Hate has no place in the house of God. Hope is being able to see that there is light despite all of the darkness. – Bishop Desmond Tutu

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U. ORDER OF SERVICE January 2, 2022 A.D. Epiphany Sunday

PRELUDE: "The Old Year Hath Passed Away" (chorale and two settings) Aaron Andrew Hunt

(b. 1972)

Erik-Jan van der Hel

(b. 1967)

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Patrick T. A. O'Neill, adapted)

Minister: Here's to Epiphanies great and small whenever they occur. People: A blessing on all Wise Men and Women, East and West.

Minister: Here's to the stargazers and pilgrims everywhere,

who are still foolish enough and brave enough to follow their stars,

People: Who travel by night, and who bestow their uncommon gifts on us all.

OPENING HYMN 525 – "All Beautiful the March of Days" (see insert)

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

THE PEACE

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER (by Ralph Helverson, adapted)

O God, keep us from missing life by small neglects that blind the eyes of the spirit. Keep us from being overly analytical when we need to be understanding; from talking too much when the situation demands listening; from being too orderly when we may need the disorder of insight; from being so involved in the immediate that we miss the long view of the soul; from making such great efforts in life, when the truth that saves is so simple; from plodding along when we could hear celestial music and begin a magnificent journey to the kingdom of heaven which lies close at hand. This we ask in the spirit of your son Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together:

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

^{*}Please rise in body or spirit

TIME FOR ALL AGES

MUSIC MEDITATION (and dismissal to children's program)

LESSON: Matthew 2: 1-12 The Visit of the Magi

"The Three Kings" ANTHEM Peter Cornelius

Geoffrey Wieting, organ (1824-1874)

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell SERMON: "When Guided by Stars"

"Three Kings are Here" Old Flemish Carol CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER AND CHORAL RESPONSE "The old year now away is fled"

mid-17th century Waits' Carol

OFFERTORY "How brightly beams the morning star" German Carol

harmonized by Felix Mendelssohn

OFFERTORY RESPONSE

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.

*HYMN 175 - "O Sing a Song of Bethlehem" (see insert)

BENEDICTION AND CHORAL RESPONSE

Traditional POSTLUDE from the *Oxford Book of Carols*:

> Wondrous Works Tomorrow Shall be My Dancing Day

We invite you to join us in the Parish Hall following the service for a time of refreshment and fellowship.

Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell Minister Rev. Sarah Napoline

Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:

Youth & Family Ministry Coordinator: Robert Jones

William C. Sano Choir Director: Organist: Geoffrey Wieting

Choir Section Leaders: Ben Doyle, Rose Hegele, Connor Lee, TJ Rufo-Curran

Parish Administrator: Betsy Gibson

Alan Flynn Sexton: Fellowship Hour Coordinator Paula Leger

Video Production Team: Jacob Barz-Snell, Jonah Barz-Snell, Max Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNITTERS AND STITCHERS – For January and February, we plan to meet virtually on Mondays at noon via Zoom. All are welcome to join us! https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82093835385;

Meeting ID: 8209 3835 385

RETIRED MEN'S LUNCH, Tuesday, 12 noon – Pack a lunch and join us in person in the First Parish Library or on Zoom. https://uuma.zoom.us/j/93692754694;
Meeting ID: 9369 2754 694

VIGIL FOR DEMOCRACY, Thursday, Jan. 6, at 4:00 pm on the grounds of First Parish – A candlelight Vigil for the One-Year Anniversary of the Capitol Insurrection. January 6 was a violent and deadly attack against all Americans – against our country, our democracy, and our freedom as voters to choose the leaders that represent us so that we have a government of, by, and for the people.

One year later, the same faction that attacked our country on January 6th is hard at work silencing our voices by restricting our freedom to vote, attacking fair voting districts, and quietly preparing future attempts to sabotage free and fair elections and with it our democracy.

So this January 6, exactly one year later, Americans across race, place, party, and background are holding candlelight vigils to say: "In America, the voters decide the outcome of elections." Coming together, we can prevent another January 6th attack and realize the promise of democracy for all of us - no matter our color, zip code, or income - so we all have an equal say in the decisions that shape our daily lives and futures. Register at:

https://www.mobilize.us/democracyvigils/event/434467/

WORSHIP WITH AUTHOR AND DRUMMER MATT MEYER, Sunday, Jan. 9, at 10:30 am. Join us, in person or virtually for a lively and engaging service featuring musician and song leader Matt Meyer. Matt is a musician and worship leader who has led hundreds of services for UU congregations across the country. He has a degree in hand drumming and serves as Director of Community Life for Sanctuary Boston.

The service will be about rivers and streams and what they can teach us about life and movement. This will be a family-friendly intergenerational service and includes a story about a mouse named Desmond.

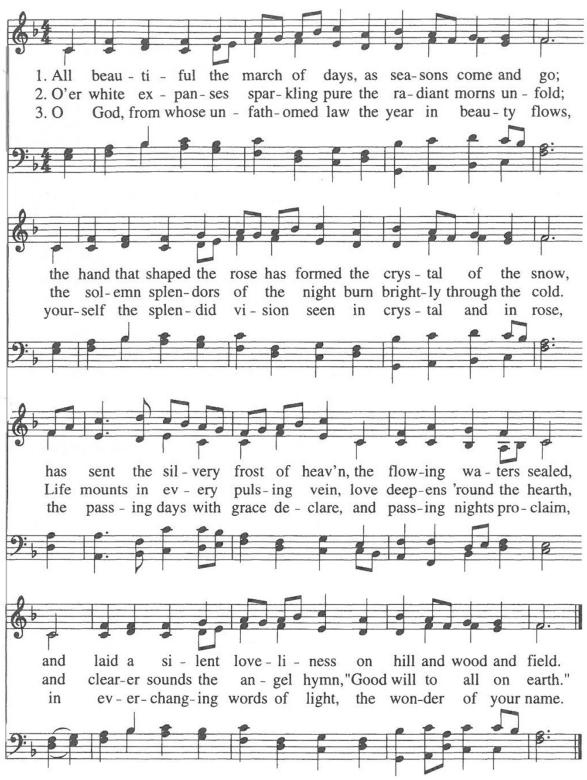
COVID permitting, the service will be followed by a fellowship hour with soup, bread and crackers, (as well as coffee and tea.)

NEXT PROGRAM FOR OUR ALL PARISH READ, WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, AT 7:00 PM IN-PERSON AND ON ZOOM – Live Program and Discussion of *Caste by Isabel Wilkerson*, featuring the Zebra Friends Podcast hosts Sara Hunter and Kitani Sumner. This is part 2 of our All Parish Read programs for this year. For more information, visit www.FirstParishWeston.org or the article in the recent *e-Post*.

METROWEST CLIMATE SOLUTIONS PROGRAM, Thursday, Jan 27, 7:00 -8:30 pm on Zoom. Why We Should All Care about International Climate Meetings: An Update and Explanation of the latest global climate gathering (COP 26) that happened in Glasgow in October. Featured presenter will be Phil Guiduice, who has 45 years' experience in the energy industry as a geologist, consultant, entrepreneur, executive, board director and energy official in state and federal roles. Most recently, Phil served as Special Assistant to the President for Climate Policy during the startup of the Biden- Harris administration. To get the Zoom login information, go to www.metrowestclimatesolutions.org to register.

To watch a recording of engaging "Greening the Holidays" program hosted by Magic 106.7 personality David O'Leary, go to **www.metrowestclimatesolutions.org**

All Beautiful the March of Days

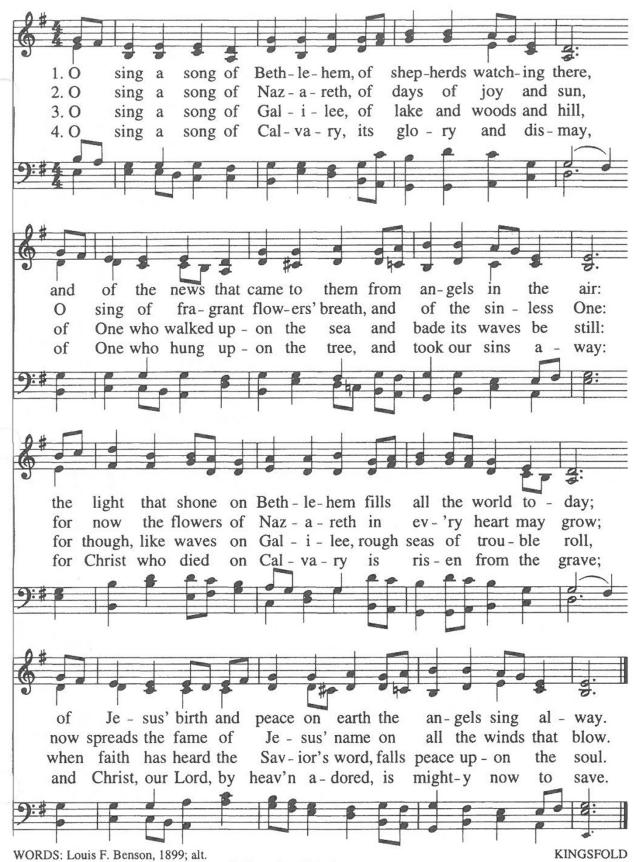


WORDS: Frances W. Wile, 1910, alt.
MUSIC: Traditional English melody, coll., arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, The English Hymnal, 1906

FOREST GREEN **CMD**

Written by Unitarian laywoman Frances Whitmarsh Wile, when asked by her pastor to write a 'winter' hymn. Stanza three is based on Psalm 19:1-4.

O Sing a Song of Bethlehem



MUSIC: Traditional English melody; coll. Lucy Broadwood; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, The English Hymnal, 1906 **CMD**

Louis Fitzgerald Benson elevated hymn standards when he edited the major 1895 revision of the Presbyterian hymnal.