

the first church in chestnut hill

[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET



October 2024

SUNDAY SERVICE at 10:30

Rev. Mark J. T. Caggiano, Minister

VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

Next month is the election – you may have noticed. And as the day draws near, I thought it would be appropriate to muse about democracy in general and not the specifics of this particular cycle of electioneering.

Elections are not new. They were not uniquely American, with our system borrowing heavily from older institutions in Ancient Greece and Rome. There were also democratic bodies from a wider array of cultures, such as the Althing of Iceland which was formed in 930. This was before Christianity had even made its way to the island's shores. "Thing" meaning the "appointed time," the Althing was an assembly of the most powerful leaders gathered to discuss and to set laws. All men of legal age could attend, if not participate.

Rules for participation are important. When the United States created its constitution in 1787, effective in 1789, there were no federal rules on who could vote. And so the states set those rules. Some states like New Jersey allowed voting by Blacks and unmarried or widowed women who owned property (these rights were rescinded in 1807). In 1790, the Naturalization Act allowed foreign born persons who became citizens to vote, but again the particulars were left up to the states for many years.

Property ownership was often a requirement. For example, as I am currently a tenant in the parsonage, I would not have had the right to vote. Land ownership was a legal requirement arising at a time when many citizens were farmers. But that would change during the 19th century as many states began to urbanize. In 1841, there was an uprising in Rhode Island by landless men known as Dorr's Rebellion. These men wanted to overturn colonial voting requirements from 1663 that specified a property ownership threshold. In 1840, half of the men in Rhode Island could not vote because of this restriction and the state government was not interested in proposed changes. This dispute over voting led to a short-lived insurrection with a shadow government formed and a separate constitution adopted. Eventually cooler heads prevailed, and Rhode Island followed the other states allowing all white men to vote – note the specificity.

Over our history, the United States has had uneven practices on voting. And so, I have never seen voting as a chore to be slotted in between doctor's appointments and picking up the drycleaning. When November 5 rolls around, might I suggest treating it as a holiday. Take the day off from everything. Go vote, obviously, but also use the day as an opportunity to let go of all the election build up and hand wringing. Some of you may be involved with campaigns. Some may be glued to the television watching the returns. All of that is fine, because it serves to give the process of voting its proper due as a cornerstone of our democracy and the life blood of the republic.

I am not going to tell anyone how to vote, but I sincerely hope that you will vote.

God bless,
~Mark

October 6 (Blessing of the Animals)

Sermon: Wizard of Oz - Blessing of the Animals
Scriptures: Genesis 1:20-25, Matthew 6:25-29, Psalm 8
Scripture Reader: Bert Dane
Usher: John Welch
Coffee Hour: Jennifer Morss Drayton
Altar Flowers: In memory and gratitude for our many animal companions.

October 13

Sermon: Young Frankenstein
Scriptures: Amos 5:6-7, 10-15; Mark 10:17-31, Psalm 90
Scripture Reader: Lisle Baker
Usher: Lisle Baker
Coffee Hour: Mark Chadbourne
Altar Flowers: Flowers are given in loving memory of Barbara Morss Marshall by the Drayton family.

October 20 (Annual Meeting)

Sermon: Mr. Smith Goes to Washington
Scriptures: Job 38:1-7, Mark 10:35-45, Psalm 91
Scripture Reader: Carol Lohe
Usher: Werner Lohe
Coffee Hour: Annual Meeting – Lunch will be provided by the church
Altar Flowers: In loving memory of Robert, Samuel, and Sharon Ho by their family.

October 27

Sermon: Westside Story
Scriptures: Job 42:1-6, 10-17; Mark 10:46-52, Psalm 126
Scripture Reader: David Brooks
Usher: David Brooks
Coffee Hour: Deborah and David Brooks
Altar Flowers: In loving memory of Sandy Belfer by her husband Myron Belfer.

OCTOBER MUSIC

October 6, 2024 (Blessing of the Animals)

Prelude	Andante	Bach
Anthem	Bless the Beasts and the Children	Carpenters
Hymn 38	Morning has Broken	
Response	In God, My Faithful God	Bach
Offertory Anthem	O Lord, Thou hast formed my every part	Bach
Hymn 74	O How Glorious, Full of Wonder	
Hymn 478	All Things Bright and Beautiful	
Choral Amen	Twofold Amen	Persichetti
Postlude	Invention #4	Bach

October 13, 2024

Prelude	Ricercare	Palestrina
Anthem	Thou Knowest Lord	Purcell
Hymn 1	Our God, Our Help in Ages Past	
Response	Draw Us to Thee	Bach
Offertory Anthem	O Holy Father, infinite in mercy	Purcell
Hymn 360	Within the Maddening Maze of Things	
Hymn 358	Rock of Ages	
Choral Amen	Threefold Amen	Persichetti
Postlude	Trio par Contrefugue	Chaumont

October 20, 2024

Prelude	Prelude in G minor	Cui
Anthem	Sicut cervus	Palestrina
Hymn 437	My Country 'Tis of Thee	
Response	All Depends on Our Possessing	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Unser lieben Frauen Traum	Reger
Hymn 440	O Beautiful for Spacious Skies	
Hymn 494	We Would be Building	
Choral Amen	The Lord Bless You and Keep You	Rutter
Postlude	Fugue	Buxtehude

October 27, 2024

Prelude	Voluntary	Greene
	Meditation	Wid
Anthem	The Heavens are Telling	Beethoven
Hymn 228	Love Divine, All Loves Excelling	
Response	O Christ, Who Art the Light and Day	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Tibi Laus	Lassus
Hymn 317	I Love to Tell the Story	
Hymn 227	Fairest Lord Jesus	
Choral Amen	Sevenfold Amen	Stainer
Postlude	Toccata	Sweelinck

MUSIC PROGRAM NOTES

A Tour of European Opera: Come and experience a wonderful night of European opera at First Church in Chestnut Hill on Thursday, October 24, at 7 PM! Our professional quartet will perform “A Tour of European Opera,” featuring arias by Wagner, Mozart, Bizet, and Delibes, among others. It will be a night you cannot miss.

MOVIES THIS FALL

10/6 – *Wizard of Oz* (Blessing of the Animals)

10/13 – *Young Frankenstein*

10/20 – *Mr. Smith Goes to Washington* (Annual Meeting)

10/27 – *Westside Story*

11/3 – *Coco* (All Souls Communion)

QUICK REMINDER OF UPCOMING EVENTS

All Souls Communion: On Sunday, November 3, we will be offering our Annual All Souls Communion service. It is a time of remembrance for those who had died and we specifically honor those who have passed away in the past year. Please send to Rev. Mark the names of those you would like mentioned during the service.

WARRANT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE FIRST CHURCH IN CHESTNUT HILL

Sunday, October 20, 2024, at 12:00 p.m.

The business of the meeting will be:

To elect a moderator for the coming year.

To hear and act upon reports of the treasurer, the minister, and several committees of the church.

To elect a treasurer and a clerk for the coming year.

To elect three members of the Standing Committee.

To discuss and approve the budget for the coming year.*

To transact such other business as may properly come before the meeting.

There will be a short meeting of the new Standing Committee at the end of the Annual Meeting. A light luncheon buffet will be served instead of coffee hour. All members of the church are cordially invited to attend. Kindly RSVP by Tuesday, October 15, 2024 (26suffolk@gmail.com).

*Those wishing to view the budget may do so by contacting Victor Strama (26suffolk@gmail.com).

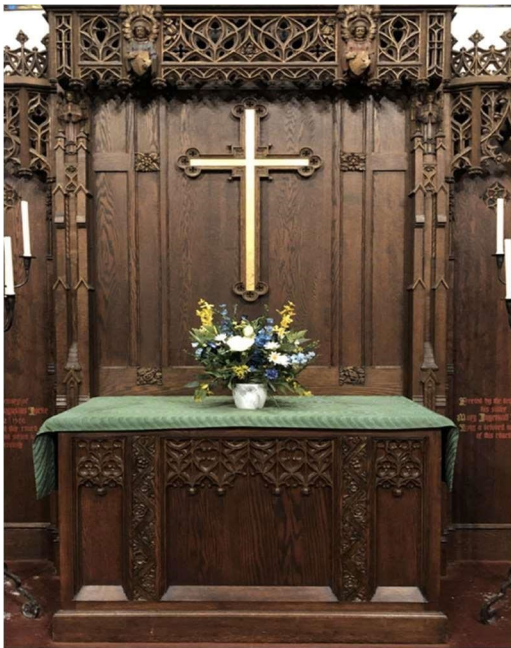
ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Mark hosts bible study at 1:00 PM (*note the new time*) on Wednesdays on Zoom. We are studying the Book of Genesis. 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 (ctryoen@mfa.org). This is a rewarding opportunity to be part of our Sunday services.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

ORGANIST and MUSIC DIRECTOR

Kathryn Rosenbach, 617-821-0385

Christina Grandy de Oliveira, Soprano

Becca Allen, Mezzo Soprano

MinSun Im, Tenor

Guanghao Yu, Baritone

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