



What's the point of having laws against murder and human sacrifice if religions sanction these things?"

~ Adam Weishaupt,  
Abraham: The World's First Psychopath

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July 5, 2026

Sixth Sunday After Pentecost

9:30 a.m.

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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

*Lead Me Lord*

Lead me Lord, lead me in Thy righteousness,

Make Thy way plain before my face.

For it is Thou, Lord, Thou, Lord, only,

That makest me dwell in safety.

\*Call to Worship

Here, in this place, we discover the great things God has done.

**In story and song, in silence and sacrament, we are reminded of God's relationship with us which lasts forever.**

Here, with these people, we find our true home.

**We are one in the Spirit, we are united in our journey with Christ.**

Here, we hear those promises made so long ago.

**God offers us blessing after blessing, and calls us to bless the nations of the earth.**

\*Hymn 259

*For the Beauty of the Earth*

\* Indicates all who are able may stand

*Please silence your cell phones*

Children's Time

Scripture

Genesis 22:1-19  
Matthew 10:40-42

\*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:

"The Binding of Isaac"

Rev. Karen Gale

Prayer 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

### **The Sacrament of Communion**

We practice open communion. That means everyone, every person, is welcome at our table. There is no test, no required beliefs, no prior experience needed. All people are invited. Our cup contains grape juice so all may participate.

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

Words of Institution and Prayer of Consecration

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Holy, gracious, God,  
 Here at this table your promise of life is made tangible.  
 We have rested in the depth of your love;  
 We have tasted your nurturing presence;  
 We have accepted you into our hearts, into our lives.  
 Together, at this table, you offered us life, girded by an eternal promise.  
 Together, by your grace, we accepted the life you offer and go out to bless the nations.  
 With great thanks, we pray. Amen.**

\*Hymn 301

*America the Beautiful*

\*Benediction

Postlude



First Church Braintree Announcements



Air-Conditioned Parlor

Summer Worship Plan

- June 28 - Sanctuary
- July 5 - Parlor
- July 12 - West Lawn
- July 19 - Parlor
- July 26 - Parlor
- Sundays in August - Parlor
- September 6 - Parlor
- September 13 - West Lawn (Rally Sunday)



West Lawn

The office is closed on Mondays.

Deb will not be in the office on Mondays.

Pastor Karen will be available by appointment. Call her at (517) 899-4851.

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.

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.**

**BELIEVE  
THERE IS  
GOOD IN  
THE WORLD**



Rev. Karen E. Gale, Interim Pastor ❖ [revkarengale@gmail.com](mailto:revkarengale@gmail.com)

Keith Ciccone, Director of Music ❖ [keciccon@aol.com](mailto:keciccon@aol.com)

Mattie Gietman, Dir. Children's Ministry ❖ [mattie@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:mattie@firstchurchbraintree.com)

Deb McMartin, Administrator ❖ [office@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:office@firstchurchbraintree.com)

Valerie Fink, Bookkeeper ❖ [finance@firstchurchbraintree.com](mailto:finance@firstchurchbraintree.com)