin Cover Image Freddie Funck, *First Church member*

Opening Voutary

Trio super Jesus Christus, dich zu uns wend'
J.S. Bach

Opening Hymn 226

Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God

Anthem

Oculi omnium
Charles Wood

Peace Hymn 444

Lord of All Hopefulness

Reading

John 6:1-21

Sermon Hymn 102

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Offertory

Send Out Thy Light
Mily Balakirev

Closing Hymn 366

We Are Walking

Closing Voluntary

Allein Gott in die Höh sei Ehr'
J.S. Bach

Today's Programs and Events

9:00 a.m. Choir Rehearsal, Sanctuary
10:00 a.m. Hybrid Morning Worship, Sanctuary and [via livestream](#)
11:15 p.m. Refreshments on the Lawn (or Margaret Jewett Hall, if weather dictates)

New to First Church?

Have you just begun joining us for worship? Consider filling out a visitor card found on the small clipboards or this "[virtual visitor card](#)" so that we might connect with you about our community.

Give to First Church

You can give electronically by using the QR code in the bulletin or explore more options for giving at: www.firstchurchcambridge.org/give

Contact a Pastor or Staff Member

Find [contact information](#) for our ministerial, program, and building staff on our website.
For general information and inquiries: info@firstchurchcambridge.org

Minister On Call

If you have an urgent pastoral need, please call 617-547-2724 ext. 222. Your call will be routed to a First Church minister based on a rotating schedule that covers staff time off.

-Insert 1-

Come, Teach Us, Spirit of Our God 226

1. Come, teach us, Spir - it of our God, the
 2. Ex - cite our minds to fol - low you, to
 3. En - gage our wits to dance with you, to
 4. In - spire our spark to light from you, to
 5. De - light our hearts to wor - ship you, to

lan - guage of your way, the les - sons that we
 trace new truths in store, new flight paths for our
 leap from log - ic's base, to cap - ture in - sight
 catch cre - a - tion's flair, new ar - tis - try to
 learn com - pas - sion's code, to live in con - text

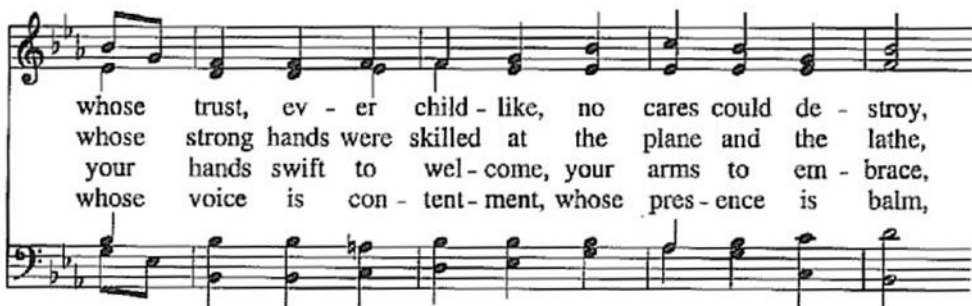
need to live, the faith for ev - ery day.
 spir - it space, new mar - vels to ex - plore.
 on the wing, to sense your cos - mic grace.
 cel - e - brate, new har - mo - nies to dare.
 of your love, great teach - er who is God!

444

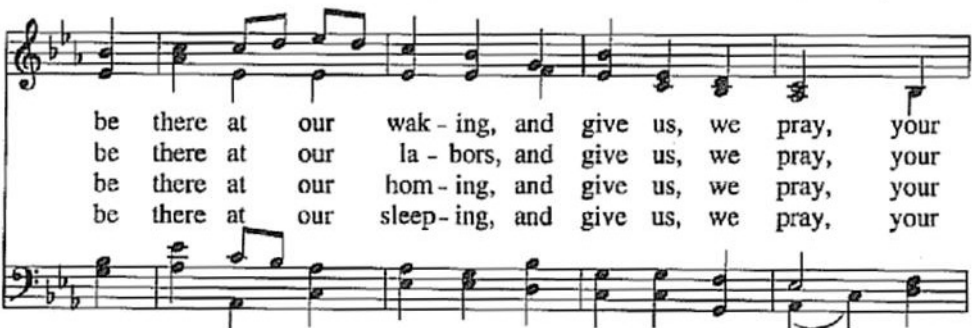
Lord of All Hopefulness



1. Lord of all hope - ful - ness, Lord of all joy,
 2. Lord of all ca - ger - ness, Lord of all faith,
 3. Lord of all kind - li - ness, Lord of all grace,
 4. Lord of all gen - tle - ness, Lord of all calm,



whose trust, ev - er child - like, no cares could de - stroy,
 whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
 your hands swift to wel - come, your arms to em - brace,
 whose voice is con - tent - ment, whose pres - ence is balm,



be there at our wak - ing, and give us, we pray, your
 be there at our la - bors, and give us, we pray, your
 be there at our hom - ing, and give us, we pray, your
 be there at our sleep - ing, and give us, we pray, your



bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.
 strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.
 love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.
 peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

102 Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

1. Guide me, O thou great Je - ho - vah, pil - grim through this
 2. O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain, whence the heal - ing
 3. When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious

bar - ren land; I am weak, but thou art might - y; hold me with thy
 stream doth flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me all my
 fears sub - side; lead me on through death's de - struc - tion, land me safe on

power - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
 jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - erer, strong de - liv - erer,
 Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es, songs of prais - es,

feed me till I want no more; feed me till I want no more.
 be thou still my strength and shield; be thou still my strength and shield.
 I will ev - er give to thee; I will ev - er give to thee.

CLOSING HYMN

366

We Are Walking
(Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' Kwenkhos')

We are *walk - ing in the light of God, we are
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya -

1. walk - ing in the light of God. We are
hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos. Si - ya -

2. walk - ing in the light of the light of God. We are
hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya
of kwen God, khos' We are
si - ya

walk - ing ham - ba Oo We are
ham - ba Oo Si - ya -

walk - ing, walk - ing, we are walk - ing, walk - ing, we are
ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -

walk - ing in the light of God.
hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos.

*marching/singing/dancing/praying

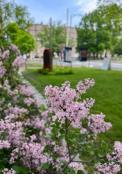
COMMUNITY PRAYERS

- We offer prayers of joyful gratitude for the birth of Anna Brigham Cyr Kolash, born on July 16. We pray for parents Abbie Cyr and Josh Kolash, along with big brother Frankie and the entire extended Cyr family, as they welcome their newest family member.
- We pray for Abby Shuman's father Fred and the entire Shuman family as they process Fred's recent cancer diagnosis and await treatment options. We continue to pray for Abby's uncle Barry, whose brain tumor is worsening.
- We pray for Linda & Ken Ziebell, as Ken receives palliative care at Carlton-Willard in Bedford.
- We pray for George Williams as he continues treatment for a traumatic brain injury.
- We pray for all who are living with significant health challenges and their families and caregivers: Poppy Coffin, who is experiencing Alzheimer's Disease; Carol Wilson-Braun, who is managing ALS; and Carter West, who is experiencing a chronic neurological disorder. We also pray for those in treatment for cancer: Bob Spaulding, Beth Spaulding's father; Dana Hunt, Claire Morgan's mother; Ellen Smith, Devin Hansen's aunt; Judith Semmler, Alice Napoleon Jones's mother; Karen Anne Zee's daughter Becky Collet and her son-in-law Stewart Bailey; Beth and Polly, Ann McCann's sisters; and Abby Shuman's uncle Barry.
- We pray for the many people seeking emergency shelter in overflow sites across the state, who will now be moved to temporary respite centers with a 5-day limit of stay.
- As the war in Gaza and Israel continues, our hearts cry out in prayer. With the death of 1,400 Israelis and over 39,000 Palestinians, we pray for an end to the war and immediate de-escalation of tensions in the region, as well as redoubled efforts to address the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.
- We pray for our nation in this time of intense political polarization and during a season of political conventions in advance of the presidential election. As we experience a shift in the presidential race, we pray especially for peaceful, non-violent engagement in the political processes of our democracy.
- We continue to pray for all who are recovering from natural and climate-related disasters. We pray for our rapidly warming planet and for efforts to reduce fossil fuel emissions.
- We pray for the people of the Democratic Republic of Congo, where ongoing armed conflicts have led to more than 6 million people killed and more than 5 million people displaced from their homes. We pray also for those who have experienced devastating incidents of gender-based violence during the conflicts.
- We pray for all those impacted by the violence of war and political upheaval throughout the Middle East, in Ukraine, in Sudan, and in Haiti.
- We pray for the wellbeing and safety of our trans and gender non-conforming siblings as they face the experience of vitriolic public discourse and of state laws that restrict and criminalize transgender health care, personal expression, and wider LGBTQ+ education.
- We continue to pray for those most affected by changes in reproductive rights: for all those struggling with the moral and political complexities of pregnancy and childbearing, and for patients and healthcare providers who are unable to give and receive care in their own states.

SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

Summer Worship & Preaching

Through the months of July and August, Hybrid Morning Worship begins at 10:00 a.m., with Pick-Up Choir meeting at 9:00 a.m. Special thanks to our current staff and to our Community Ministers for preaching this summer:



July 28

Rev. Henry Schoenfield

August 11

Rev. Krysia Burnham

August 25

Rev. Kate Layzer

August 4

Rev. Karen McArthur

August 18

Rev. Rev. Alex Steinert-Evoy

September 1

Emma Thomas, Pastoral Associate



Pastoral Care Cards This Summer

During the summer months, we invite you to support our Pastoral Care ministry by writing a simple note to First Church members who are on our weekly prayer list. It may be to share congratulations, condolences, or “get well soon” wishes. Look for the “card table” at Coffee Hour each Sunday, where you’ll find the weekly list of pastoral care needs and/or the Sunday bulletin prayer section, blank cards, pens, and a Church Directory with addresses.

Summer Sermon Reflection Today at Coffee Hour

Grab a cup of coffee or cold lemonade and join Henry Schoenfield at a table in the shade to engage in conversation about today’s sermon. Bring your questions and reflections to this informal time with one of First Church’s Community Ministers!



Beware of Phishing Scams



We are observing an uptick in phishing scams impersonating church staff via email. If you receive an email claiming to be from a First Church staff member that requests the password to the online church directory or asks for an email reply because they are in a meeting, please double-check the sending address. Please note that if the sender is using an email address other than an @firstchurchcambridge.org address, it is most likely a scam. Please do not respond! Church staff would never ask for any kind of donations to be sent directly to them (or directly to others), and they would not ask for passwords. The scammers have been able to pull enough information from church websites to make the email sound legitimate. Scams have become more and more sophisticated! If you are still wondering, please be sure to speak directly with the staff member involved before responding.

Do you want to follow the hyperlinks, but you’re holding a paper bulletin in your hand? Use your phone’s camera to hover over the QR code marked “scan me;” this will take you to the Members & Friends page of our website, where you’ll find the bulletin online, as well as links to news, events, and more.



SUMMER AT FIRST CHURCH

Conversation with Amani Matabaro

Sunday, August 4, 11:15 a.m. - 12:15 p.m., Harter Room

While a Fellow at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government, the Carr Center for Human Rights Policy, and the Harvard Humanitarian Initiative, Amani (Tom) Matabaro has been attending First Church with his family.



On August 4, he will speak with us about his work to address human and civil rights issues in the war torn region of Eastern Congo. Tom is the Founding Director of [Action Kivu](#) and the co-founder and Executive Director of ABFEC (Action for the Welfare of Women and Children in Congo), a Congolese grassroots organization for which the US-based nonprofit Action Kivu raises awareness and funds. ABFEC's community-based initiatives foster equality for conflict-affected women and children in the Eastern Democratic Republic of Congo. Tom works every day to advance human rights, good governance, and social justice in his home country, and his work has put him at high risk on a daily basis. All are welcome to join us after worship to learn more about this important work.



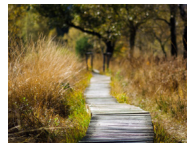
Transition at First Church Shelter

After more than 35 years of faithful service to the Shelter and the men who seek assistance from it, **Dennis Kaveney** will be ending his full-time employment. Starting August 1, Dennis will continue as a per diem Shelter employee. The Shelter Oversight Committee is planning an opportunity in the fall for the entire First Church community to celebrate and express gratitude for Dennis's contributions to the Shelter's mission to bring hope to our unhoused neighbors.

Mindfulness Walk with Stefanie Haug

Saturday, August 10, 9:30 - 11:00 a.m. OR 4:30 - 6:00 p.m.

First Church member Stefanie Haug is pleased to offer a Mindfulness Walk around the neighborhood on the second Saturday of August. The specific time and location will be determined by responses of interest. Please [complete this doodle poll](#) to let Stefanie know your preference. [Read about more walks offered by Stefanie through Mass Audubon and Mount Auburn Cemetery.](#)



Summer 2024 Reparations Fund Matching Grant Opportunity Honors Alice Kidder and Dan Smith

If you've never given to the Reparations Fund before, your first-time contribution will be matched up to a maximum of \$25,000 by a First Church member wishing to remain anonymous. **Through Labor Day, your 25 dollars becomes 50 dollars and your 1,000 dollars means that 2,000 goes into the fund.** As of June 30, \$6,177.25 has been contributed that is eligible for the match; add your donation to the growing total! [Read more and give online.](#)