

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship for the Lord's Day March 21, 2021

PRELUDES

I'll Fly Away

Alison & Peter Slade

Down by the Train

Tim & Michelle Sanchez

My Love is Like a Red, Red Rose

Alison & Peter

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are now allowing up to 20 people to be present in-person for Sunday worship.
Please sign up ahead of time (online, or with Rev. Debbie). For Holy Week: 30
Follow protocol: Masks, social distancing, online pre-screen.

**This Tuesday is the One Year Anniversary of serving free lunches every weekday.
Many thanks to Annie, Soribel, Kathy, Katie, Debbie, Erin, Susan, Mark, Barbara, Alison, Jon, Burns and every other person who helped keep this ministry happening.**

GBIO Update

Over 1500 people gathered on Zoom to celebrate a Revived GBIO and its 19 new member institutions (which include churches, mosques, synagogues, unions and more)

Coming Next: A Listening Campaign (of House Meetings) so we can hear the people of our communities most care about in improving our broader Boston community.

TRAINING FOR LEADING ZOOM HOUSE MEETINGS: March 23 and March 30

- This Week: Lenten Prayer Service Every Night at 6pm (Zoom) TUESDAY is the One Year Anniv.
- Meals every day, Monday thru Friday, 11am-1pm - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
- Learning Pod on WEDNESDAY - VOLUNTEER with KATIE
- Weekly Prayer Groups sponsored by the deacons (links on website; each is 30 minutes long):
 - Mondays at 8am with Brent
 - Thursdays at 8pm with Jacob B and Laura M
 - Fridays at 8:30am with Michelle
- MONDAY Lenten opportunity: 4:30-5:30 with Deb - "Dwelling in the Word" (like lectio divina)
- TUESDAY Lenten Book Club: 6:40-7:30 with Burns - reading Caste by Isabel Wilkerson (For March 23, read thru Part 5)
- WEDNESDAY Lenten discussion: 6:40-7:30 with Ken, Mark, Burns & others: 12 Steps & Christianity, using as our resource "The Big Book." (For this week on Step 4, read Ch. 5)
- SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS FOR ADULTS: "The Science of Habit" - 9:30am, led by Becca

HOLY WEEK: (Up to 30 people allowed in person in sanctuary, BUT PLEASE SIGN UP!)

Palm Sunday (March 28)- We present the Passion Play in a hybrid version on Zoom
Some moments you will recognize! Some that will surprise you..(Pilate in a Zoom Box?)

Maundy Thursday (April 1)-

6pm Prayer Service (Zoom and in person)

6:45-7:40 Simple Middle Eastern food in Take Away containers - served OUTSIDE
Option to do a foot washing 2-3 at a time IN THE HALL

7:45-8:15 "The Tenebrae" - Time to sit still in a darkening sanctuary (no Zoom for this)

Good Friday (April 2)-

OUTDOOR Stations of the Cross, 10:45am at St. Monica's) done ~12:15

6pm Prayer Service

7:15 "Seven Last Words" Service with Deb (in the sanctuary AND Zoom)

Holy Saturday

6pm Prayer Service

7:15pm Vigil Service with Katie to bring in the light

7:30-midnight VIGIL - Wait in the sanctuary - Please sign up for an hour

During this time, the sanctuary is prepared (with Diane & Katie)

Easter (April 4)-

OUTDOOR Sunrise Service with Roxbury Pres, 6:15am, CARSON BEACH

10:30 Music begins for Festival Service in sanctuary (Zoom and In Person for 30)

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Brothers and sisters, How lovely is God's dwelling place!

People: At God's altars, even the sparrow finds a home for herself

L: The Spirit invites us in these 40 days of wilderness to examine our lives

P: Consider the habits that shape us.

L: We bring to this moment our best instincts and we bring those we pray might change

P: With Jesus we step into the wilderness, walking a Holy Way

L: Take, o take us as we are, Holy God

P: Summon out what we will be.

BRINGING IN THE LIGHT, PSALM

(Fiona McCusker)

Testimony on "Consider the Habits That Shape Us (Dave Courage)

PRAYER (Katie Cole)

**HYMN – (#450)

Be Thou My Vision

(sanctuary)

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

(Jacob & Laura Blanton)

Unison Prayer. Holy God, we open our hearts to you this day, and offer the truth of our lives:

The fear that stifles us, the prejudice that blinds us,
the ignorance that hobbles us, the doubt that plagues us.

Help us, we pray, that we will find courage in unlikely places,
see the world with new and gracious eyes, move to those places where love is needed,
have faith that you are with us.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Time for Silent Confession

Sung Response: (#698)

Take O take me as I am. Summon out what I may be.

Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

*LITURGY OF PARDON

Leader: Seekers of the Holy, God's love calls to us

People: In Christ, God places in us a divine compass

L: The Spirit that always points us toward God

P: Let us turn toward God, who calls us home!

L: And let us say together:

ALL: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

SING:

1. *I've got a feeling everything's gonna be alright.....*

2. *The Holy Ghost done told me...*

TIME FOR CHILDREN -

(sanctuary)

CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS & PRAYER

PRAYER REQUESTS – Requests in the sanctuary
Requests written in the “Zoom Chat Section” (shared by Katie Cole)
PASTORAL PRAYER Burns

*HYMN (#250) “In the Bulb There is a Flower” (sanctuary)

In the bulb there is a flower;
In the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise:
Butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
There's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence,
Seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness
Bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
What it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning;
In our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing;
In our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
At the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season,
Something God alone can see.

SCRIPTURE READINGS Jeremiah 31: 31-34 (Lauren Basler)
John 12: 20-33 (Jerri Embry)

SPECIAL MUSIC *Where Could I Go?* (virtual choir video)

MESSAGE “ Reckless Love ” Deb Duval

UNISON PRAYER (written by Howard Thurman) (sanctuary)

“Lord, make me an instrument of Thy Peace.”

Teach me how to order my days that with sure touch I may say the right word at the right time
and in the right way – lest I betray the spirit of peace.

Let me not be deceived by my own insecurity and weakness which would make me hurt another
as I try desperately to help myself.

Keep watch with me, Holy God, over the days of my life, that with abiding enthusiasm I may be
in such possession of myself that each day I may offer to Thee the full, unhampered use of me in all
my parts as “an instrument of Thy Peace.” Amen.

OFFERING (sanctuary)

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

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER (Revs. Deb Duval, Ed Freeborn & Burns)

Musical Offering *Spirit, Open My Heart (#692)*

Refrain: Spirit, open my heart – to the joy and pain of living.

As you love may I love, in receiving and in giving. Spirit, open my heart.

*SENDING SONG– “I'll Fly Away” (sanctuary)

Some bright morning when this life is over I'll fly away
To that home on Gods celestial shore I'll fly away

CHORUS I'll fly away, oh glory I'll fly away in the morning
When I die hallelujah by and by I'll fly away

When the shadows of this life have gone.....
Like a bird from these prison walls I'll fly....CHORUS

Just a few more weary days and then
To a land where joys will never end...CHORUS

*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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