

the first church in chestnut hill

[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET



February 2024

SUNDAY SERVICE at 10:30

Rev. Mark J. T. Caggiano, Minister

VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

Veritas

There are moments in our lives that stick with us. Good ones and sad ones, events of national importance or cultural significance. And then there are the ones that enter the realm of legends. Where were you during the Blizzard of 1978?

For those in New England, this was a time of great story telling. From February 5 through February 7, over 27 inches of snow fell on the Boston area. There was already a base of snow on the ground, so there was a lot of snow, with drifts swallowing up my family's garage. The weather forecasting had not kept up with the severity of the snow hurricane that followed, for a time known as "Storm Larry" in Connecticut (not the most stirring of names).

Some people were forced to abandon their cars on the highways, blocked by snow and jackknifed trucks. Some did not make it home. Some fans were stranded at the Boston Garden during the Beanpot hockey tournament. They made do for days by sleeping on the bleachers and living off hot dogs.

Where were you? I was in my hometown of Winthrop, Massachusetts. It is a small town, basically an island attached by a built-up causeway. And during the blizzard, we were cut off from the world. There was no fuel. Groceries were quickly gone from our tiny market. The National Guard arrived with supplies. The town was basically frozen for days.

Obviously, there was no school, even in those distant times of snow heroics. We were at home for two weeks followed by our winter vacation. What a fine environment for elementary school children to be on the loose.

I had a Polaroid camera at the time, and I decided to go walking during the last day of the storm. I went down to the ocean. There were military vehicles driving on the streets. The houses by the seawall had been pelted with rocks thrown inland by the surging storm waters and unusually high tides. There was weirdly no snow near the beaches, but there was over a foot of stones. I came across a car that had been wrapped around a telephone pole—that photo was a prized childhood triumph.

Our lives are not always filled with such exciting moments, thank goodness. But we can often connect with one another through such salient events, learning a bit about someone from a time and from experiences unexpectedly shared long ago. So, where were you during the Blizzard of 1978?

God bless,
~Mark

In Memoriam
John C. Wyman, died on January 9, 2024
May he rest in peace.

February 4

Sermon: Inner Thoughts Revealed
Scriptures: Malachi 3:1-4, Luke 2:25-35, Psalm 84
Scripture Reader: Mark Chadbourne
Usher: Mark Chadbourne
Coffee Hour: Ludy and Garret Shih
Altar Flowers: The flowers are given in loving memory of Charles W. Brown Jr. and Agnes Brown Welch by Jacob F. Brown II.

February 11

Sermon: A Double Share
Scriptures: 2 Kings 2:6-12, Mark 9:2-9, Psalm 50
Scripture Reader: Sally Baker
Usher: Lisle Baker
Coffee Hour: Sally and Lisle Baker
Altar Flowers: In loving memory of Sandy Belfer by her husband Myron Belfer.

February 18

Sermon: The Covenant of God
Scriptures: Genesis 9:8-17, Mark 1:9-15, Psalm 25
Scripture Reader: Joe Hicks
Usher: G. West Saltonstall
Coffee Hour: Judith Vanderkay
Altar Flowers: In loving memory of Robert Vanderkay, Barbara Vanderkay, and Robert Vanderkay, Jr. by their family.

February 25

Sermon: Get Behind Me
Scriptures: Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16; Mark 8:31-38, Psalm 22
Scripture Reader: Lisle Baker
Usher: David Brooks
Coffee Hour: Deborah and David Brooks
Altar Flowers: Our flowers this Sunday are in appreciation for the volunteers who serve and have served the First Church in Chestnut Hill.

FEBRUARY MUSIC

February 4, 2024

Prelude	Prelude in G minor	Schmitt
Anthem	Inter vestibulum	Perti
Hymn 66	For the Beauty of the Earth	
Response	Jesus I Will Never Leave	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Tanquam ad Latronem Existis	Haydyn
Hymn	Amazing Grace	
Hymn	Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire	
Choral Amen	Threefold Amen	Persichetti
Postlude	Lobet den Herrn mit Pauken und Zimbelschon	Karg-Elert

February 11, 2024

Prelude	Sonata in G major I Andante	Marcello
	The Swan	Saint-Saens
	Sarah Freiberg, cello	
Anthem	Et in terra pax from "Gloria"	Vivaldi
	Sarah Freiberg, cello	
Hymn 38	Morning has Broken	
Response	Jesus, Priceless Treasure	Bach
Offertory Anthem	God is our Refuge and Strength	Mozart
Hymn 381	My Faith it is an Oaken Staff	
Hymn 217	Lord of All Hopefulness	
Choral Amen	The Lord Bless You and Keep You	Rutter
Postlude	Sonata in G major II Allegro	Marcello
	Sarah Freiberg, cello	

February 18, 2024

Prelude	Prelude in G minor	Cui
Anthem	O Sacrum Convivium	Pergolesi
Hymn 216	Lead, Kindly Light	
Response	Cheer Up, Faint Heart, Sing Songs, Rejoice	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Tibi Laus	Lassus
Hymn 494	We Would be Building	
Hymn 383	Forward Through the Ages	

Choral Amen	Twofold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Gavotte	Wesley

February 25, 2024

Prelude	Ave Marie von Arcadelt	Liszt
Anthem	Lead me, Lord, in thy Righteousness	Wesley
Hymn 87	God Moves in Mysterious Ways	
Response	Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Surely He hath borne our griefs	Lotti
Hymn 92	I Look to Thee in Every Need	
Hymn 391	Be Thou My Vision	
Choral Amen	Threefold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Prelude	Beethoven

MUSIC PROGRAM NOTES

On Sunday February 11, cellist Sarah Freiberg will be joining us. She has played here many times and is our welcomed friend. Please plan on attending.

FCCH IN THE COMMUNITY

For the fourth straight year, thanks to the generosity of many donors, our Thanksgiving Phantom Fair was successful in raising significant funds for two local food pantries. Before Christmas we sent checks for \$6,000 each to the Centre Street Food Pantry in Newton and The Brookline Food Pantry. Our donations were much appreciated!

Our food drive for Kids Club items was also successful. From the Centre Street Pantry, we received this note:

“Thank you so much for the amazing donation of Kids Club items from the First Church in Chestnut Hill. Your contribution weighed 101 pounds! As you know, food insecurity continues to exist so your donation will make a big difference to our shoppers. Thanks to everyone in the community who participated in this endeavor. We so appreciate your continued support.”

SNOW POLICY

As a reminder, as we head into another winter season here at First Church, Newton’s winter parking restriction go into effect beginning on December 1st and continues through

March 31st. If Newton announces a parking ban during a snowstorm on any given Sunday, then the service will be canceled. Please stay warm and safe.

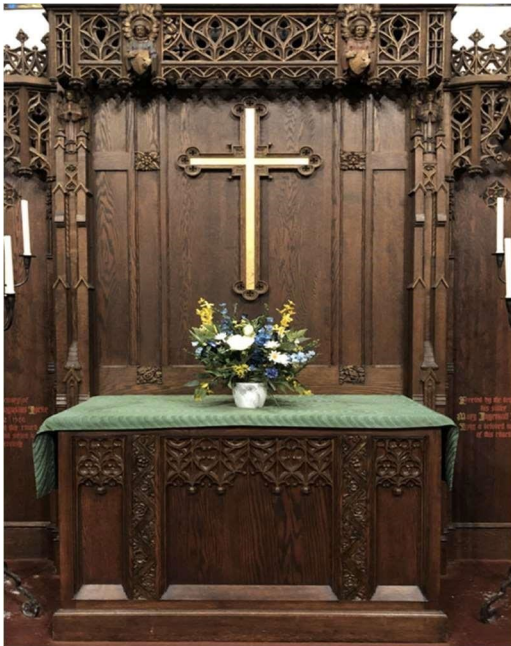
ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Mark hosts bible study at 10:00am on Wednesdays on Zoom. We are studying the Gospel of Luke. Contact Rev. Mark at 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.

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, multiple dates are still available for the year. Please contact Victor Strama if you are interested at 26suffolk@gmail.com.

VOLUNTEER SCRIPTURE READERS

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

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
26Suffolk@gmail.com

FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS MONTH

Please contact Rev. Mark at the church or via email
(mjtcaggiano@gmail.com)



Church Telephone 617-566-6237
Parsonage Telephone 617-232-0011
www.firstchurchchestnuthill.org