

FOURTH PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Worship for the Lord's Day January 3, 2021

PRELUDES

I Saw the Light (T. Rundgren)
Auld Lang Syne
Light of a Clear Blue Morning (D. Parton)

Stanfield Family in Rowe
Tim & Michelle Sanchez
Stanfields

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Burns Stanfield

"For Such a Time as This"

PLEDGE DRIVE FOR MINISTRY IN 2021

You all have met and surpassed our pledge goal for ministry in 2021.

THANK YOU and CONGRATULATIONS

- This Week: Prayer Service Every Night at 6pm (Zoom)
- Meals every day, Monday thru WEDNESDAY, 11am-1pm (Christmas off)
- Learning Pod is on break for the holidays (like BPS). We will reopen later in January.
- Wednesday – will be quiet after our 6pm worship service.
Study Group and Choir are taking a holiday break.
- Mindful of day-to-day changes in COVID numbers, Session has voted to discontinue in person participation in Sunday worship at least through January 24.
- COMING IN JANUARY
 - Next Sunday, January 10, we will mark the Baptism of the Lord with a Reaffirmation of Baptism and a (Zoom) Blessing Service –
"You are God's Beloved. In you God is well pleased."

ANNUAL REPORT ARTICLES ARE DUE – THURSDAY, January 14 at Noon
(deacons, food pantry, youth programs, classes, etc....)

ANNUAL REPORT and Budget will be available on Sunday, January 17

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION: Sunday, January 24, after worship

All by Zoom

We elect officers, receive the annual report & budget,
and vote on the revised pastors' terms of call.

Nominees from the Nominating Committee:

For Session (3 year terms): Christine Keller, Chuck Ferrell, Laura Blanton

For Deacon (3 year): Alyce Lee, Dave Courage, Barry Monteiro, Alexa Jackson
(1 year): Sharon Matthews

For Youth Deacon (1 year): Luis Martinez

For At Large Nominating Committee: Katie Stansifer (3 yr), Betsy Pabon (2 yr)



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.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 60)–

Leader: Arise, shine; for your light has come!

People: The glory of God has risen upon you.

L: Shadows shall cover the earth and the nations.

P: But God will rise upon you.

L: And the glory of God will be seen upon you.

P: The glory of God will be seen upon all of us!

All: We shall see and be radiant!

*HYMN (#151)

"We Three Kings" (Stanfields)

We three kings of Orient are; Bearing gifts we traverse afar
Field and fountain, moor and mountain, Following yonder star
OH star of wonder, star of night, Star with royal beauty bright
Westward leading, still proceeding, Guide us to thy perfect light

Born a king on Bethlehem's plain, Gold I bring to crown Him again
King forever, ceasing never, Over us all to reign. OH star of wonder.....

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a deity nigh.
Prayer and praising gladly raising, worshiping God most high. OH Star of wonder...

Myrrh is mine, it's bitter perfume, Breaths a life of gathering gloom
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding dying, Sealed in the stone-cold tomb. OH Star of wonder...

Glorious now behold him arise, King and God and Sacrifice:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Sounds through the earth and skies.... OH Star of wonder...

LITURGY OF CONFESSION

(Lauren Basler & Andy Ward)

Unison Prayer. Emmanuel, you call us to awaken and prepare for your coming. Child of the Manger, in Bethlehem and in Boston you incarnate among us, fragile and vulnerable, and invite us to listen for your still, small voice. But we confess, God, that we often struggle to embrace your vulnerability and listen for your surprising voice in those like and unlike ourselves. God, you say, "Fear not," but sometimes fear gets the best of us and leads us to hurt others. Rouse us, O God, that we might prepare our hearts as a manger for our Christ. Hear us now, as we lift our confessions to you.

Time for Silent Confession

Sung Response: (4th verse of #144)

What then can I give Him, Poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.

*LITURGY OF PARDON

Leader: Church, this is the truth of Christmas: God has come to us!

People: As the vulnerable child of a family seeking safety, God came to us.

Leader: In surprising and unexpected faces, God comes to us. Behold, this is the one we've been waiting for—Emmanuel, God with us!

People: Let us make a way in our hearts: The promise of forgiveness is in Him!

Thanks be to God!

Sung Response (#113, chorus) Gloria... In excelsis Deo (repeat)

TIME FOR CHILDREN -

(Katie Cole)

CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS & PRAYER

PRAYER REQUESTS – From The People Gathered in the Sanctuary
From Those Gathered on Zoom

Katie will share prayer requests written in the "Zoom Chat Section"

PASTORAL PRAYER Debbie

*HYMN (#158)

"Born in the Night, Mary's Child" (Stanfield Family)

Born in the night, Mary's Child, a long way from your home;
Coming in need, Mary's Child, born in a borrowed room.

Clear shining light, Mary's Child, your face lights up our way;
Light of the world, Mary's Child, dawn on our darkened day.

Truth of our life, Mary's child, you tell us God is good;
Yes, it is true, Mary's Child, shown on your cross of wood.

Hope of the world, Mary's Child, you're coming soon to reign;
King of the earth, Mary's Child, walk in our streets again.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 60: 1-6

(Barbara Erikson)

Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14 (Holly Aloise)
Matthew 2: 1-12 (Becca Tweedie)

SPECIAL MUSIC *Let your little light shine, shine, shine* (Stanfield Family, but **ALL** sing & move)
Let your little shine, O my Lord
There might be someone down in the valley, trying to get – HOME

It might be me or it might be you. It might be your brother or your sister, too.
There might be someone down in the valley, trying to get – HOME
It might be near or it might be far, by morning sun or evening star.
There might be someone down in the valley, trying to get home.

MESSAGE "The World Crashes In" Rebecca Tweedie, Seminarian

UNISON AFFIRMATION (written by Howard Thurman) (Debbie in the sanctuary)
When the song of the angels is stilled,
When the star in the sky is gone,
When the kings and princes are home,
When the shepherds are back with their flock,
The work of Christmas begins:
To find the lost, To heal the broken, To feed the hungry,
To release the prisoner, To rebuild the nations,
To bring peace among others, To make music in the heart.

OFFERING (Debbie)
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
Invitation (Ken Grant)
Great Prayer of Thanksgiving and Lord's Prayer (Katie)
Words of Institution (Debbie)
Please share bread and cup in your own home
Prayer (Debbie)

*HYMN "Syahamba" (Stanfield Family)
Siyahamb' ek khanyen kwenkhos, (4x)
Siya hamba, Siyahamba, Siyahamb' ek khanyen kwenkhos (repeat)

We are marching in the light of God (4x)
We are marching, We marching, We are marching in the light of God (repeat)

We are dancing...

We re singing...

*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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