

# the first church in chestnut hill

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[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET



*April 2023*

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SUNDAY SERVICE at 10:30

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

## VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

On April 22, 1970, Earth Day was first observed. The day is intended to honor the Earth and to celebrate possibilities for peace in the world. It began as an exercise of environmental activism in the United States, originally under the name “Environmental Teach-in” – it was the 1970s. That clunky name gave way to “Earth Day” after a Madison Avenue advertising executive named Julien Koenig offered his services, recasting the day in more celebratory ways.

One might imagine this as a generational throwback, a Hippie era practice with nice intentions but little real-world impact. Five decades later, we are faced with far greater environmental challenges than 1970s activists could have imagined. Which leads to a question: should a church community be concerned with the environment?

“Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” (Gen. 1:28). This line from Genesis has been taken to mean that human beings have the right to use the world as they see fit, along with any creatures they find within it. And yet that is an assumption based upon one line from the Bible. Here is another: “To the Lord your God belong the heavens, even the highest heavens, the earth and everything in it.” (Deut. 10:14). In the scriptures, the world is offered as a gift and as a trust, to be used and to be protected. That use is conditioned on taking good care of what has been offered and passing that trust along to future generations.

The word “sustainable” is often used to describe how human beings should act. And to be sustainable, whatever activity is in question should be possible now and in the future, without the prospect of that opportunity being denied to our children or grandchildren. If one generation uses up a resource or destroys a landscape, that means the later generations are being deprived of their right to share in creation, even as creation is diminished or despoiled.

This is often a question of “somewhere else.” If the harm falls somewhere else, it is not seen as a problem. If forests are destroyed in Brazil or Indonesia, it is not our problem. Ignoring the selfish nature of such a view, it is also mistaken. Without large forests to absorb carbon from the air, the atmosphere heats up. Weather patterns become increasingly erratic and dangerous. Droughts become more severe even as dangerous flooding eventually tears away at the bone-dry land. California has become a microcosm of these worries. In far off New England, with warming winters, we may not seem to be first in line for problems. But we will not be able to avoid them forever, even as friends and family in the West and South struggle with floods, fires, and storms.

Earth Day is an occasion to remember that we have one home. It is a home that we share with many others and across time. If you have ever had a thought like, “There but for the grace of God go I...” when looking at a news report from across the nation, or from around the world, that sense of grace is also an opportunity to remember that God has given much to the people of the world and we are therefore called to care for that legacy. Grace suggests a gift and the gift of the world is ours for the moment, held in trust for those who will come after. In other words, this is indeed the concern of the church and for people who might call themselves followers of Jesus.

God bless,  
~Mark

## APRIL 2

Sermon: Palm Sunday  
Scriptures: Isaiah 50:4-9a, Matthew 21:1-11, Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Scripture Reader: Bert Dane  
Usher: Bert Dane  
Coffee Hour: Deborah & David Brooks  
Altar Flowers: The flowers are given in loving memory of Dorothy and John Brooks by Deborah and David Brooks

## APRIL 7

Service: 5:30 PM - Good Friday Meditations  
Scriptures: John 18:1-19:42  
Scripture Readers: Lisle Baker & Joe Hicks  
Usher: Lisle Baker

## APRIL 8

Service: 8:00 PM Taizé & Carrying in the Light

## APRIL 9

Sermon: Easter  
Scriptures: Jeremiah 31:1-6, Matthew 28:1-10, Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Scripture Reader: Joe Hicks  
Usher: Lisle Baker  
Coffee Hour: Potluck Breakfast – 9:00am  
Altar Flowers: The flowers are given in loving memory of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest B Dane and Mr. and Mrs. Edward Dane by Sally and Bert Dane

## APRIL 16

Sermon: Thomas  
Scriptures: Acts 2:14a, 22-32; John 20:19-31, Psalm 16  
Scripture Reader: Lisle Baker  
Usher: Mark Chadbourne  
Coffee Hour: Sarah Buermann  
Altar Flowers: The flowers are given in loving memory of Elizabeth Decker by Richard Byrd

APRIL 23

Sermon: What We Do Not Know  
Scriptures: Acts 2:14a, 36-41, Luke 24:13-26, Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
Scripture Reader: Carol Lohe  
Usher: Werner Lohe  
Coffee Hour: Sue Butler  
Altar Flowers: The flowers are given by First Church in appreciation of the music program

APRIL 30

Sermon: Abundant Life  
Scriptures: Acts 2:42-47, John 10:1-10, Psalm 23  
Scripture Reader: Linda Hicks  
Usher: John Welch  
Coffee Hour: Meghan Baker & Federico Frigerio  
Altar Flowers: To be determined

APRIL MUSIC

April 2, 2023

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Prelude:	<i>Magnificat noni toni</i>	Buxtehude
Anthem:	<i>All People that on Earth do Dwell</i>	Tallis
Hymn:	<i>Draw Nigh to the Jerusalem</i>	#156
Prayer Response:	<i>Once He Came in Blessing</i>	Bach
Offertory Anthem:	<i>Locust Iste</i>	Bruckner
Hymn:	<i>Ride on, Ride on in Majesty</i>	#175
Hymn:	<i>All Glory, Laud and Honor</i>	155
Choral Amen:	<i>Threefold Amen</i>	Traditional
Postlude:	<i>Toccata</i>	Buxtehude

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April 9, 2023

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Prelude:	<i>3 Miniatures</i>	Peeters
	<i>My Spirit be Joyful – Peter Cerdan, Trumpet</i>	Bach
Hymn:	<i>Christ the Lord is Risen Today</i>	#182
Anthem:	<i>Gloria in excelsis deo</i>	Vivaldi
Hymn:	<i>Christ is Made the Sure Foundation</i>	
Prayer Response:	<i>Now Let All Loudly Sing Praise to the Lord</i>	Bach
Offertory Anthem:	<i>Now God be Praised in Heav'n Above</i>	Vulpus
Hymn:	<i>Come Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain</i>	#185
Hymn:	<i>Jesus Christ is Risen Today</i>	#187
Choral Amen:	<i>The Lord Bless You and Keep You</i>	Rutter
Postlude:	<i>Rondeau – Peter Cerdan, Trumpet</i>	Mouret

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April 16, 2023

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Prelude:	<i>Offertory</i>	Boellmann
Anthem:	<i>Filiae Jerusalem</i>	Gabrieli
Hymn:	<i>I Look to Thee in Every Need</i>	#92
Prayer Response:	<i>Lord Jesus Christ, With Us Abide</i>	Bach
Offertory Anthem:	<i>Tanquem ad Latronem Existis</i>	Haydn
Hymn:	<i>Lead, Kindly Light</i>	#216
Hymn:	<i>Life of Ages, Richly Poured</i>	#236
Choral Amen:	<i>Threefold Amen</i>	Traditional
Postlude:	<i>Fugue</i>	Seeger

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April 23, 2023

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Prelude:	<i>Ricercare</i>	Palestrina
Anthem:	<i>Exsultate justi</i>	Viadana
Hymn:	<i>May Nothing Evil Cross this Door</i>	#1
Prayer Response:	<i>All Men Living Are but Mortal</i>	Bach
Offertory Anthem:	<i>The Peace of God</i>	Bullard
Hymn:	<i>Amazing Grace</i>	#
Hymn:	<i>Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire</i>	#
Choral Amen:	<i>Fourfold Amen</i>	Barrow
Postlude:	<i>Andantino</i>	Haydn

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April 30, 2023

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Prelude:	<i>Choral</i>	Jongen
Anthem:	<i>Gott is mein Hirt</i>	Schubert
Hymn:	<i>Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise</i>	#7
Prayer Response:	<i>From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee</i>	Bach
Offertory Anthem:	<i>Jesu, dulcis memoria</i>	De Victoria
Hymn:	<i>Before Jehovah's Aweful Throne</i>	#10
Hymn:	<i>Joyful, Joyful We Adore You</i>	#8
Choral Amen:	<i>Sevenfold Amen</i>	Stainer
Postlude:	<i>Offertoire</i>	Franck

## MUSIC PROGRAM NOTES

On Easter Sunday, April 9, we are joined by trumpeter Peter Cerdan. Peter Cerdan is an alumnus of the UCLA Herb Alpert School of Music and a graduate of the Berklee College of Music with a degree in Contemporary Writing & Production. In addition to studying Classical Trumpet Performance under the guidance of Jens Lindemann, former Principal Trumpet of the Canadian Brass, and many other renown teachers, Cerdan is a multi-instrumentalist (piano, guitar, vocals), songwriter, composer, producer, and private teacher of all ages and skill levels. Peter is so grateful to be welcomed to take part in the joy of this service through the sharing of music and wishes everyone a truly Happy Easter!

## QUARTET "ON BROADWAY" CONCERT



*First Church in Chestnut Hill Presents*  
**ON BROADWAY**

**THURSDAY MAY 4, 2023 AT 7PM**  
SELECTIONS FROM HAMILTON, LES MISERABLES,  
PHANTOM OF THE OPERA, AND MORE

Christina Grandy de Oliveira, Soprano  
Kristin Hagan, Mezzo Soprano  
Jack Keller, Tenor  
Guanghao Yu, Baritone  
Kathryn Rosenbach, Piano

TICKETS  
FREE

26 Suffolk Rd, Chestnut Hill 02467

Save the date! On Thursday, May 4, 2023, First Church in Chestnut Hill presents "On Broadway".

Our professional pianist and quartet will perform selections from Rent, Hamilton, My Fair Lady, Carousel, Phantom of the Opera, Les Misérables and more.

The concert is free and open to the public. All are welcome to enjoy a night of Broadway fun!

## HOLY WEEK EVENTS

***Easter Breakfast:*** On Sunday, April 9 at 9am we'll celebrate Easter together with a community breakfast. We have volunteers generously donating bagels, eggs, bacon, fruit, muffins, and more! Please email our administrator Ashley Mulcaire ([26suffolk@gmail.com](mailto:26suffolk@gmail.com)) or call Rev. Mark at (617) 566-6237 to let us know you're coming. Your RSVPs help us ensure there's plenty of food for everyone.

### ***Holy Week Services:***

April 2 – Palm Sunday at 10:30 a.m.

April 7 – Good Friday Meditations at 5:30 p.m.

April 8 – Easter Eve Taizé at 8:00 p.m.

April 9 – Easter Sunday at 10:30 a.m. (breakfast at 9:00 a.m.)

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATIONS

Thank you for your donations of diapers and wipes for the centre street food pantry. We make a bigger impact by working together!

### NEWTON SERVES - MAY 7

FCCH will be participating in NewtonSERVES 2023 on May 7. This event is hosted by the Newton Parks, Recreation & Culture Department, with the goal of beautifying public spaces and building community through service. If you're interested in doing some gardening on May 7, contact Sally Baker at [sallybbaker@comcast.net](mailto:sallybbaker@comcast.net)





## ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Mark hosts bible study at 10:00am on Wednesdays on zoom. Contact him at [mjtcaggiano@gmail.com](mailto:mjtcaggiano@gmail.com) to be included on the zoom invitation list. All are welcome.

## DONATIONS

Collection has returned to its traditional format during the service. If you wish, you may also make your donation via Zelle or mail a check to the church, Attention: Treasurer, 26 Suffolk Road, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467. Many thanks for your anticipated generosity.

## VOLUNTEER SCRIPTURE READERS

If you would like to join the group of volunteer scripture readers, please contact Carol Lohe ([ctroyen@mfa.org](mailto:ctroyen@mfa.org).) This is a rewarding opportunity to be part of our Sunday services.

## ALTAR FLOWERS



Attention flower donors: please contact Dana Flynn (617-680-0702) to coordinate the delivery of your flower donation. He will meet the florist (or you) at the church on the Saturday prior to your date. If you prefer, we also have tasteful silk arrangements which can easily be placed on the altar.

**If you would like to donate flowers, April 30, 2023 is still available.** Please contact our administrator Ashley Mulcaire, [26Suffolk@gmail.com](mailto:26Suffolk@gmail.com) if you are interested.

## OUR MISSION STATEMENT

.....  
**to** .....  
*grow spiritually*  
*foster community*  
*serve others*

### **ORGANIST and MUSIC DIRECTOR**

Kathryn Rosenbach, 617-821-0385

### **SEXTON**

Dana Flynn, 617-680-0702

### **ADMINISTRATOR**

Ashley Mulcaire, [26Suffolk@gmail.com](mailto:26Suffolk@gmail.com)

### **FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS MONTH**

Please contact the The Parish Service Committee Co-chairs:

Molly Batchelder 617-232-6213

Carol Stuart 617-731-0196

or Rev. Mark at the parsonage 617-232-0011 or via email

*(mjtccaggiano@gmail.com)*



Church Telephone 617-566-6237  
Parsonage Telephone 617-232-0011  
[www.firstchurchchestnuthill.org](http://www.firstchurchchestnuthill.org)