

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.
Weston, Massachusetts
Gathered in 1698
December 5, 2021
Second Sunday in Advent / The 8th Night of Hanukkah

STUTTGART
87.87

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE AND ADVENT WREATH

Larry Coburn

TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Sarah Napoline

MUSIC INTERLUDE – dismissal to Religious Education programs

LESSON: Isaiah 40: 3-11 *Make Straight*

ANTHEM: “A New Christmas Carol”

David N. Johnson (1971)

SERMON: “On Valleys, Mountains and Fostering Peace”

Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER: “How Sweet is Love?”

Michael Paget (1960)

PASTORAL PRAYER, FOLLOWED BY THE LORD’S PRAYER

PRAYER RESPONSE: “Dona Nobis Pacem”

OFFERTORY: “The Dawning of Our Dreams”

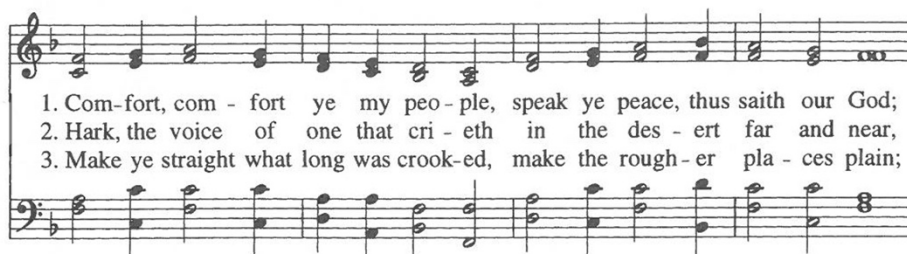
Jason Shelton (2001)

DOXOLOGY

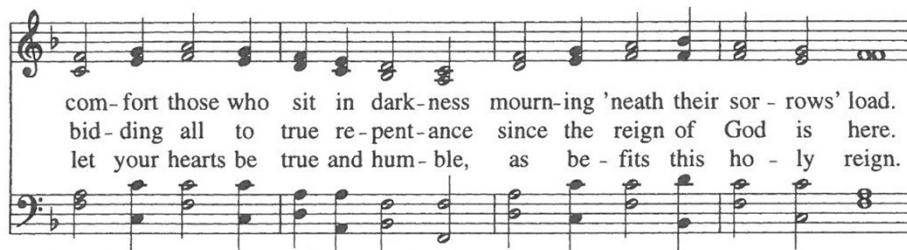
**From all that dwell below the skies,
Let the Creator’s praise arise
Let the Redeemer’s name be sung
Through every land, by every tongue!**

**Praise God, the Love we all may share;
Praise God, the beauty everywhere;
Praise God, the Hope of Good to be;
Praise God, the Truth that makes us free.**

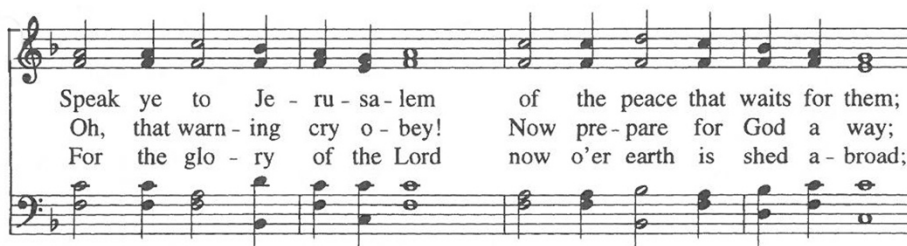
CLOSING HYMN 115: “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” (see insert on following page)



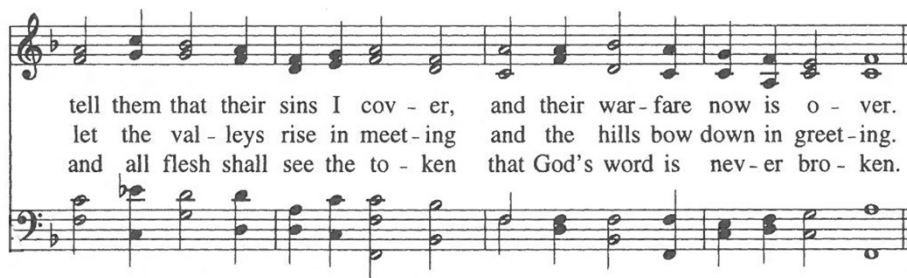
1. Com-fort, com - fort ye my peo - ple, speak ye peace, thus saith our God;
 2. Hark, the voice of one that cri - eth in the des - ert far and near,
 3. Make ye straight what long was crook-ed, make the rough - er pla - ces plain;



com-fort those who sit in dark-ness mourn-ing 'neath their sor - rows' load.
 bid-ding all to true re-pent-ance since the reign of God is here.
 let your hearts be true and hum-ble, as be - fits this ho - ly reign.



Speak ye to Je - ru - sa - lem of the peace that waits for them;
 Oh, that warn - ing cry o - bey! Now pre-pare for God a way;
 For the glo - ry of the Lord now o'er earth is shed a - broad;



tell them that their sins I cov - er, and their war-fare now is o - ver.
 let the val - leys rise in meet-ing and the hills bow down in greet-ing.
 and all flesh shall see the to - ken that God's word is nev - er bro - ken.

WORDS: Johann Olearius, 1671; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois, *Trente quatre Pseaumes de David*, Geneva, 1551

PSALM 42
 87.87.77.88

Based on Isaiah 40, this hymn was written for St. John the Baptist's Day (June 24).
 The tune is a heritage from the earliest Reformed psalters in Geneva.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: Chorale Fantasia on "How Brightly Shines the Morning Star" Dietrich Buxtehude
 (1637-1707)

Our greeter this morning is Sue Newbury.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives,
 backgrounds and orientations. While we currently pursue formally becoming
 a Welcoming Congregation, we happily welcome all people as part
 of our 21st century community and church.

STAFF

Minister:	Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell
Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:	Rev. Sarah Napoline
Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:	Robert Jones
Choir Director:	William C. Sano
Organist:	Geoffrey Wieting
Parish Administrator:	Betsy Gibson
Sexton:	Alan Flynn
Fellowship Hour Coordinator:	Paula Leger
Choir Section Leaders:	Ben Doyle, Rose Hegele, Connor Lee, TJ Rufo-Curran
AV Interns:	Max Hall, Jacob Barz-Snell, Jonah Barz-Snell

ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNITTERS & STITCHERS – Join us on Mondays at noon in the Parlor.

RETIRED MEN’S LUNCH – A gathering of those who are retired (or who would like to be) on the first Tuesday of the month. Come to the Library on Tuesday, Dec. 7, at noon, with a bag lunch for conversation in the Library or on Zoom: **<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/93925494>; Meeting ID: 9369 2754 694**

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

LADIES WHO LUNCH – WEDNESDAY, DEC. 8, NOON – Pack a bag lunch and join us in the Parish Hall for an hour or so of catching up. Coffee and tea will be ready on arrival!

MEMORIAL CHRISTMAS PLANTS – 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. 19 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).

SAVE THESE DATES FOR SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

THURSDAY, DEC. 9, 7:00 PM – UU SERVICE COMMITTEE’S HUMAN RIGHTS LEADERSHIP CELEBRATION. Join virtually via Zoom to hear keynote speaker Isabel Wilkerson, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Humanities Medal, and author of *Caste: The Origins of our Discontents*, our All-Parish Read selection for this year. Free and open to all but advance registration is required. Go to:
<https://donate.uusc.org/event/uuscs-human-rights-leadership-celebration/e375905>

CHRISTMAS RECEPTION & CAROLING, FRIDAY, DEC. 10, 6:00-8:30 PM – You’re invited to begin the evening at 6:00 pm to decorate cookies to share and take home. Then we’ll enjoy the festivities in the Parish Hall at 6:30 pm, socializing over appetizers, desserts, wine, and soft drinks until 8:00 pm, followed by caroling and roasting marshmallows around a fire (weather permitting). Please sign up in the Breezeway to bring an appetizer or dessert or to assist with the event OR go to:
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040b44aea62ca13-christmas>

ALL-MUSIC SUNDAY WORSHIP, DEC. 12, 10:30 am– The Choir will present well-loved selections from Handel’s *Messiah, Part 1*. Geoff Wieting will play the overture as the prelude to the service and featured soloists will be Sharon Brown, Ben Doyle, Rose Hegele, Connor Lee, TJ Rufo-Curran and Mary Menino on flute.

PAGEANT REHEARSAL, SUNDAY, DEC. 12 – Meet in the Sanctuary at 11:45 am for a short organizing rehearsal for the return of our beloved Christmas Pageant to be presented on Sunday, Dec. 19, during worship.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18, 7:00 pm – **Skylark Vocal Ensemble** presents *A Christmas Carol*, their first ever Christmas storytelling concert with master storyteller Sarah Walker. This Dickens classic re-imagined weaves familiar carols into the fabric of the author’s story. For more information, go to:
www.skylarkensemble.orgmetro-west.html

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SUNDAY, Dec. 19, at 10:30 am – Participants should report at 9:15 am for costuming and quick run-through.

CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICES OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

Join us at 4:00 or 6:00 pm



We will offer two services in our Sanctuary with plenty of COVID-fighting ventilation – dress warmly. Reservations, masks, and proof of vaccination will be required for entry (unvaccinated children welcome with masks). There will be information posted on www.FirstParishWeston.org regarding the reservation process.



WEDNESDAY, JAN. 26, 7:00-8:30 PM – The next event in our **All-Parish Read** of Isabel Wilkerson's *Caste* will be a live program and discussion featuring Zebra Friends Podcast hosts Sarah Hunter and Kitani Sumner. More details to follow!