God was on the move; God is on the move; and God will always be on the move. Those who walk with God and listen to God are also on the move

~ Scot McKnight

November 15, 2026 **Twenty-Fifth Sunday After Pentecost** **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 *Give Thanks*

Give thanks with a grateful heart. Give thanks to the Holy One.
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong!"
Let the poor say, "I am rich, because of what the Lord has done for us!"
Give thanks. Give thanks. Give thanks.

*Call to Worship c. Rosie Venner, WSCF Europe

Come all who are weary
of wealth, of poverty, of power, of struggle, of division
Come all who are heavy-laden
with too much, with too little, with anxiety, with fear, with anger
Come all who have hope
for liberation, for peace, for freedom, for the kingdom
Hear these words, "See, I am making all things new."
Let us worship the Lord of yesterday, today and tomorrow.
Let us worship in faith and hope and praise. Amen.

*Hymn 382 *A Mighty Fortress is Our God*

Unison Prayer c. Joe Shadle, Xavier University

God of Love,
You are with us in every transition and change.
As we stand on this threshold we recall your deep compassion, presence,
and abounding love.
We thank you for the gifts, talents and skills with which you have blessed us.
We thank you for the experiences that have brought us to this moment.
We thank you for the work of others that gives breadth and depth to our own work.
Be with us as we move forward, dwelling with you and supporting one another.
We ask this in your Holy Name. Amen.

** Indicates all who are able may stand.* *Please silence your cell phones*

A Time for All Ages

Scripture Exodus 25:8 and 40 (abridged)

God spoke to Moses: “Tell the Israelites that they are to set aside offerings for me. Let them construct a Sanctuary for me so that I can live among them. You are to construct it following the plans I’ve given you, the design for The Dwelling and the design for all its furnishings…

…God spoke to Moses: “On the first day of the first month, set up The Dwelling, the Tent of Meeting.

“Then take the anointing oil and anoint The Dwelling and everything in it; consecrate it and all its furnishings so that it becomes holy. Anoint the Altar of Whole-Burnt-Offering and all its utensils, consecrating the Altar so that it is completely holy. Anoint the Washbasin and its base: consecrate it.

“Finally, bring Aaron and his sons to the entrance of the Tent of Meeting and wash them with water... Anoint them to serve me as priests. Their anointing will bring them into a perpetual priesthood, down through the generations.”

Moses did everything God commanded. He did it all. The Cloud covered the Tent of Meeting, and the Glory of God filled The Dwelling. Moses couldn’t enter the Tent of Meeting because the Cloud was upon it, and the Glory of God filled The Dwelling.

Whenever the Cloud lifted from The Dwelling, the People of Israel set out on their travels, but if the Cloud did not lift, they wouldn’t set out until it did lift. The Cloud of God was over The Dwelling during the day and the fire was in it at night, visible to all the Israelites in all their travels.

Proverbs 16:1-4, 7-9

Mortals make elaborate plans, but God has the last word.
Humans are satisfied with whatever looks good; God probes for what is good.
Put God in charge of your work, then what you’ve planned will take place.
When God approves of your life, even your enemies will end up shaking your hand.
Far better to be right and poor than to be wrong and rich.
We plan the way we want to live, but only God makes us able to live it.

*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 Dwelling" Rev. Karen E. Gale

*Hymn 541 *Here I am, Lord*

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 forever. Amen.

Musical Reflection *Make me a Servant*

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

Loving, living God, be among us now.
Show us your ways. Guide our steps.
Live in us, that we may be people of steadfast hope and powerful faith.
Help us hear your words, challenging us to give you all the things that are yours.
Help us remember that all we are and all we see, all that passes through our hands, are gifts from you to be shared in service and love.
Holy One among us, help us be a holy people
who receive your word with joy and live your message with love. Amen.

*Hymn 349 *Take My Life and Let It Be*

*Benediction

Postlude

Deacon of the Day: Jean Opie
Coffee Hour Host: Barbara Larsen



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
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First Church Braintree Announcements

TODAY! Sunday, November 15: Congregational Conversation in the UPH
After worship this morning we will hold a Congregational Conversation in the Upper Parish Hall. This gathering is not a voting meeting, but a time for Council and Search Discernment members to clearly state the difficult challenges facing our church and their recommendation for how we move forward. We will look at the three main components that are necessary for a church to function: People, Capacity and Money.



Tuesday, November 17: Deadline to participate in the Turkey Drive
Once again, we are assisting the Marge Crispin Center with their annual Turkey Drive. First Church is collecting frozen boneless turkey breasts of any size (generally 5-8 pounds) and/or full-sized frozen turkeys (10+ pounds).
Please get your donated turkeys in to the church **by Tuesday, November 17.**

Thursday, November 19th @ 7pm on Zoom: **Book Discussion**
Kate Bowler's Everything Happens for a Reason And Other Lies I've Loved.



Sunday, November 22: Thanksgiving Sunday
"Deck the Halls" Decorate the Sanctuary after worship

Sunday, November 29: First Sunday of Advent
Church Council Meeting following worship

Sunday, December 6: Memorial Hymn Sing (see reverse side)

Sunday, December 20, 11am: Caroling
3pm: Longest Night Worship Service (*aka* Blue Christmas)

First Congregational Church of Braintree

Memorial Christmas Hymn Sing
Sunday, December 6, 2026
at 9:30 AM



To sponsor one or more of the following hymns *In Memory of* or *In Honor of* a loved one, please indicate your name (given by), their name, your hymn choice and amount of donation. Suggested donation per hymn is $10 but any amount is appreciated.
To ensure your request is included in our special bulletin, please return this request form to the church office or place it on the collection plate *no later than* ***Sunday, November 29.***

Choice of Hymns:

1. *O Come, All Ye Faithful*
2. *What Child is This?*
3. *O Little Town of Bethlehem*
4. *Silent Night*
5. *Angels We Have Heard on High*
6. *The First Nowell*
7. *Hark, The Herald Angels Sing*
8. *I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*
9. *It Came Upon A Midnight Clear*
10. *Joy to the World*

Please PRINT the names below *exactly* as you wish them to appear in the bulletin.

Given by: _____
(Write your name as you wish it to appear in the bulletin)

Hymn #	Hymn Name Abbreviate if necessary	Circle One	*In Memory of* or *In Honor of* (Please print name clearly, exactly as you wish it listed.)	Amount Donated (Suggested amount is $10 per hymn.)
		Memory Honor		$
		Memory Honor		$
		Memory Honor		$
		Memory Honor		$
		Memory Honor		$
	Checks should be made payable to First Congregational Church of Braintree. Please write "Hymn Sing" in the memo.		**Total**	

Thank you for your support.