

# FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship for the Lord's Day    December 6, 2020

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## PRELUDES

"Happy Christmas"

Willie & Liz from home  
Sanchez

"We are waiting "

Sanctuary

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- TODAY at 3pm: Deb Duval is ordained as a Minister of the Word & Sacrament  
Zoom link is available on the church website and will appear in the Chat
- This Week: Prayer Service Every Night at 6pm (Zoom)
- Meals every day, Monday thru Friday, 11am-1pm
- Learning Pod for remote learners (see Katie Cole for details)
  
- Monday, Wednesday, Friday (4pm-5:30pm, during which time the sun sets!):  
**SANCTUARY AVAILABLE FOR PRAYER AND MEDITATION**  
*Music will be playing. Candles will be lit. Come and go at your convenience.  
(Please wear your mask. Limit of no more than 5 people in the sanctuary at one time.)*
  
- Wednesday: **ADVENT STORY-SHARING CIRCLE**, 6:40pm-7:30  
We gather (on Zoom) to share stories and reflections on Advent themes.  
This week: "An Isaiah 40 Moment: Tell a story about a time when "a valley was lifted up...or a "rough place was made plain." (OR tell a story about experiencing Peace.)
  
- **CHRISTMAS CONCERT CHOIR REHEARSAL**– We're putting together a 2020 version of the concert for Saturday, December 19 at 4pm. REHEARSALS on WEDNESDAYS (zoom) at 8pm.  
*RECORDING HAS STARTED! Please do your recordings for "Da Pacem" and "Angels Hovering" and upload them to the Covid Choir folder!*
  
- Mindful of day-to-day changes in COVID numbers, Session has voted to lower the number of people allowed in attend worship IN PERSON, for now through December 20. We will be allowing 11 worship participants, plus 4 worship leaders. *Windows will be open and everybody needs to wear a mask.*  
Session will continue to monitor our situation.  
*Sign up with Debbie, Katie or Burns to have a space.*  
  
\* **THIS FRIDAY: First Ever Children's Theater Production on ZOOM.**  
At 7pm, we will share a video version of their revue: "Onward and Upward"  
Link will be on the website this week!



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

***DO YOU WANT A CALL?** Tell Deb Duval or Katie Cole in the chat and we will call you today.*

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## \*CALL TO WORSHIP - The Season of Advent

Leader: Come all who are weary, all who are broken-hearted, all who ache from the world's hurt.

People: With the prophets we name our plea: O that the Lord would tear open the heavens and come down.

L: We plea, we hope, and we prepare.

P: Make a way for the Lord. Repent and make these paths straight.

L: With the prophets we live in expectation,

P: For the spirit of the Lord is upon us

L: And like the prophets we offer ourselves as God's partners in repairing and building.

All: O Lord, we remember that you came.

We acknowledge that you're here.

We trust that you're coming.

We offer our hands to build your kingdom

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH CANDLES (Blanton Family)  
The Light, A Psalm, A Prayer, The Peace

\*HYMN (#83) "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" (sanctuary)

Come, Thou long expected Jesus  
Born to set Thy people free;  
From our fears and sins release us,  
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,  
Hope of all the earth Thou art;  
Dear desire of every nation,  
Joy of every longing heart.

Born Thy people to deliver,  
Born a child and yet a King,  
Born to reign in us forever,  
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.

By Thine own eternal Spirit  
Rule in all our hearts alone;  
By Thine all sufficient merit,  
Raise us to Thy glorious throne.

LITURGY OF CONFESSION

McNeill Shiner, liturgist

Unison Confession: Gracious and merciful God, we often dwell in shadows that darken Your bright image. Forgive us for seeing ourselves and those around us with eyes dimmed by judgment and fear; open our eyes that we may see each other as You see us – as beloved. Forgive us for closing our ears to the sound of Your voice; may we hear the sound of Your good news, and leap for joy like John in his mother's womb. Forgive us for allowing our minds to be fixed on despair; keep us awake to signs of hope. We cry out, O God, come down and reveal Yourself to us once more. Restore us, so that we may do Your work of restoration.

Time for Silent Confession

Sung Response

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel.  
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

\*LITURGY OF PARDON (sanctuary)

Leader: "Comfort, comfort my people," says your God.

People: The Word has become flesh and dwelt among us.

Leader: The glory of the LORD will be revealed, and all people together will see it, will hear it, and will live in it.

People: We have beheld that glory.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Sung Response (#23)

Glo-ria. In excelsis Deo (repeat)

TIME FOR CHILDREN -

Matias Letelier

CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS & PRAYER

A MOMENT FOR THE Pledge Campaign to Support Ministry in 2021

PRAYER REQUESTS – From The People Gathered in the Sanctuary

From Those Gathered on Zoom

Deb Duval will share prayer requests written in the "Zoom Chat Section"

PASTORAL PRAYER

Burns

\*HYMN #129 "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" (Sanchez Family)

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung!  
Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung  
It came a flow'ret bright  
Amid the cold of winter When half spent was the night

Isaiah 'twas foretold it The rose I have in mind  
With Mary we behold it The Virgin Mother kind  
To show God's love aright  
She bore to men a Saviour  
When half spent was the night

O flower, whose fragrance tender  
With sweetness fills the air  
Dispel in glorious splendour  
The darkness ev'ry where  
True man yet very God  
From sin and death now save us  
And share our ev'ry load

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 40: 1-11  
2 Peter 3: 8-15a  
Mark 1: 1-8

Becca Tweedie  
Katie Cole  
(sanctuary)

SPECIAL MUSIC

"Baby Born Today"

Sanctuary Singers and You  
(with an unmuted Peter Slade on violin)

MESSAGE

"The Big Reveal"

Rev. Katie Cole

\*UNISON PRAYER

(from the poetry of Mary Oliver)

(Sanctuary)

Gracious God, thank you for this wild and precious life. Thank you for moments that amaze, the silence in which Another Voice speaks, and even gifted boxes of darkness. Guide us this season in the living of this life—

That we might pay attention,  
That we might be astonished.  
That we might tell others about it.

We patch our words together, Holy One, with all our yearnings, our hopes, our fears and our faith. Awaken in us a heart to receive and be astounded. Amen.

OFFERING

We can give online at [www.fourthboston.org](http://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*

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Rev. Kristin Rinehimer and Burns

Music: Hard Times Come Again No More (sanctuary)

\*HYMN # 384 *Soon and Very Soon*

Soon and very soon, we are going to see the King! (3x)

Alleluia, Alleluia, We are going to see the King!

2. No more crying there, we are going to see the King!....

3. No more dying there, we are going to see the King!....

\*BENEDICTION

Spoken Response: Alleluia, Amen!

Sung Response 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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