No gift is too small or too large; all are precious.

Ways to contribute:

- 1. Place cash, check, or visitor card in the offering plate.
- 2. Scan the QR code at right.
- 3. Through Venmo (@unitedparishinbrookline), Paypal (paypal.me/unitedparish), Realm (internal directory/database), or at unitedparishbrookline.org/give.



Offertory Anthem

Alleluia, He Comes to Us A Medley of Three Advent Hymns arranged by Michael R. Keller Handbell Choir

Feast of Communion

We share again the last meal that Jesus shared with his disciples, receiving God's spiritual sustenance.



Sharing the Meal

We serve this sacred meal to one another.

Unexpected and Mysterious by Calvin Hampton, arranged by John Ferguson

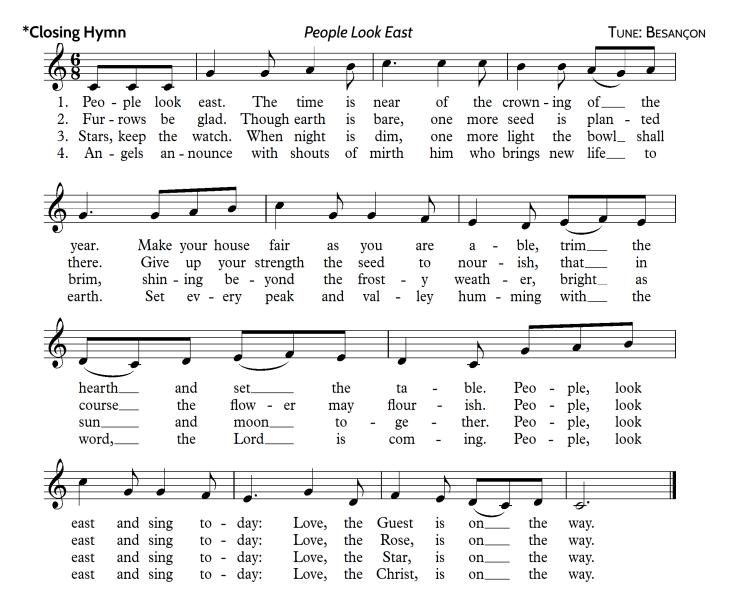
Unexpected and mysterious is the gentle word of grace. Everloving and sustaining is the peace of God's embrace. If we falter in our courage and we doubt what we have known, God is faithful to console us as a mother tends her own.

In a momentary meeting of eternity and time, Mary learned that she would carry both the mortal and divine. Then she learned of God's compassion, of Elizabeth's great joy, and she ran to greet the woman who would recognize her boy.

We are called to ponder mystery and await the coming Christ, to embody God's compassion for each fragile human life.

God is with us in our longing to bring healing to the earth, while we watch with joy and wonder for the promised Savior's birth.





*Holy Business

*Benediction

Postlude

Come Now, Lord Jesus, from Heaven Above by Johann Sebastian Bach

Thank you to those serving in worship today:

Liturgists: Rebecca Stubbs, Justin Loke, Elizabeth and Toby, David Rockwell, Connor Israel
Ushers: Tyler Smith, Madeline Cortes, Mark Molloy, Cathy Quackenbush, Paul Quackenbush

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Take-Home Questions When were times in your life when you experienced deep joy? To whom or what did you feel connected? Have you ever experienced contagious joy? What brings you the most joy and sense of connection on a regular basis?

How could you intentionally cultivate more of that in your life?

WFICOME

We at the United Parish in Brookline believe that all people are made in the image of God and embrace and cherish every person and every kind of family. Jesus Christ welcomed everyone; we seek to follow his example in our own life and worship, by extending God's love and grace abundantly and equally to everyone. We affirm and welcome all people to share in worship, fellowship and leadership with us, to join us in a diversity of race, gender, sexual identity, physical and mental ability, ethnicity and economic means.

We have joined with other Open and Affirming (United Church of Christ) and Welcoming and Affirming (American Baptist Churches USA), as well as with the Reconciling Ministries Network (United Methodist Churches) to declare that we are and will remain open to all people.

We invite you to consider becoming a member of the United Parish family. You may become a member by transferring membership or by a statement of faith. If you desire to retain ties with a former church, we invite you to become an associate or affiliate member for the time you are with us.

> We ask that you silence all electronic devices. Please see an usher if you would like a hearing assistive device.

Because our building is open to the public, an adult should accompany children if/when they leave the worship service.

Ministers Senior Pastor **Associate Pastor** Minister of Music Choir Section Leader Choir Section Leader Choir Section Leader Choir Section Leader, Handbell Choir Director

Interim Multimedia Producer

Parish Administrator **Building Manager**

Accounting Administrator

Sexton Sexton Sexton

Nursery Supervisor

Nursery Staff Nursery Staff Nursery Staff Pastor Emerita The People of the United Parish Reverend Kent French Reverend Amy Norton Susan DeSelms Margot Wegman Nick Duffin Robbie Allen Tricia Kopko Jordan Wuth Sarah Fitzpatrick Rebekah Shore **lim Smith** Micah DeSelms **Ed Thompson** Kaylynn Michael Katy Lum Ione Madsen Hardy Emma Nelson



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Mackenzie Galindo