

*Each day comes bearing gifts. Untie the ribbons.*

– Ann Ruth Schnabaker

THE FIRST PARISH CHURCH IN WESTON, U.U.

Weston, Massachusetts

*Gathered in 1698*

ORDER OF SERVICE

December 4th, 2022, A.D. at 10:30 am

Second Sunday in Advent

PRELUDE

Two Settings:

Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

*Come Now, Savior of the Nation* - Chorale and variations

(1562-1621)

BWV 599, from The Little Organ Book

J. S. Bach

(1685-1750)

CALL TO WORSHIP by the Rev. Steve Shick (adapted)

One: From the loneliness of troubled times,  
we come to remember that we are not alone.

Many: **Into the dwelling place of togetherness,  
we come to collect remnants of hope.**

One: From fear that all is lost, we come to discover what will save us.

Many: **Into the comfort of each other's arms,  
we come to feel the strength that has not yet vanished.**

One: As the daylight grows short, we come to wait until our eyes begin to see into  
the refuge of fading dreams and behold new visions.

Many: **From despair that walks alone, we come to travel together.**

One: Into this sanctuary for soul and body, we come,

Many: **to find some peace and foster good will.**

\*HYMN 116 – “People Look East”

Minister: The Peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

EXCHANGE OF PEACE

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION

CHURCH COVENANT

**In the love of truth and the spirit of Jesus Christ,  
We join for the worship of God and service to humankind.**

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER FOLLOWED BY THE LORD'S PRAYER

**God of the waiting wanderers in the wilderness, we enter this moment expecting that when we leave this hour of prayer, we will be full of the courage needed to stand as a signal. We come to this mountain to feel closer to your presence, O God. May the mountains yield prosperity for your people. May righteousness flourish and peace abound. May your presence touch our hearts as we worship you in spirit and truth. This we ask in light of your son, Jesus, who taught us to pray, saying together, OUR FATHER . . .**

LIGHTING OF THE CHALICE

Nancy Lewis

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Rev. Sarah Napoline

MUSIC MEDITATION

READING: Matthew 18: 1-7

ANTHEM: "Love Came Down at Christmas"

John Rutter (b. 1945)

SERMON: "A Visit from -the Original – St. Nicholas"

Rev. Jeff Barz-Snell

ORGAN MEDITATION

PASTORAL PRAYER, FOLLOWED BY CHORAL RESPONSE

OFFERTORY: "Virga Jesse," WAB 52

Anton Bruckner  
(1824-1896)

DOXOLOGY:

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*CLOSING HYMN 114 – "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Sleepers Awake, The Voice is Calling

Gustav Adolf Thomas  
(1842-1870)

Our Greeter this morning is Sue Newbury.

First Parish Church has long welcomed people with different perspectives, backgrounds, and orientations. As a Welcoming Congregation, we happily invite all people as part of our 21st century community and church. If you are visiting, we hope you will check in at our welcome table and introduce yourself to the ministers.

We invite everyone to the Parish Hall after the service  
for a time of connection and light refreshment.

STAFF

Minister:

Rev. Jeffrey Barz-Snell

Asst. Minister of Families & Community Outreach:

Rev. Sarah Napoline

Youth and Family Ministries Coordinator:

Robert Jones

Interim Choir Director:

TJ Rufo Curran

Organist:

Geoffrey Wieting

Choir Soloists:

Nathaniel Bear

Benjamin Doyle

Nick Fahrenkrug

Rose Hegele

Parish Administrator:

Betsy Gibson

Sexton:

Alan Flynn

Fellowship Coordinator:

Paula Leger

Video Production Staff:

Hussein Al-Massarani

Jonah Barz-Snell

# People, Look East

$\text{♩} = 54$



1. Peo - ple, look east. The time is near of the  
 2. Fur - rows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more  
 3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more

crown - ing of the year. Make your house fair as you are  
 seed is plant - ed there. Give up your strength the seed to  
 light the bowl shall brim, shin - ing be - yond the frost - y

Peo - ple, look

a - ble, trim the hearth and set the ta - ble.  
 nour - ish, that in course the flower may flour - ish.  
 weath - er, bright as sun and moon to - geth - er.

east and sing to - day:

Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Guest, is on the way.  
 Love, the Rose, is on the way.  
 Peo - ple, look east: Love, the Star, is on the way.

Words: Eleanor Farjeon, 1881-1965, used by perm. of David Higham Assoc. Ltd.  
 Music: Traditional French carol, harmony by Martin Shaw, 1875-1958, used by  
 perm. of Oxford University Press

BESANÇON  
 8.7.9.8.8.7.

# O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

*Unison*

1. O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som cap - tive  
 2. O come, thou Day - spring, come and cheer our spir - its by thine  
 3. O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, and or - der all things,  
 4. O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind all peo - ples in one

Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile here, un -  
 ad - vent here; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of night, and  
 far and nigh; to us the path of knowl - edge show, and  
 heart and mind; bid en - vy, strife and quar - rels cease; fill

*Refrain (Harmony)*

til the Son of God ap - pear.  
 death's dark shad - ows put to flight.  
 cause us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -  
 the whole world with heav - en's peace.

man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

WORDS: Latin: c. 9th century; sts. 1,2, tr. John M. Neale, 1851; sts. 3,4, tr. Henry S. Coffin, 1916 VENI EMMANUEL  
 MUSIC: French melody, 15th century, arr., harm. Thomas Helmore, 1854 LM w. refrain

Anglican Oxford Movement Neale translated this hymn which originated in the seven Great 'O' antiphons that were traditional for vespers during Advent. The refrain was added in the 13th century.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

KNITTERS & STITCHERS – Meet at noon tomorrow in person in the Parlor.

RETIRED MEN'S LUNCH, TUESDAY, DEC. 6, AT NOON – Pack a bag lunch and gather in the Library or via Zoom for an hour (or more) of good conversation and fellowship. Coffee and cookies will be provided by Jeff Barz-Snell.

**<https://uuma.zoom.us/j/92355109066> / Meeting ID: 9235 5109 066**

BEREAVEMENT GROUP – TUESDAY, DEC. 6, at 4:00 pm in the Library

WEEKLY WEDNESDAY MORNING MEDITATION AT 8:30 AM – Join us on Zoom; go to:

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89584018041>; Member ID: 8958 4018 041**

COFFEE WITH UU URBAN MINISTRY BELIEVE IN SUCCESS PROGRAM STAFF, WEDNESDAY, DEC. 7, 10:30 AM – Noon in the FPCW Parlor. Join us for coffee and refreshments during this opportunity to learn more about the growth and evolution of this innovative, trauma-informed, workforce development program.

CHRISTMAS PARTY & CAROL SING, FRIDAY, DEC. 9, FROM 6:30-9:00 PM. Get out your festive-casual attire and join us for appetizers and cookies, good company, and song. We ask that you bring wine or an appetizer (or both!); CAMP will provide non-alcoholic beverages and holiday cookies/brownies. Sign up in the Breezeway or online at:

**<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60B0A48A9A722A1FF2-come>.**

ALL-MUSIC SUNDAY – During worship on Sunday, Dec. 11, the First Parish Choir and guest instrumentalists, under the direction of TJ Rufo-Curran, will present the *St. Nicholas Mass* by Franz Joseph Haydn. The piece was composed in 1772 and first performed on December 6 of the same year to celebrate the name day of Count Nikolaus Esterhazy. It was then revised in 1802. This work was one of the few choral pieces he composed before he was 50. It is quintessential Haydn in its energy, its tunefulness and, above all, its infectious joy.

SKYLARK VOCAL ENSEMBLE CONCERT AT FPCW, FRIDAY, DEC. 16, AT 7:00 PM. Skylark is reprising their adaptation of the Dickens *A Christmas Carol* this year. Their performance here last year was terrific! Narrator will be Sarah Walker. For tickets, go to:

**<https://www.skylarkensemble.org/christmascarol2022.html>.** They also have Blu-Ray and CD recordings of the concert available for purchase.

CHRISTMAS GIFT CARD DRIVE - NOW through Dec. 11th. Help The Second Step provide holiday joy for their clients escaping domestic violence. The Mitten Tree is set up in the Breezeway; decorated by our church school kids, each mitten has information about the recipient (name, age). Fulfill a wish with an appropriate gift card and bring the mitten back by Dec. 11. **Please note:** All requests are for gift cards only. Go to **[www.FirstParishWeston.org](http://www.FirstParishWeston.org)** and the Make a Difference page for more details!

RESERVE YOUR SPOT FOR CHRISTMAS EVE – Join us for either of our two traditional Service of Lessons and Carols. The evening will include beautiful carols, songs, and a Christmas message, ending with *Silent Night* and *Joy to the World*. Capacity will be limited to 150. For online reservations, go to: **<https://tinyurl.com/579xfy6n>** and click on either the 4:00 pm or 6:00 pm service to complete your reservation. OR contact the Church Office at 781.893.7798 or [admin@FirstParishWeston.org](mailto:admin@FirstParishWeston.org).