

the first church in chestnut hill

October 2025

[UNITARIAN]

26 SUFFOLK ROAD OFF HAMMOND STREET



Rev. Mark J. T. Caggiano, *Minister*
Kathryn Rosenbach, *Music Director*
Diego Garrido Barreto, *Ministerial Intern*

www.firstchurchchestnuthill.org

VERITAS, CARITAS, ET RISUS

I must confess that, personally, I do not like the summer. The weather is too hot, the roads too crowded. It is not my cup of tea. But, to summer's credit, it does lead into my favorite time of the year: autumn. And that is truly for me the best time of year.

Part of this seasonal preference is my association of events. Fall is the time for changing leaves and harvest celebrations. The weather is cool and crisp, or at least more so. And we enter a time of holidays that are more than an excuse for a barbeque and a sale on household appliances.

I love Halloween, even when the decorations go on sale in August. I like seeing children dress up and walk around trick-or-treating. Once, I was helping give out candy at my daughter's apartment—my beard was particularly long that week. So, when a little girl sheepishly asked her mother if I was Santa Claus, I gave her a hearty “Ho, ho, ho,” and she laughed.

The flow of life over the next few months is tied into these days of celebration. Halloween, Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day are each times for gratitude and reflection. On Halloween, and All Souls Sunday (November 2), we are reminded of those we have loved who are now of blessed memory. On Thanksgiving, we give thanks for the blessings of this life and, hopefully, the blessings of friends and family gathered round. On Christmas, we call to mind the birth of Jesus and the possibilities of peace, hope, and love in our days and in our world. And on New Year's Day, we start afresh with a new day and a new year.

We can get caught up in the superficial aspects of the holidays, but these days and months ahead can also be a time to think back upon what we have received and experienced during the past year. We can count our blessings, resolve ourselves to seek new opportunities, and remember those who are dear to us and those who have meant so much to us over the years.

You will hear it many times over the coming months, but nonetheless I wish you all happy holidays for one and all.

God bless, Mark

BELOVEDNESS

. Gente, hola, community, this is your ministerial intern and church admin. My invitation as an intern for this month, and for the rest of the church year, is to start and finish in love. Belovedness. After preaching about H. Thurman, my next sermon is about someone from whom you can find inspiration. What can a single mother, bohemian socialist, thrift store anarchist, reader of Tolstoi and Dostoievski, unapologetically Catholic, and a journalist of the workers' conditions teach us today? Stay around...

My internship is a gift to me. Your presence is a gift to me, a learning living experience. I want to offer the opportunity to explore each other's gifts with some activities to keep exploring love and, after listening to members of the congregation, I am offering these activities to be more spiritually connected and grounded.

- Spiritual Direction and Prayer Group (6 people max) I am doing my training as Spiritual Director and I would love to gather once a month to explore God's voice in community. We will be listening and praying one unto another, making questions and sharing our stories.
- Bring your art project A weekly, open, free paced, all day space of silence and community in the back room to finish your project. Which days of the week would you like this to happen?
- Reading Group - Henri Nouwen: (*Book The Wounded Healer* and *The Return of the Prodigal Son*) What about before church service? Which other dates you could join us?

Please, send me an email to join, let's do this!

Con gusto, Diego.

October 5

Sermon: Blessing of the Animals
Scriptures: Genesis 1:19-25, Matthew 6:25-34
Scripture Reader: Lisle Baker
Usher: Lisle Baker
Flowers: In loving memory of William Rollow
Sue Butler and his family.
Coffee Hour: Jennifer Morss Drayton.

October 12

Sermon: One Day for Today
Scriptures: 2 Kings 5:1-3,7-15c; Luke
17:11-19
Scripture Reader: Mark Chadbourne
Usher: David Cornish
Flowers: In loving memory of Sandy Belfer
her husband Myron Belfer.
Coffee Hour: Mark Chadbourne

October 19

Sermon: Come, come whoever you are
Scriptures: Genesis 32:22-31, Luke 18:1-8
Scripture Reader: David Brooks
Usher: Mark Chadbourne
Flowers: In loving memory of Robert, Samuel :
Sharon Ho by their family and Pauline
Bynum.
Coffee Hour: Annual Meeting

October 26

Sermon: Morir Antes que Pecar
Scriptures: Jeremiah 14:7-10, 19-22; Luke
18:9-14
Scripture Reader: Joseph Hicks
Usher: Bert Dane
Flowers: In loving memory of Mr. and Mrs C.
Welch by the Welch family
Coffee Hour: Annual Meeting

MUSIC PROGRAM NOTES

On Sunday October 5th, we will be joined by flutist Dr Meghan Miller.

Flutist Meghan Miller has performed as a chamber and orchestral musician throughout the United States, Europe, and Latin America. As a musician in the Boston area, she has also performed with Boston Lyric Opera, Boston Modern Orchestra Project (BMOP), Emmanuel Music, Portland Symphony, Vista Philharmonic, and Cape Cod Symphony. Meghan has been a guest artist at the International Festival of Flutists in Lima, Peru and in the summers, she is on faculty at the Cremona International Music Academy in Cremona, Italy. Meghan is the Associate Director at Powers Music School, a community music school in Belmont. Previous faculty appointments include Longy School of Music, New England Conservatory Preparatory School, Concord Academy, and Saint Anselm College. Meghan holds a Doctorate of Musical Arts degree from Boston University.

For our Opera Americana we have a guest artist, Jonathan Clark. This is his biography.

Jonathan Clark is a bass-baritone originally from Lexington, Massachusetts, whose choral musicianship is informed by his complimentary training in the jazz rhythm section. While studying jazz guitar at Oberlin Conservatory, Jonathan studied voice privately with Prof. Timothy LeFebvre, and brushed shoulders with opera majors in academic choirs before landing a job at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Cleveland Heights. His 3-year section leader tenure brought him to Bath Abbey and Salisbury Cathedral in the UK, building on secular choral engagements singing at Carnegie Hall and in France, Greece, and Bulgaria. Jonathan is a recent dual-degree graduate from Oberlin College and Conservatory, where he majored in chemistry and jazz guitar.

ZOOM BIBLE STUDY

Rev. Mark hosts bible study at 1:00 PM on Wednesdays on Zoom.
In October we are studying selections from the Book of Psalms.

Contact Rev. Mark to be included on the Zoom invitation list at
mjtcaggiano@gmail.com. All are welcome.

DONATIONS

If you wish, you may 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.

SAVE THE DATES

October 5 – Blessing of the Animals

Sunday October 19 - Annual Meeting after morning services.

Thursday, October 30 - Opera Americana at 7:00 p.m.

Sunday, November 2 - All Souls Communion*

*Please feel free to bring in a framed photo of a loved one you wish to remember
on this day of remembrance to be displayed during the service.

IN MEMORIAM

Samuel L. “Sandy” Batchelder, Jr.

The memorial service is Saturday, October 25 at 11 AM. Reception
will follow at The Country Club 119 Clyde Street Brookline, MA.

VOLUNTEER SCRIPTURE READERS

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

WARRANT OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF FIRST CHURCH IN CHESTNUT HILL

Sunday, October 19, 2025, 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 Monday, October 13, 2025

26suffolk@gmail.com.

*Those wishing to view the budget may do so by contacting Diego. Those wishing to view and/or print the bylaws may do so by visiting the Church History page on our website.

OCTOBER MUSIC

October 5, 2025

Prelude	Autumn Plaisir d'amour Dr. Meghan Miller, flute	Chaminade Martini
Anthem	O for a Closer Walk	Traditional Scottish Psalter
Hymn 38	Morning has Broken	
Response	From Depths of Woe I Cry to Thee	Bach
Offertory Anthem	O vos omnes	Correa
Hymn 64	All Creatures of Our God and King	
Hymn 478	All Things Bright and Beautiful	
Choral Amen	Old Irish Blessing	Agay
Postlude	Sheep May Safely Graze Dr. Meghan Miller, flute	Bach

October 12, 2025

Prelude	Prelude	Bach
Anthem	Gloria in excelsis Deo	Vivaldi
Hymn 15	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	
Response	In God, My Faithful God	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Give almes of thy goods	Tye
Hymn 696	Homeless People, Will You Listen	
Hymn 236	Life of Ages, Richly Poured	
Choral Amen	Sevenfold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Orgelstuck	Knecht

October 19, 2025

Prelude	Offertoire	Boellmann
Anthem	Et in terra pax hominibus	Vivaldi
Hymn 10	Before Jehovah's Aweful Throne	

Response	Draw Us to Thee	Bach
Offertory Anthem	God is Living, God is Here	Bach
Hymn 118 (Grey)	Come, Come, Whoever You Are	
Hymn 34 (Grey)	Though I May Speak with Bravest Fire	
Choral Amen	Twofold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Praeludium	Sechter

October 26, 2025

Prelude	Reflection	Beaumont
Anthem	Cantate Domino	Ottavio Pitoni
Hymn 274	How Lovely Are Thy Dwellings	Fair
Response	All Depends on Our Possessing	Bach
Offertory Anthem	Laudate nomen Domini	Tye
Hymn 490	Now in the Days of Youth	
Hymn 352	Lift Up Your Hearts!	
Choral Amen	Threifold Amen	Traditional
Postlude	Preludio	Adolfo Bossi



From the National Benevolent Association's Liturgy for Immigration and Detention

Opening Prayer

God of the citizen, God of the stranger,
you love each person,
and you are constantly at work to provide for all. You call us to peace and to
oneness.

We ask your wisdom and direction,
that we may know our place
in showing forth your justice to all the world.

As we spend this time together,
stir our hearts and minds according to your will. We pray in Christ's name.
Amen.

For One Who Suffers by Howard Thurman, Chalice Hymnal #508

I know I cannot enter all you feel
Nor bear with you the burden of your pain
I can but offer what my love does give –
The strength of caring
The warmth of one who seeks to understand
This I do in quiet ways –
That on your lonely path you may not walk alone.

Testimonies

The Arredondo Family (Guatemala)

“Esvin Fernando Arredondo ... was separated from one of his daughters, Andrea Arredondo — then 12 years old and now 13, after they turned themselves in on May 16, 2018, at a Texas crossing and sought asylum legally, according to his lawyer. Sabraw found that Arredondo had been deported after his order to the U.S. government not to remove any more parents separated from his children. [His wife and their two daughters] passed the initial screening interview for asylum, unlike [Esvin], even though they were fleeing for the same reason. Their son Marco, 17, was shot and killed by suspected gang members in Guatemala City.”

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

MUSIC DIRECTOR and CHOIR

Kathryn Rosenbach, 617-821-0385

Christina Grandy de Oliveira, Soprano

Nicole Plummer, Mezzo Soprano

MinSun Im, Tenor

Guanghao Yu, Baritone

SEXTON

Dana Flynn, 617-680-0702

ADMINISTRATOR

Diego Garrido Barreto

26Suffolk@gmail.com

FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS MONTH

Please contact Rev. Mark at the church or via email

(mjtcaggiano@gmail.com)

