

*Reflect upon your present blessings – of which every person has many
– not on your past misfortunes, of which all people have some.
– Charles Dickens*

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.
Weston, Massachusetts
Gathered in 1698
ORDER OF SERVICE for STREAMED WORSHIP
November 29, 2020
First Sunday in Advent

PRELUDE: “Improvisation on the Tar” (the name of the drum being played)

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

SONG: “Gather Your Light,” by Matt Meyer and Angela Herrera

CHALICE LIGHTING: Matt Meyer reading “Invitation to Brave Space”
by Mickey Scottbey Jones

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH: Sarah Napoline

TIME FOR ALL AGES: Matt Meyer

READING: “Interpretation of Psalm 97,” Siddur of Temple Beth Zion

SONG: “On the Day We are Together Again”

SERMON: “It Takes Practice” – Matt Meyers

MUSIC MEDITATION: “Meditation on the Violin,” played by Alex Fam

OFFERTORY: “He Shall Feed His Flock” from G. F. Handel’s *Messiah*
Rose Hegele, soprano

DOXOLOGY

**From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator's praise arise
Let the Redeemer's name be sung
Through every land, by every tongue!**

**Eternal are thy mercies Lord:
Eternal truth attends thy word;
Thy praise shall sound from shore to shore,
Till suns shall rise and set no more.**

SONG: “Olam Chesed Yibaneh,” by Rabbi Menachem Creditor

BENEDICTION: Matt Meyer

POSTLUDE: “Improvisation on Djembe” (another type of drum)

We invite you to join us on Zoom
for a time of fellowship following the service.
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/91505972231>
Meeting ID: 915 0597 2231

Minister:
Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:
Organist:
Choir Director:
Parish Administrator:
Sexton:
AV Interns:

Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Rev. Sarah Napoline
Geoffrey Wieting
William C. Sano
Betsy Gibson
Alan Flynn
Max Hall
Jacob Barz-Snell
Jonah Barz-Snell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE WELCOME BACK LOCAL MUSICIAN AND WORSHIP LEADER MATT MEYER to First Parish. Matt is a longtime activist, drummer and song leader. He is a graduate of Berklee College of Music and studied percussion both here in North America and in regions of Africa. He is one of the founders of Sanctuary Boston, a community of worship and practice that hosts services two Wednesday nights each month at the First Church in Boston, UU and has an active online streaming presence these days. He is joined for this service by the violinist / fiddle player Alexandra Fam. We are grateful they could come to Weston to share this service with us.

ANNUAL INGATHERING FOR WESTON COA FOOD PANTRY – If you intended to bring donations of food but didn't make it by Friday, they may be dropped off tomorrow, Monday, Nov. 30.

KNITTERS & STITCHERS – Join us virtually on Zoom on Mondays at noon.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86829200151>; Meeting ID: 868 2920 0151

SENIOR MEN'S LUNCH – Join us on Tuesday, Dec. 1, at noon on Zoom:
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/96329830871>; Meeting ID: 963 2983 0871

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY MORNING MEDITATION AT 8:30 AM – Join us on Zoom; go to:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82332140993>; Meeting ID: 823 3214 0993

WELCOME COMMITTEE MEETING – Wednesday, Dec. 2, 10:00 am on Zoom:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81122643441>; Meeting ID: 811 2264 3441

PASTOR'S CHAT & PODCAST DISCUSSION will resume on Thursday, Dec. 3, at 4:00 pm. Join Jeff on Zoom: **<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/95816202845>**; Meeting ID: 9581 6202 845
(please note: this is a new link from previous sessions).

STANDING COMMITTEE MEETING – Tuesday, Dec. 8, 7:30 pm on Zoom:
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/95027452186>; Meeting ID: 950 2745 2186

ALL-PARISH VIRTUAL CAROL SING – Boost your holiday spirit and join us on Friday, Dec. 11, at 6:30 pm on Zoom for a half hour of fellowship, followed by 30 minutes of caroling led by Linda Kilburn, Bill Sano, and Bob Kiskaddon.
<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/91058195808>

FPCW BOOK GROUP – Join us on Zoom on Thursday, Dec. 17, at 9:30 am for a discussion of Richard Masland’s book *We Know It When We See It*. Jean Masland has made several copies of Dick’s book available for borrowing. You may sign one out in the Church Office. The Zoom login info will be sent to Book Group members the week of Dec. 14; contact Betsy in the Church Office if you’d like to be added to that list.

THE WESTON CARES FUND COMMITTEE seeks a Spanish speaker to help them translate applications and to speak with applicants and/or their references. Time commitment is no more than a couple of hours a week and could be shared if more than one person can lend a hand. Please contact Madelaine Kenyon (madelaine.kenyon@comcast.net) to volunteer or get more information.

MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS PLANTS AND WREATHS – If you would like to remember a loved one at Christmas time with a dedication printed in the Order of Service for the Sunday Dec. 20 and Christmas Eve services, please send your donation and dedication to Lynn Taff, 370 Glen Rd., Weston, MA 02493. Questions? Email Lynn (LRT.1@comcast.net). Checks should be made out to First Parish Church in Weston (memo- Flower Fund).

The Flower Committee will be hanging wreaths outside the church on Dec. 4. Fewer plants will be ordered this year – just enough to decorate the altar through the holiday season.

WAYS TO BRING CHRISTMAS CHEER TO THOSE IN NEED:

- We are collecting new/gently used coats (clean with no tears or stains) for women, men, and children for WATCH CDC in Waltham. They may be dropped off at the Church Street entrance to the Office at your convenience (the outer door to the vestibule is never locked) or call 781.893.7798 if you would like Betsy Gibson to meet you at the Breezeway door during Office hours. Deadline is Monday, Dec. 14.
- Due to the COVID pandemic, we are asking people to fulfill gift card wishes for families served by The Second Step in Newton, for which we have had the Mitten Tree with wishes in previous years. Please go to: www.dreamlist.com/for/fpcstst to choose a card, which can be shipped direct to The Second Step. Complete directions are in the Nov. 22 issue of the e-Post or call Betsy Gibson in the Church Office.
- Weston CARES Fund – The Weston CARES Fund provides emergency grants to local non-profit agencies and residents of Weston and surrounding towns confronting food and housing challenges caused by COVID-19’s detrimental impact on the local economy. Administered by First Parishioners and other Weston residents, the fund has collected more than \$105,000 in donations to date and made many distributions to local non-profits and individuals in towns abutting Weston to help insure that people have food to eat and a roof over their heads. To learn more or to make a donation to keep this good work going in times of increasing needs, please go to <https://westoncaresfund.org>