

the first church in chestnut hill

[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET



January 2018

SUNDAY SERVICE at 10:30

Rev. Mark J. T. Caggiano, *Minister*

VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

A New Year begins. A time to consider what ought to be done and what ought not to be done. For this reason I have decided to kick off the new year on an applicable topic: sin.

Yes, sin.

A few years ago, I offered a series of sermons on the Seven Deadly Sins. I am going to do so again, not for an opportunity to recycle sermons mind you, but to consider the subject of sin in a world seemingly without sin. I do not mean to suggest that people have changed, that they are newly minted angels knocking on the doors of Eden asking about time-share costs. Sin has not gone away, but we often do not imagine ourselves in the role of sinner.

The Seven Deadly Sins are Wrath, Lust, Sloth, Greed, Gluttony, Envy, and Pride. I can imagine any number of moments in popular culture to illustrate these categories, to paint a stark picture of such sins in everyday life. But does all that live over there, someplace else than here, somewhere on the other side of a screen or around the world in some more benighted place? And does sin even matter? Does sin matter if the worldly results upon which we might depend, the behaviors of others on which we rely, remain the same? Put another way, do we have to think about sin in new ways to account for a changing world or did we change our view of the world so we can stop worrying about sin? We will see.

Also, there was interest in another common read. So this winter, I would recommend that people take a look at Arlie Russell Hochschild's book, *Strangers in Their Own Land*, a National Book Award finalist that considers ways in which we might listen to one another across social, cultural, and political divides. We will plan to have a church discussion about the book in late March, so pace yourselves accordingly.

God bless,

— Mark

OUR SCRIPTURES FOR THIS SEASON

- January 7:* Isaiah 60:1-6, Matthew 2:1-12, Psalm 72
January 14: 1 Samuel 3:1-10, John 1:43-51, Psalm 139
January 21: Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Mark 1:14-20, Psalm 62
January 28: 1 Corinthians 8:1-13, Mark 1:21-28, Psalm 111

JANUARY SERVICES

- January 7:* The Envy of Kings (Greg Jones, Preacher)
January 14: Pride and Prejudice
January 21: Anger, Regret, and Repeat
January 28: Gluttons for Punishment
(Special Service - Greg Jones, Preacher)

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR JANUARY

- January 7:* The flowers are given in loving memory of Polly and Ben Tieslau and Priscilla and Ralph Stuart by Carol and Ralph Stuart.
January 14: The flowers are given in loving memory of Jane Ewell Dane by the Dane family.
January 21: The flowers are given in loving memory of Elizabeth Decker by the Byrd family.
January 28: The flowers are given in loving memory of Mary Stuart Baker Pike Aszman Kimmel by Lisle and Sally Baker.

USHERS

- January 7:* Werner Lohe *January 14:* G. West Saltonstall
January 21: David Brooks *January 28:* R. Lisle Baker

COFFEE HOUR AFTER THE SUNDAY SERVICE

All are welcome at the coffee hour following the service each Sunday. On Sunday, January 7, Cindy Bates will be in charge of refreshments, on January 14, Sally and Bert Dane. January 21 will be Meghan Baker and Federico Frigerio, and on January 28, Carla and Dick Benka will be our hosts. We thank you all for your participation!

Sally Baker (sallybbaker@comcast.net; 617-566-7564)

Carol Lohe (ctroyen@mfa.org; 617-739-0892)

MUSICAL NEWS

On Sunday, February 4, we will welcome Sarah Freiberg as cellist. Sarah Freiberg is a tenured member of the Handel and Haydn Society, and corresponding editor for Strings magazine. She teaches Historical Performance at Boston University, and is Chair of Strings at the Powers Music School. Sarah received D.M.A. and M.M. degrees from S.U.N.Y. Stony Brook, and holds degrees from the San Francisco Conservatory, Brown University and the Mozarteum in Salzburg, Austria. To learn more, please visit her website: sarahfreiberg.com

1/7/2018

Preludes	<i>Jordan</i>	arr. Johnson
	<i>Now Woods and Fields are Sleeping</i>	Bach
Anthem	<i>Break forth, O beauteous heav'nly light</i>	Bach
Response	<i>Beside Thy Manger Here I Stand</i>	Bach
Anthem	<i>Hail, holy light</i>	Kastalsky
Choral Amen	<i>Threefold Amen</i>	Traditional
Postlude	<i>Prelude and Fugue</i>	Geissler

1/14/2018

Preludes	<i>Andante</i>	Handel
	<i>Pavanne pour une infante défunte</i>	Ravel
Anthem	<i>Domine fili</i>	Vivaldi
Response	<i>Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now</i>	Bach
Anthem	<i>O salutaris Hostia</i>	Rossini
Choral Amen	<i>Sevenfold Amen</i>	Stainer
Postlude	<i>Trumpet Tune</i>	Stanley

1/21/2018

Preludes	<i>Andante</i>	Handel
	<i>Pastorale</i>	Handel
Anthem	<i>Cum Sancto Spiritu</i>	Mozart
Response	<i>O Lord How Shall I Meet Thee</i>	Bach
Anthem	<i>For the Beauty of the Earth</i>	Rutter
Choral Amen	<i>Twofold Amen</i>	Persichetti
Postlude	<i>Voluntary</i>	Purcell

1/28/2018

Preludes	<i>Offertorium</i>	Gounod
	<i>Communion</i>	Gounod
Anthem	<i>With a voice of singing</i>	Shaw
Response	<i>Now Let Us Come Before Him</i>	Bach
Anthem	<i>Deep River</i>	arr. Burleigh
Choral Amen	<i>Threefold Amen</i>	Traditional
Postlude	<i>Andante</i>	Bach

Program Notes

This January, our quartet will be singing two choruses from major works. On January 14, the quartet will sing *Domine fili* from Vivaldi's Gloria, and *Cum Sancto Spiritu* from Mozart's Grand Mass in C minor on January 21. Please join us to hear these wonderful masterpieces.

2018 SNOWSTORM POLICY



Services are not formally canceled for snowstorms. As a standing policy, I will open the church on Sunday mornings regardless of weather. However, because neither the church grounds nor the surrounding streets may be plowed in time for church, parking may not be available. Each person should decide what to do with an eye firmly on safety. I would rather have fewer people in the pews than any one of you in an orthopedist's office.

Be safe, be warm.
— Mark

SAVE THE DATES

The next congregational forums will be held after services on Sunday, January 21, 2018 and Sunday, February 11, 2018. (There will not be a forum on January 7, 2018 since the Strategic Planning Committee has recently received responses that have yet to be entered into the database.) Thanks to the many who care about the future of First Church and thus have taken the time to respond.

INTERN INSIGHTS

Thank you!

I can think of nothing more insightful
or profound than those two words.

For all your expressions of good wishes
while I was recently hospitalized and afterward,
your cards, emails, and phone calls,
thank you!

I'm following the advice I received
from many folks to slow down,
take it easy, and recuperate.

No deep thoughts or
weighty words this month.
Just a simple and heartfelt
expression of gratitude.

Thank you!

*In peace and service,
Greg*

VOLUNTEER LECTORS FOR JANUARY

January 7: Carol Lohe

January 14: Sally Baker

January 21: Mark Chadbourne

January 28: Cynthia B. Bates

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

We will have Sunday school during church services on **Sunday, January 14**, with Early Church at 10:00 a.m.

A special service will be held on **Sunday, January 28**, with families all together for church in the sanctuary. We will be varying our liturgy on that day, following a printed order of service and enjoying new music.

OUTREACH COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The proceeds from the 2017 Thanksgiving Fair were well over \$7,000 -- the highest amount raised since 2010. With that success, we were able to increase our contributions to \$3500 each to the Brookline Food Pantry and the Centre Street Food Pantry in Newton. The Fair continues to be a wonderful community event which draws many volunteers and donations, offers beautiful flowers and delicious food for Thanksgiving (and beyond), and, in turn, helps to support our local food pantries. In two more years we will celebrate the 100th Fair!

Our Knitting Ministry begins again on Sunday, January 14 after church. Last winter we knitted 64 hats and headbands which were donated to the Dana Farber Caps for Kids Program. Our new project is a pocket scarf which we'll donate to nursing homes. Please contact Lisa Piel if you are interested in joining the group.

Sally Baker, Chair, Outreach Coordinating Committee

MORNING BIBLE STUDY

Our Bible Study group meets on **Wednesday afternoons at 3:00 p.m.** We are currently studying the Book of Proverbs. Please join us.

BOOK GROUP

Our next meeting will be on **Monday, January 8th** at Sally Baker's, (137 Suffolk Road, Chestnut Hill) and we'll be discussing *My Family and Other Animals* by Gerald Durrell. Meetings take place at 3:00 p.m. As always, all are welcome!

ORGANIST and MUSIC DIRECTOR

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MUSIC COMMITTEE



Susan Welch, Chair

Pauline Ho Bynum

Bert and Sally Dane

Judith Vanderkay



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www.firstchurchchestnuthill.org