

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship for the Lord's Day March 29 2020

PRELUDES

Liz, Willie, Grace (South Boston)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Burns Stanfield

*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 & BRINGING IN THE LIGHT (Please light a candle at home)

*HYMN – *Be Thou My Vision*

Tim & Michelle Sanchez (Somerville)

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

LITURGY OF CONFESSION

Betsy Pabon & Chuck Ferrell

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
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*

*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

SCRIPTURE READING Ezekiel 37: 1-14

Hoklotubbe Family (in Iowa)

CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS & PRAYER

Pastoral Resident Deb Duval (in Framingham)

Write prayer requests in the "Chat Section." You can also request a chance to speak.

*HYMN - *Precious Lord*

Katie Walsh (in NH)

Precious Lord, take my hand Lead me on, let me stand

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn Through the storm, through the night

Lead me on through the light Take my hand, precious Lord And lead me home

When my way grows drear Precious Lord, lead me near

When my life is almost gone hear my cry, hear my call,

Hold my hand, lest I fall, Take my hand, precious Lord And lead me home

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Matias Letelier (in NYC)

SPECIAL MUSIC

Dry Bones

Lizzie, Grace & Willie. Please join us in song & dance

Chorus: *Them bones, them bones, them – dry bones. (3x) Now hear the Word of the Lord!*

Last verse: *Them bones, them bones, gonna – dance around (3x) Now hear the Word of the Lord*

MESSAGE

Assoc. Pastor Katie Cole (Jamaica Plain)

*UNISON PRAYER

Holly Aloise & Family (Montana)

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

The Freeborn Family (Melrose)

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

Fourth Presbyterian Church, 340 Dorchester Street, South Boston, MA 02127

DOXOLOGY

Tim & Michelle Sanchez (Somerville)

SERVICE OF HEALING

Burns & family (in the sanctuary)

Please have a cup of water nearby for a time of blessing.

Song: *Jesus on the mainline, Tell Him what you want....*

* HYMN - *Guide My Feet*

1. Guide my feet, while I run this race (3x), For I don't want to run this race in vain.

2. Hold my hand... 3. Stand by me.... 4. I'm your child... 5. Guide my feet...

*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

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