

The First Congregational Church

Gathered 1743
Boylston, Massachusetts



August 16, 2026

First Congregational Church

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Welcome. Whether you are new to church, returning, or visiting today, we are glad you are here. Please participate as you feel comfortable.

Nursery is available for ages 3 and below.

A parent-friendly option is available in the "Library," where the service is streamed if your little one needs a break.

Words in bold are spoken together. Please stand or sit as you are able.

PRELUDE

Charles Nwachukwu

* SONG — *Forever*

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader / **People**

Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

PRAYER FOR TODAY (PROPER 15)

Keep your Church, O Lord, by your perpetual mercy; and because without you the frailty of our nature causes us to fall, keep us from all things hurtful, and lead us to all things profitable for our salvation; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.
Amen.

* SONG — *Make Room*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Jan Fuller

INVITATION TO CHILDREN'S CHURCH
(3rd Grade and Under)

CONFESSION OF SIN

Silence is kept for personal confession

**Most merciful God,
We confess that we have sinned against you
In thought, word, and deed,
By what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart:
We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
Have mercy on us and forgive us;
That we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
To the glory of your Name. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Here the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. — 1 Timothy 1:15

The Peace of the Lord be with you!
And also with you!

PASSING THE PEACE

* SONG — *Goodness of God*

SCRIPTURE READING:

Reader: Our teaching for this morning is from Ephesians 2:19-20:

19 So now you Gentiles are no longer strangers and foreigners. You are citizens along with all of God's holy people. You are members of God's family. 20 Together, we are his house,

built on the foundation of the apostles and the prophets. And the cornerstone is Christ Jesus himself.

Reader: The Word of the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

SUNDAY TEACHING — Church — Part One.

Guest Speaker: The Rev. Mike "Sully" Sullivan

PASTORAL PRAYER

Let us be so bold as to pray the way Jesus taught us to pray:

Our Father, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

* HYMN 231 — *Let the Peace of Christ Rule in Your Heart*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Charles Nwachukwu

* congregation stands as each is able

** You are invited to join us for Coffee and Community following the service. We'd love the opportunity to meet you.*

If this is your church home, thank you for your faithful generosity. Giving plates are available near the exits. If you're visiting today, please don't feel any obligation to give—we're simply glad you're here.



First
Congregational
Church OF BOYLSTON

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ANNOUNCEMENTS



Flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God.



MONDAY NIGHT B--BALL: 6:30 pm in the church library. Come for the fellowship, light Bible study, and answers to your faith-related questions.



The Ladies Benevolent Society is going to participate in the Boylston Town Wide Yard Sale on September 19th. If you would like to donate small household items in good condition, games, jewelry, etc. we would very much appreciate it. Please, no large/bulky items, electronics, furniture or clothing. For further information contact Carolyn McCubrey at (508) 869-3128. Thanks so much



Buy-A-Brick Campaign - We are still selling engraved bricks to be set into a memory garden beside the walkway at the rear of the church. Proceeds will go into our Capital Account to continue many projects in and around the church. This is the perfect way to honor a person or event or to memorialize that person, event or memory. Forms are available at church on the table near Fellowship Hall. If you have any questions, you can reach out to Jan Fuller at 508-868-4879 or by email at janlfull@aol.com.



We keep in our prayers — Ruth E. Coyle, Donna Kelleher, Max Lariviere, Adam Brunt, Dick Martino, Ginny Felch, Karl Nelson, Brady, Shelly, Brian Strand, Maureen Anderson, Travis & Lori Rotti, Austin, Jen, Carter Bean, Paula Sylvester, Jeff Sears, Carole Szwarc, Roz Franzen, Bill, Patty, Rachel Thomas & family, Bob & Judy Brousseau, David Carlson, Michael Hoefling, Jim Deal, Mike Staras, Barry Mechem, Melissa Pierce, Dick Zepp, Nina Valera, Jim Haynes and family, and the Sauer/O'Brien family.