

Season after Pentecost 2018

September 2 through 30



This is a photo of a ceiling of a side chapel in the 11th century cathedral in Albi, in the south of France. A UNESCO World Heritage site it was built between 1297 and 1480. The interior of the church is a great visual apology of the Church Universal - a community of Saints, Prophets, Martyrs and believers called together by God in Christ Jesus. The church - in heaven - and the church on Earth, all gather and glory in the Cross of Jesus. Its beauty for Christians is beyond measure.

Welcome to the season after Pentecost at First Church in Marlborough



We are grateful for your presence and invite you to participate in the worship, service, and program life of First Church! This booklet will be your guide for Sunday Worship through the end of September.

NEW TO FIRST CHURCH?

- ❖ We are delighted that you are here and we hope you will be blessed as you worship with us. If you wish, please sign the Guest Book located by the main door of the sanctuary.
- ❖ We invite you to stop by Coffee Hour after worship for fellowship and conversation.
- ❖ Feel free to ask the Deacons any questions regarding today's service.
- ❖ Please turn off all cell phones when in the Sanctuary. Men please remove your hats.
- ❖ Large print Bibles and hymnals are available in the Narthex.
- ❖ Individual listening devices for improved sound are also available from a Deacon.

WORSHIP

- ❖ The hymns are found in the purple 'Glory to God' Hymnal.
- ❖ The beginning of the prelude is a call to silent, personal preparation for the worship of God. As the Bulletin Headings remind us, the center of our worship is the Word – by which we mean both Scripture and also the Living Word of God, Jesus Christ. When Scripture is read and proclaimed, Jesus Christ the Living Word is present by the inward witness of the Holy Spirit. It is this Living word that is the center of everything we do in worship. We listen for the Word of God. We respond in song, affirmation of our faith, prayer, and the giving of our gifts and dedication of our lives, and then God sends us back into the world to live out our faith, looking for God's work all around us. In the Sacrament of Holy Communion, we encounter the real, active, living presence of the same Living Word, Jesus Christ, our faithful Saviour.
- ❖ Music in worship, like our prayers is a thanksgiving offering to God. We invite you to sit and listen to the closing music as you end today's worship.

CHILDREN

If your infant or child needs care or you feel might become disruptive during the worship service, please be comfortable to leave the Sanctuary and return as you wish. Child care for infants and toddlers is provided in the Nursery on the first floor.

WHY A BOOKLET?

- ❖ **First Church is working on efforts to 'GET GREENER' so this worship booklet is designed to be used on a monthly basis and re-used each Sunday during that time period.**
- ❖ Please leave it in the pew or in the basket in the Narthex as you depart the service.
- ❖ A PDF is available for download on our website.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude “Vignette in Classic Style” ~ E. Broughton **James Duncan**

Greetings, Announcements, Flowers/Bulletins **Lay Leader**

Call to Worship *Please stand.* **Lay Leader**

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord;

All: maker of heaven and earth.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God’s presence with singing!

Opening Hymn “I Sing the Mighty Power of God” **#32**

Call to Confession **Lay Leader**

One: The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Silence

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Words of Assurance **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Act of Praise To Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the God who we adore
Be Glory as it was and is, and shall be evermore.

Prayer of the Day *Please be seated after the Prayer.*

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

Scripture The Song of Solomon 2: 8-15 (*read together*) **Lay Leader**
Deuteronomy 4: 1-2, 6-9

One: The Word of God for the people of God. **Lay Leader**

All: Thanks be to God.

Sermon Text The Gospel According to Mark 7: 1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem

Sermon

Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the Church

Joys and Concerns

Time of Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

Service of Giving

Offertory

Sarah Hanahan, alto saxophone

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication *Please stand.*

#606

FEASTING ON THE WORD

*We invite everyone who wishes to deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior to partake of the bread and the cup. All are welcome at God's table. It is our custom to eat the bread and drink the cup together, symbolic of our unity in the body of Christ our Lord. **Gluten-free bread is in paper baking cups. The cup is juice, not wine.***

Hymn of Preparation *Please stand.*

"We Come as Guests Invited"

#504

Invitation to the Table and Silent Time of Centering *Please be seated.*

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts!

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give our thanks and praise...
who forever sing to the glory of your name.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full
of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He who comes in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.**

#552

Words of Institution

You are holy, O God of majesty.... Gracious God, his perfect sacrifice destroys the power of sin and death; by raising him to life you give us life evermore and therefore we joyfully proclaim the mystery of our faith.

All: Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again. (sung twice)

#553

Prayer of Consecration

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and on these your gifts of bread and wine...through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns and is worshipped and glorified with You and the Holy Spirit, one God for ever.

All: Amen, Amen, Amen.

#554

The Lord’s Prayer

First Church uses the Debts/Debtors version, but please use any version you are most comfortable with.

Service of the Bread

The bread that we break, is it not a sharing in the body of Christ?

Service of the Cup

The cup of salvation which we bless, is it not a sharing in the blood of Christ?

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving

Accomplished and concluded, Christ our Lord, is the mystery You have ordained. We have tasted Your death, shared in Your resurrection, and been filled with Your unending life. Stay with us now, that in the strength of Your presence and truth we may all go through our journey and at its end see You face-to-face in the glory of the eternal Trinity, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Dismissal *Please stand.*

One: Let Us Bless Our God.

All: God’s Name Be Praised.

Hymn

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

#630

Benediction

Sung Response

“Go with Us, Lord”

#748

“Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be a gift to you.”

Postlude

James Duncan

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude **James Duncan**

Greetings, Announcements, Flowers/Bulletins **Lay Leader**

Introit *“African Processional”* **Chancel Choir**

Call to Worship *Please stand.* **Lay Leader**

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord;

All: maker of heaven and earth.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God’s presence with singing!

Opening Hymn *“Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above”* **#645**

Call to Confession **Lay Leader**

One: The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Silence

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Words of Assurance **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Act of Praise To Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the God who we adore
Be Glory as it was and is, and shall be evermore.

Prayer of the Day *Please be seated after the Prayer.*

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

A Word for All Ages **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

Scripture Psalm 146 (*read together*) **Lay Leader**
Isaiah 35: 4-10

One: The Word of God for the people of God. Lay Leader

All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Believe He Loves You" ~ Berta Poorman & Sonja Poorman Chancel Choir

Sermon Text The Gospel According to Mark 7: 24-37 Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem

Sermon Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem

Sermon Hymn "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" #610

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Covenanting Together *Please stand.*

One: The Saints of God by calling, must have a Visible-Political-Union amongst themselves, or else they are not yet a particular church. This form is the Visible Covenant, Agreement, or consent whereby they give themselves unto the Lord, to the observing of the ordinances of Christ together in the same society, which is usually called the Church-covenant. Let us, therefore, bind ourselves onto God and each other.

All: **We, the members of First Church in Marlborough (Congregational) UCC, following the example of Jesus, who loved and served all, promise we will:**

- ❖ **Do unto others as we would have them do unto us;**
- ❖ **Faithfully support the Church with our time and treasures;**
- ❖ **Seek to do the will of God to promote the life of our church community and the community at large;**
- ❖ **Listen to, speak with, and interact with each person in the church with respect, honesty, and love;**
- ❖ **Interact with open minds and hearts, considering perspectives that may be different from our own; and**
- ❖ **Showing the charity of Christ, we will love and serve the people and property of the church and community in the name of our Lord.**

Prayers of the Church

Joys and Concerns

Time of Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Sung)

First Church uses the Debts/Debtors version, but please use any version you are most comfortable with.

Service of Giving

The second collection this week is in honor of Pastor Kaz's seventh ordination anniversary. As we've done in the past, it will be donated to men and women studying for ministry. This year it will go to the Christian Theological Center in Sri Lanka whom we are supporting through Global Ministries.

Offertory

Doxology and Prayer of Dedication *Please stand.*

#606

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD
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Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dismissal *Please stand.*

One: Let Us Bless Our God.

All: **God's Name Be Praised.**

Hymn "In Christ there Is No East or West" #317

Benediction

Sung Response "Go with Us, Lord" #748

"Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be a gift to you."

Postlude James Duncan

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude **Lois Toeppner**

Greetings, Announcements, Flowers/Bulletins **Lay Leader**

Introit "Mascherada" ~ arr. Kevin McChesney **Diane Burke & Sandy Stetson, duet**

Call to Worship *Please stand.* **Lay Leader**

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord;

All: maker of heaven and earth.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God's presence with singing!

Opening Hymn "O Lord My God" **#625**

Call to Confession **Lay Leader**

One: The proof of God's amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Silence

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Words of Assurance **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Summary of The Law ~ The Gospel According to Matthew 22: 37-40 **Lay Leader**

One: Our Lord Jesus said:

All: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

One: This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it:

All: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

One: On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Prayer of the Day *Please be seated after the Prayer.*

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

A Word for All Ages

Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem

Scripture Psalm 19 (*read together*) **Lay Leader**
 Proverbs 1: 20-33

One: The Word of God for the people of God. **Lay Leader**
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Prelude No. 1" ~ J.S. Bach/trans. Karen Roth **Diane Burke, Wendy Davis (bell tree), Tambre Knox, Jon Roberts, quartet**

Sermon Text The Gospel According to Mark 8: 27-38 **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**
Children proceed down to Sunday School

Sermon **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

Sermon Hymn "Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said" **#718**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the Church

Joys and Concerns
 Time of Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer
 Prayer Response "Let the Words of My Mouth" **Chancel Choir**

The Lord's Prayer

First Church uses the Debts/Debtors version, but please use any version you are most comfortable with.

Service of Giving

Offertory "I Love You, Lord" ~ arr Paul McKlveen **Marlea Dutt, Barbara Parente, Roberta Saart, Sandy Stetson, quartet**
Doxology and Prayer of Dedication *Please stand.* **#606**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dismissal *Please stand.*

One: Let Us Bless Our God.
All: **God's Name Be Praised.**

Hymn "Jesus Calls Us" **#720**

Benediction

Sung Response "Go with Us, Lord" **#748**
"Go with us, Lord, and guide the way through this and every coming day, that in your Spirit strong and true our lives may be a gift to you."

Postlude **Lois Toepfner**

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude **James Duncan**

Greetings, Announcements, Flowers/Bulletins **Lay Leader**

Introit *“Call to Worship”* **Chancel Choir**

Call to Worship *Please stand.* **Lay Leader**

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord;

All: maker of heaven and earth.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God’s presence with singing!

Opening Hymn *“Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”* **#12**

Call to Confession **Lay Leader**

One: The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Silence

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Words of Assurance **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Act of Praise To Father, Son and Holy Ghost, the God who we adore
Be Glory as it was and is, and shall be evermore.

Prayer of the Day *Please be seated after the Prayer.*

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

A Word for All Ages **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

Scripture Psalm 1 *(read together)* **Lay Leader**
The Letter of James 3: 13, 4: 3-8

One: The Word of God for the people of God. **Lay Leader**

All: Thanks be to God.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

Prelude **James Duncan**

Greetings, Announcements, Flowers/Bulletins **Lay Leader**

Introit *“Confitemini Domino”* **Chancel Choir**

Call to Worship *Please stand.* **Lay Leader**

One: Our help is in the name of the Lord;

All: maker of heaven and earth.

One: This is the day that the Lord has made;

All: let us rejoice and be glad in it.

One: Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth.

All: Worship the Lord with gladness. Come into God’s presence with singing!

Opening Hymn *“Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty”* **#35**

Call to Confession **Lay Leader**

One: The proof of God’s amazing love is this: While we were sinners Christ died for us.
Because we have faith in him, we dare to approach God with confidence.

Silence

All: Holy and merciful God, in your presence we confess our failure to be what you created us to be. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from your ways, in wasting your gifts, in forgetting your love. By your loving mercy, help us to live in your light and abide in your ways, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Words of Assurance **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

One: Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun.
Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

All: Amen.

Summary of The Law ~ The Gospel According to Matthew 22: 37-40 **Lay Leader**

One: Our Lord Jesus said:

All: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.

One: This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it:

All: You shall love your neighbor as yourself.

One: On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.

Prayer of the Day *Please be seated after the Prayer.*

LISTENING FOR THE WORD

A Word for All Ages **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

Scripture Psalm 124 (*read together*) **Lay Leader**
 Numbers 11: 4-16, 24-29

One: The Word of God for the people of God. **Lay Leader**
All: **Thanks be to God.**

Anthem “Adoramus te” ~ Giovanni Luigi di Palestrina **Chancel Choir**

Sermon Text The Gospel According to Mark 9: 38-50 **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**
Children proceed down to Sunday School

Sermon **Rev. Dr. Kaz Bem**

Sermon Hymn “How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord” **#432**

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

Prayers of the Church
 Joys and Concerns
 Time of Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer
 Prayer Response “Wait for the Lord” **Chancel Choir**

The Lord’s Prayer
First Church uses the Debts/Debtors version, but please use any version you are most comfortable with.

Service of Giving
 Offertory
 Doxology and Prayer of Dedication *Please stand.* **#606**

BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dismissal *Please stand.*
One: Let Us Bless Our God.
All: **God’s Name Be Praised.**

Hymn “The God of Abraham Praise” **#49**

Benediction

Sung Response “Go with Us, Lord” **#748**

Postlude **James Duncan**

What's Happening at First Church

Bible Study is held on Tuesday mornings with Pastor Kaz in Classroom 7. This fall his program is on The Gospel According to Luke.

Music ~ Sing with the Chancel Choir (rehearsals 7pm on Thursdays) or Ring with the Joyful Ringers Handbell group (rehearsals 7pm on Mondays). For the youth, our Children's Choir typically sings once a month.

Service and Volunteer Opportunities

During the month of September First Church will be serving at local community outreach events including dinner for Our Father's Table in downtown Marlborough, dinner for the LGBT Asylum Task Force at Hadwen Park Congregational Church in Worcester, and lunches for Worcester Fellowship in downtown Worcester. Please check the green weekly Worship Information sheets for details.

Fellowship ~ Women's Fellowship meets on the 2nd Tuesday of the month usually at 6:30pm in Parish Hall. Men's Fellowship meets on the 3rd Sunday of the month at 11:30am in Classroom 7. Stay after worship for Coffee Hour and spend time with members and friends of First Church.

Community Partners

~ "One Step at a Time" grief support meetings are held here on the first Thursday of the month at 6:30pm. Join our peer-led support group where members share experiences, resources and strategies from their own grief journeys as we cope with the loss of a loved one from drugs/alcohol.

~ OUT Metrowest runs three different programs in Framingham. The 2nd Wednesday of the month is Nexus, a group for LGBTQ and Allied middle-schoolers; the 3rd Wednesday of the month is Umbrella, a group for trans and gender non-conforming high schoolers; and every Thursday, a drop-in for all LGBTQ middle and high schoolers. Please see www.outmetrowest.org for more information on times and address.

~ Early Risers Fresh Start Group is an Alcoholic Anonymous fellowship whose only requirement for membership is the desire to stop drinking. Meetings are held here on Saturday mornings in Parish Hall from 6:45-8:30 AM. Additional daily meetings are held nearby at 33 Main Street, Sunday through Friday from 6:45-7:45 AM.

Contacting First Church

FIRST CHURCH CARES AND CONCERNS

To notify pastoral staff of personal concerns, illnesses, hospitalizations, or deaths, to pass along a prayer request; or to arrange homebound Communion, contact the church office at 508-485-6297 or email Pastor Kaz at kdebem@gmail.com.

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor:	Rev. Dr. Kazimierz Bem (kdebem@gmail.com)
Honorary Pastor Emerita:	Reverend Phyllis Frechette
Church Administrator:	Susan Pellerin (office@firstchurchnet.com)
Clerk:	Deborah Marino
Collector:	Pamela Patten (ppatten725@gmail.com)
Co-Superintendents:	Lynette Biggs (lynette_biggs@wayland.k12.ma.us) Anita Stetson (camdenview@aol.com)
Handbell Director:	Diane Burke, Joyful Ringers
Moderator:	Joan Campbell
Music Director:	Elinor A. Armsby
Organist:	James Duncan
Sexton:	Cliff Fenton
Treasurer:	Jeremey Crocker (treasurer@firstchurchnet.com)

HOURS AND INFORMATION

37 High Street, Marlborough, Massachusetts 01752

Office phone: 508-485-6297

Website ~ www.firstchurchnet.com

Office Email ~ office@firstchurchnet.com

Church Office Hours: Tues. through Thurs. 9:00am -3:00pm

Pastor Kaz Office Hours ~ Mondays at The Coffee Loft on Lincoln Street from 9:00am - Noon (or by appointment)