

**WEEKS AT A GLANCE**

**Sunday, December 10th**

Meditation, Parlor, 10:15 AM  
Worship Committee Meeting, Chapel, 12:30 PM  
Diana Smith, Minister's Office, 12:30 PM  
Music Committee Meeting, Conference Room, 12:30 PM  
Soul Matters Sharing Circle, Parlor, 12:40 PM

**Thursday, December 14th**

Vigil to End Gun Violence, Sanctuary, 6:15 PM

**Sunday, December 17th**

Men's Group, Parlor, 9:15 AM  
Meditation, Conference Room, 10:15 AM  
Environment Justice Affinity Group Meeting, Parlor, 12:30 PM

*\*Denotes a non-church event, open to the public.*

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*Call for Volunteer Singers*

*If you would love to have an opportunity to sing with our choir at First Church Boston for our Christmas Eve service, please contact me, Robert August at*

[jsbach\\_august@yahoo.com](mailto:jsbach_august@yahoo.com).

*The choir will be singing several anthems which we will rehearse on Sunday, December 10 and 17 from 10:00 to 10:30, and on Sunday, December 24 at 3:30 for the 5:30 o'clock Christmas Eve service.*

*Please let me know what part you sing (soprano, alto, tenor, or bass) and please plan to attend all rehearsals.*

*I look forward to hearing from you soon.*

*Robert August, Director of Music  
First Church Boston*

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**Join us for our Traditional Annual Caroling  
after the Service on December 17th  
at Hale House!**



**STAFF**

**Senior Minister**  
Rev. Stephen Kendrick  
**Director of Administration**  
Luciana Jean-Mary  
**Director of Music**  
Dr. Robert August  
**Minister of Arts and Outreach**  
Rev. Tim House  
**Ministerial Interns**  
Aisha Ansano  
Diana Smith  
**Religious Educator**  
Lara Profitt  
**Controller**  
Julie Sheaves  
**Administrative Assistant**  
Jennifer Dignazio  
**Operations Coordinators**  
Peter Banos  
Chris McCall  
**Standing Committee Chair**  
Katie McQuage-Loukas  
**Chair of Trustees**  
Howard K. Fuguet

**The First Church Choir**

Erin Anderson  
Stefan Barner  
Ethan Bremner  
Joshua Garvey  
James Liu  
Marilyn Oliver  
Patrick Perez  
Christine Teeters  
Rebecca Teeters  
William Thorpe  
Li-Han "Lily" Tseng  
Bob Winkley



**Sunday December 10, 2017**

This Week: Diana Smith, "Going Into the Dark"

Next Week: Rev. Stephen Kendrick  
"Birthday Boy"

**Soulful Sundowns are Wednesdays at 6:15**

**\*No Dinner Church on Wednesday Dec 13th\***

(Aisha Ansano will be in Washington D.C.  
for National NRA Protest)

~ Sanctuary is Wednesday Dec 20th

Then Soulful Sundowns resume  
Wednesday January 17th



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**Dec 16, 9:30-2:30 - Food Distribution service project at UU Urban Ministry in Roxbury  
contact ministerial intern Diana Smith for details**

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**Dec 21— Annual Solstice Service—6:00 PM  
Special guest musician, Áine Minogue, harpist**

## The Order of Service

### We Gather Together

|                        |                       |                             |
|------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------------|
| <b>Gathering Music</b> | Praeludium in E minor | Nicolaus Bruhns (1665-1697) |
| <b>Welcome</b>         |                       | Diana Smith                 |
| <b>* Hymn # 55</b>     | Dark of Winter        | WINTER MEDITATION           |

### Chalice Lighting & Invocation

Love is the spirit of this church, And service its law. This is our great covenant:  
To dwell together in peace, To seek the truth in love, And to help one another.

### The Work of Community

**Time for All Ages** Rev. Tim House  
Children of new and returning families are invited to join Lara for the children's spiritual education session, held downstairs in the John Winthrop School.  
*Go now in peace. Go now in peace. May the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere, you may go.*

**Brief Announcements** Aisha Ansano

### Greeting Your Neighbor

**Affirmation # 188** Aisha Ansano  
Come, Come, Whoever You Are

### Finding Ourselves in the World's Story

**Responsive Reading** "We Are Waiting", by Rev. Leslie Takahashi  
*This is the season of anticipation,  
Of expecting, of hoping, of wanting.  
This is the time of expecting the arrival of something--or someone.*

#### **We are waiting.**

*This is the time of living in darkness, in the hues of unknowing.  
Of being quiet, of reflecting on a year almost past.  
Waiting for a new beginning, for a closing or an end.  
This is the time for digesting the lessons of days gone past, anticipating the future for which*

#### **We are waiting.**

*Waiting for a world which can know justice.  
Waiting for a lasting peace.  
Waiting for the bridge to span the divides which separate us.  
Waiting for a promise or a hope.  
For all of this*

#### **We are waiting.**

**Musical Meditation** Robert Parsons (ca. 1535-1571/2)  
Ave Maria

**Reading** Rev. Kendrick  
From *Blessed Are the Crazy*, Rev. Dr. Sarah Griffith Lund

### Going Deeper

**Prayer** Rev. Kendrick

**\*Hymn # 1012** When I Am Frightened

**Sermon** Diana Smith  
"Going Into the Dark"

### Engaging the World in Service and Thanks

**Offertory** William Harris (1883-1973), arr. Robert August  
O Give Thanks Unto the Lord

### \*Doxology



**Charge** Aisha Ansano

**\*Hymn # 226** BESANCON  
People, Look East

**\*Benediction** Diana Smith

**Postlude** Jean Langlais (1907-1991)  
Pasticcio

\*Please stand as you are able.

CORRECTION: The refreshments on December 3rd were provided by Susan Moore & Jim Whitters.

Thank you to Nancy Olson for hosting this Sunday's Coffee Hour.

### Connect with us!

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_, State \_\_\_\_\_, Zip \_\_\_\_\_



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Once you have followed us on social media and filled out the info card, please tear out this portion and place it in the plate or hand it to one of our ministers. Thank you for being here! We look forward to connecting with you.