



"The Holy Spirit is still in the business of overcoming fear and hatred and division by the unbeatable, uncrushable, unextinguishable power of love.

~Rev. Charles Graves, IV

May 31, 2026

Trinity Sunday

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.

Let us pass the peace with one another...

*Introit

Halle, halle, halle - lu - ia. Halle, halle, halle - lu - ia.

Halle, halle, halle - lu - ia. Halleluja, Halleluja

*Call to Worship c.D McRae-McMahon, Together in Worship

We believe that horizons of hope are never fixed.

They always move beyond, in the creativity of God.

We believe that powers of evil cannot kill God.

God walks on free and leaps ahead of us in the risen Christ of faith.

We believe that the Spirit can never be confined.

She dances forth in the world and is found in surprising places, leading us on until the end of time.

In the beginning, God created all things and called them good.

God continues to create and recreate the world around us.

Let us worship with joy.

*Hymn 261

All Creatures of Our God and King

Unison Prayer

God, when you called each of us into being, you delighted in your works. You gifted us with differences that illuminate the breadth of beauty, wisdom, and practices of love in your creation. We know, deep in our bones, that all—we and all of Creation—are created in your utter love-liness. Forgive us as we have failed to celebrate and delight in this. Forgive the time when we have wounded people instead of seeking wholeness. Free us from narrow thinking that confines, constrains, or condemns your good work in us. Amen.

* Indicates all who are able may stand

Please silence your cell phones

Children's Time

Scripture

Genesis 1

1 John 4:16b-21

God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been perfected among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as God is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not reached perfection in love. We love because God first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate a brother or sister are liars, for those who do not love a brother or sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from God is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

*Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be.
World without end. Amen. Amen.**

Sermon

"In the Beginning God Created"

Rev. Karen E. Gale

Hymn

This is My Song

This is my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;
But other hearts in other lands are beating
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.

My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
And sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine.
But other lands have sunlight too and clover,
And skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
Oh, hear my song, O God of all the nations,
A song of peace for their land and for mine.

This is my prayer, O Lord of all earth's kingdoms:
Thy kingdom come; on earth thy will be done.
Let Christ be lifted up till all shall serve him,
And hearts united learn to live as one.
O hear my prayer, thou God of all the nations;
myself I give thee; let thy will be done.

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father (Creator), who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever. Amen.

Musical Reflection

Dedication of the Offering

*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 Dedication

**We will try to be holy and useful,
We will strive to repair the world given to us to hand on.
Let us lift each other on our shoulders and carry each other
along.
Let us see the light in others and honor that light.
Let holiness move in us.
Praise the light that shines before us, through us, after us.
May these gifts bring more light, always more light.
Amen.**

*Hymn 259

For the Beauty of the Earth

*Benediction

Postlude



Following worship this morning, please join us at the Braintree Pride Festival!

We will have a booth at the Watson Park venue and would love some help handing out water and letting people know that ALL are welcome at First Church Braintree!



WELCOME to this Service of Worship at First Congregational Church.

Of all the things you could have done this morning, we're glad you chose to be with us.



About Today's Service: We are live -streaming today's service. Playback is available on our YouTube channel:

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

Prayer Lists are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Listening Devices are available at the back of the sanctuary.

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.

First Church Office Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00am—1:00pm.

The First Congregational Church of Braintree is an Open & Affirming Congregation working in partnership with all churches of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all God's children into Christian faith regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, political stance or theological perspective, national origin, mental health status, physical and cognitive abilities, and the many diverse forms of family configurations. We proclaim and affirm that full and equal participation in the life and leadership of our church is open to all. We seek to continue learning and growing together as the inclusive Body of Christ. We are committed to spreading the light and love of Christ into the world through worship and service. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.



Rev. Karen E. Gale, Interim Pastor ❖ revkarengale@gmail.com
Keith Ciccone, Director of Music ❖ keciccon@aol.com
Mattie Gietman, Dir. Children's Ministry ❖ mattie@firstchurchbraintree.com
Deb McMartin, Administrator ❖ office@firstchurchbraintree.com
Valerie Fink, Bookkeeper ❖ finance@firstchurchbraintree.com

