

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship for the Lord's Day Seventh Sunday of Eastertide May 24, 2020

PRELUDES

Liz, Willie, Grace, Nate & Burns in the sanctuary
Mike Motia in Providence, RI

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Burns Stanfield
Assoc. Pastor Katie Cole

Please write announcements & prayer requests in the Zoom Chat Section.

*CALL TO WORSHIP – Eastertide / Ascension Day

Leader: Brothers and sisters, let us go to the mountain.

People: We climb together, to know our God.

L: Look to the heavens and behold our ascending Christ.

P: Jesus, we praise you even as we hunger for your presence by our side.

L: Look to the horizon and behold this vision.

P: God, give us eyes to see your mission for us.

L: And now let us descend together, into the fields of our ministry.

P: Holy Spirit, take us into our call as Jesus' disciples.

ALL: MAKE US YOUR CHURCH REBORN!

ALLELUIA! LET US WORSHIP GOD!!

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

*HYMN – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* (#366)

Katie Cole & her autoharp

Love Divine, all loves excelling, Joy of heaven to earth come down
Fix in us thy humble dwelling, All thy faithful mercies crown
Jesus, thou art all compassion, Pure unbounded love thou art
Visit us with thy salvation, Enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
Let us all in thee inherit; let us find the promised rest.
Take away the love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, Almighty to deliver, Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never, Never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing, Glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then, thy new creation; Pure and spotless let us be.
Let us see thy great salvation Perfectly restored in thee;
Changed from glory into glory, Till in heaven we take our place,
Till we cast our crowns before thee, Lost in wonder, love, and praise.

LITURGY OF CONFESSION

Diane Devore & Fiona McCusker

Unison Prayer. God of the brokenhearted, you invite us to embrace our humanity even when it aches. As your heart breaks open for your children, you invite our hearts to break open for others. But we confess, God, that our brokenness often leads us to hurt others. Instead of being compassionate healers, we neglect, or resent, or sow seeds of division. O God, as we journey with you to the cross, to the tomb, and beyond, create in us a clean heart. Renew and sustain us with the Spirit to be your people and do your work. Hear our prayers, and bring us closer to Your Redeeming, Saving Love.

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: Beloved, let us proclaim the good news:

People: God is merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love

Leader: Claimed as God's own, let us bear witness to the truth of Easter

All: From any tomb of darkness and death, God raises us with the
breath of life. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven! Alleluia, Amen!

SING: *(With Singers in the Sanctuary!)*

Alleluia, Alleluia.....

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Katie Cole

CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS & PRAYER

Write prayer requests in the "Zoom Chat Section"

A Moment for the 2020-21 Mortgage Campaign from Session and Staff

Andy Ward, Christine Keller, Christine Powers, Chuck Ferrell, Deb Duval, Diane Devore,
Jared Rinehimer, Katie Cole, Kathy Burger, Mark Abbott, Tim Sanchez

Sharing "Chat" Prayer requests: Deb Duval

Prayer Requests from The Freeborn Family

Prayer Requests from Jill Ramos

Prayer Requests from Jeraldine Embry

Prayer and Lord's Prayer: Burns

*HYMN - *Open My Eyes, That I May See (#451)*

The Sanchez Family (in Somerville)

1. Open my eyes, that I may see Glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key That shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee, Ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!

2. Open my ears, that I may hear Voices of truth thou sendest clear;
And while the wavenotes fall on my ear, Everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee, Ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

3. Open my mouth, and let me bear Gladly the warm truth everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare Love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee, Ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!

SCRIPTURE READING Acts 1: 1-14 Stephanie Martin Glennon

SCRIPTURE READING John 17: 1-11 Valdineia Newkirk & Samuel Lopes Teodorak (in Dorchester)

SPECIAL MUSIC *Rise Up* Jackie Breen & The Choir (& you)

Rise up like the Son. Rise up everyone.

There's a new day a dawnin', Rise up! Rise up!

(And please rise – and even jump - up, as best you can whenever we sing RISE UP.

MESSAGE

Regrouping as Resurrection

Burns

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Alyce Lee (in Boston)

(These words are from the confirmation faith statements of Thomas, Kaden, Luis, Samuel, Andrew, Daniel)

With Thomas, we confess that God is the One we worship and love. Like Kaden, we affirm that God protects us even when we are having a hard time or might be in danger. With Luis we believe that God is a protector who loves us as we are, and gives us strength in the face of bullies. God is the highest being of our existence, as Samuel says, and God does not want us to be alone.

Jesus is God's Son and a healer. For Samuel, Luis, and all of us, Jesus is a brother. Like Andrew, we look up to the magic of Jesus's grace: peace, joy and love.

With Daniel, we feel a connection to the Holy Spirit when we are alone and in silence, and we can feel peace even in difficult times when we talk to God. With Thomas we see the Holy Spirit in the kindness that flows through people like rivers. The Spirit guides us in school, in skateparks, in life, in church.

Like the Perez brothers we affirm that church is not just a building. It's the people. With Kaden, we believe church can be another home. "I feel like I can tell people stuff that I might need to get out of my head." It is a place where people share and feel the love that God has given to us. Church gives us the opportunity to do something new, to meet new people, to help others, to bring somebody who is recovering a milkshake that they LOOOVVVE.

As members, we will do whatever is needed, to the best of our capabilities, and help those who need help. We do this for the church and for God Almighty, in order to show our love for God and our neighbors.

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

Tim, Michelle, Abe Sanchez & Grandma Jenny (in Somerville)
With a recording from a past worship service

***SONG -**

Jacob's Ladder

The Sanctuary Band

We are climbing Jacob's ladder (3x)
We are brothers, sisters all.

Every rung goes higher and higher (3x)
We are brothers, sisters all.

Every new rung just, just makes us stronger (3x)
We are brothers, sisters all.

We are climbing.....

***BENEDICTION**

Spoken Response: Alleluia, Amen! (The Sanctuary Team)

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

POSTLUDE

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH www.4thboston.org
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