

ORDER OF SERVICE

First Church Boston
66 Marlborough Street
Boston, MA
Sunday, December 27, 2020, from the Sanctuary

Broadcast live, 11:00 am to noon, on WERS, 88.9FM, Vivian Borek, announcer
Streamed live on Facebook @firstchurchboston, Craig Hildreth, audio and video engineer
Dr. Robert August, Director of Music; Dolores August, flutist

Prelude "Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig," Variation 10, BWV 768
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

Opening Words Daniel Lawlor

Hymn # 55 Dark of Winter WINTER MEDITATION

Chalice Lighting and Tolling of the Bell Rev. Stephen Kendrick

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.

Time for All Ages Source of Hope Rev. Kendrick, Daniel Lawlor, Vivian Borek

Go Now in Peace

Reading "The Infant Greet the Cosmos," First People's Birth Prayer
Daniel Lawlor

Musical Meditation Good People All, This Christmastime Michael Barker (b. 1961)
Dolores August, flutist

Reading "Let the Light Enter," by Frances Ellen Watkins Harper

Hymn # 159 This Is My Song FINLANDIA

Reading "Cross the Threshold," by Rev. Dr. Rebecca Parker Katie Geusz

Announcements Rev. Kendrick

Prayer and Meditation Rev. Kendrick

Affirmation # 403 Spirit of Truth, of Life, of Power HAMBURG

Sermon "In Good Times or in Tempests" Daniel Lawlor

Offertory What Child Is This?
Dolores August, flutist Rich Heffler

Text Messaging Donation

You can use text messaging on your smartphone to send a contribution to the First Church offertory. Text a number representing your dollar amount (5, 10, 20, etc.) to (617) 917-5610. You will receive an emailed receipt. Thank you!

Charge		Rev. Kendrick
Hymn # 245	Joy to the World	COMFORT
Benediction		Daniel Lawlor
Postlude	Sei gegrüßet, Jesu gütig, Variation 11, BWV 768	JS Bach

Hymns and Affirmation: Texts (12/27/20)

Hymn # 253	O Come All Ye Faithful	ADESTE FIDELES
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Dark of winter, soft and still, your quiet calm surrounds me.
Let my thoughts go where they will; ease my mind profoundly.
And then my soul will sing a song, a blessed song of love eternal.
Gentle darkness, soft and still, bring your quiet to me.

Darkness, soothe my weary eyes, that I may see more clearly.
When my heart with sorrow cries, comfort and caress me.
And then my soul may hear a voice, a still, small voice of love eternal.
Darkness, when my fears arise, let your peace flow through me.

Affirmation # 403	Spirit of Truth, of Life, of Power	HAMBURG
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Spirit of truth, of life, of power,
we bring ourselves as gifts to thee:
oh, bind our hearts this sacred hour
in faith and hope and charity.

Hymn # 245

Joy to the World

COMFORT

Joy to the world! The Word is come:
let earth with praises ring.
Let every heart prepare a room,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the earth! Now gladness reigns:
let hearts their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground.
Let righteousness its glories show
as far as love is found, as far as love is found,
as far, as far, as love is found.