

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship for the Lord's Day March 15, 2020

*Draw near to me; Though it feels like you are far
Draw near to me; I'll be for you a guiding star
I will walk with you, And you can always walk with me
I'll hold you in my arms again -- Draw near to me*

PRELUDE Hymn # 837 - "What A Fellowship"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Burns Stanfield

*If you are not hearing from us, tell us!
Reach out through the Fourth Presbyterian Church website,
or call Burns at (617) 285-0039, or email at bstanfield@hds.harvard.edu*

*CALL TO WORSHIP -- For the Season of Lent

Leader: It's that time again. Forty days to lean in and listen to the story.
Forty days to sort out pieces of life, tend to bruises, and commit anew to lives of faith.

Hear the invitation from God:

People: Come near to me.

L: God calls, inviting us to share what is deep and real

P: God calls, inviting us to face the wilderness with honesty.

L: Draw near to The Spirit through time with others, for God works through people.

L: Draw near to The Spirit through time near the suffering, for God enters through broken places.

L: Gather round, everybody. Lean in. Grow in Christ. Grow in God.

P: Grow in Love.

L: God beckons us.

All: Let us answer. Let us worship. Let us dwell with the Lord.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*SONG One more step, We will take one more step,
Till there is peace for us and everyone, We will take one more step.

LITURGY OF CONFESSION

Unison Prayer. Sometimes, God, we feel far from You. We want to be closer, and even complain when that nearness is absent. And yet -- we are busy with distractions, preoccupied by resentments, and sometimes utterly derailed by hate. Help us get on track. Help us embrace honesty right here, right now, and name it all: Our distractions. Our resentments. Our mistakes. Our sins. ... Sometimes, God, we feel far away. But we know Christ keeps singing that invitation to draw near and trust. Help us now to lean in & listen....

Time for Silent Confession

Sung Response:

Draw near to me; Please don't stay away for long

Draw near to me; My love for you is strong

For even if you're far away, I hold you in my heart

I sing a secret song to you, Each day we are apart

*LITURGY OF PARDON

Leader: Sisters and brothers, God is merciful and kind.

People: In Jesus, God invites us into the fullness of God's Grace.

Leader: As God's children, let us proclaim the good news together:

All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven

SING: *(the second portion of the earlier response)*

Draw near to me; Though it feels like you are far

Draw near to me; I'll be for you a guiding star

I will walk with you, And you can always walk with me

I'll hold you in my arms again -- Draw near to me

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Assoc. Pastor Katie Cole

CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS & PRAYER

Pastoral Resident Deb Duval

*HYMN (#543 in hymnal)

"O Christ Surround Me"

SCRIPTURE READING

John 4: 5-42

SPECIAL MUSIC

MESSAGE

*UNISON PRAYER

Gracious and Loving God, thank you for this Lenten journey; and thank you for this time to walk with Jesus toward the promise of Easter. God, we ask that you guide us in this sacred season so that we might:

rid ourselves of what clutters our lives,
deepen our faith and follow your way,
bring all of our hopes and heartbreaks to you in prayer,
rediscover Your grace and share it with the world.

Transform us this Lent, Oh God, and give us the strength to draw closer to you each day. Amen.

OFFERING - We can give online at www.fourthboston.org OR send a check to

Fourth Presbyterian Church, 340 Dorchester Street, South Boston, MA

02127

Doxology

* HYMN (#450 in hymnal)

“ Be Thou My Vision”

***BENEDICTION**

Spoken Response: Alleluia, Amen!

God be with you till we meet again; Loving counsels guide, uphold you,
With a shepherd's care enfold you: God be with you till we meet again

HYMN LYRICS

(837 – What A Fellowship)

What a fellowship, what a joy divine, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
What a blessedness, what a peace is mine, Leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning, Safe and secure from all alarms;
Leaning, leaning, Leaning on the everlasting arms.

Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
Oh, how bright the path grows from day to day, Leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning,....

What have I to dread, what have I to fear, Leaning on the everlasting arms;
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near, Leaning on the everlasting arms.
Leaning, leaning,...

(543 - O Christ Surround Me)

God be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:
O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me.

Bind to myself the Name of Holy,
Great cloud of witnesses enfold;
Prophets, apostles, angels witness: O Christ....

Brightness of sun and glow of moonlight,
flashing of lightning, strength of wind,
Depth of the sea to soil of planet: O Christ...

Walking behind to hem my journey,
going ahead to light my way,
and from beneath, above, and all ways: O Christ

God, be the love to search and keep me;
God, be the prayer to move my voice;
God, be the strength to now uphold me:

O Christ, surround me; O Christ, surround me. (repeat refrain)

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH www.4thboston.org
340 Dorchester Street South Boston, MA 02127 (617) 268-1281

Ministers	All members of Fourth Presbyterian Church	
Pastor	Rev. Burns Stanfield	bstanfield@hds.harvard.edu
Assoc. Pastor	Rev. Katie Cole	fourth.katie@gmail.com
Pastoral Resident	Deb Duval	debbie@fourthboston.org

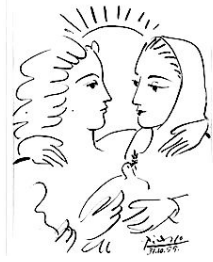
(Hymn #450 Be Thou My Vision)

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best Thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my soul's shelter, and thou my high tower;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise
Thou mine Inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
High King of Heaven, my Treasure Thou art

High King of Heaven, my victory won
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whate'er befall
Still be my Vision, O Ruler of all



Come Near to Me
The Third Sunday of Lent