



A refugee is someone who has been forced to flee his or her country because of persecution, war or violence.

--UN High Commission on Refugees

January 26, 2025

Epiphany Season

9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Keith Ciccone, organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Karen E. Gale

PASSING THE PEACE

Peace be with you!

And also with you!

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

Emmanuel, Emmanuel. His name is called, Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called, Emmanuel.

*CALL TO WORSHIP from Micah 6:8

What does the Lord require of us, but to seek justice...

Justice for the alien, the sojourner, the migrant, the destitute.

To love mercy...

Mercy for those with broken lives, broken families, broken homelands.

To walk humbly with our God.

The God of hope and healing, of reconciliation and deep love, meets us here.

Let us come together with hearts open to be changed by faith. Amen.

*HYMN 307

We Are Called

** Indicates all who are able may stand*

Please silence your cell phones

OFFERTORY DEDICATION

*DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures, here, below.
Praise God, above, ye heav'nly hosts.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING c. Carol Penner

**God calls us to be generous now,
in this present moment, trusting in the One who is our Provider.
And so we give freely, as we have received freely.
We love fully, as we have been fully loved.
Accept the gifts of our hands, O God of All,
and the slow transformation of our hearts.
Through Jesus who sojourns among us, Amen.**

*HYMN 541

Here I Am Lord

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Guest Speaker John Bottei represents Catholic Charities' Refugee Community Sponsorship program.

Community Sponsorship (CS) is a model of refugee resettlement that emphasizes the critical role of the local community in the refugee experience. Groups of individuals with a common bond, interest, or commitment to social justice, come together in support of a refugee or refugee family to make the experience of resettlement in a new society easier. Community Sponsorship Programs match refugees to CS groups for varying lengths of time with the goal of providing a range of key services to augment the support available for refugees.



WELCOME to this Service of Worship at First Congregational Church. Whether you are attending in-person or viewing the live-stream of this morning's service, we're glad you chose to be with us.



Subscribe to the First Church YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTaGrBGnYzfM66pS7Bd4PvA>

First Church Office Hours are Monday - Friday, 9:00 - 1:00

Televised Worship Services are broadcast on BCAM: Verizon Channel 28, Comcast Channel 9, on Saturday at 8:00 AM and Sunday at 10:00 AM.

The Drive & Drop Food Collection is on hold for the winter.

FIRST CHURCH BRAINTREE ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEXT WEEK Sunday, February 2 at 10:30am - Annual Financial Meeting

Attention Members: The financial report is available for members today if you wish to review it before the annual meeting. You may pick up a copy following the worship service. If you are not attending in person and would like to receive a copy then contact Deb in the office and she will mail it to you. Non-voting members are welcome to attend the meeting and can get the financial report via email.

Deb McMartin: 781-843-3616 or office@firstchurchbraintree.com

Upcoming Meetings and Events

Leadership Team - Sunday, January 28 @ 7pm on zoom

Prudential Team - Thursday, February 6 @ 10am

Scout Sunday - Sunday, February 9 at 9:30am

White Chapel Hand Bell Choir

Rehearsal will restart on Monday night February 3, 2025 at 6:30 p.m. in the sanctuary. All are welcome and you do not need to read music, you just need to be able to laugh a lot! Contact Valerie Johnson if you want to join. (Deb can give you her contact info)



Rev. Karen E. Gale, Interim Pastor ❖ revkarengale@gmail.com

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