

The United Parish in Brookline

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist



Angel Gabriel by K.T. Baker-Carr

December 1, 2024 First Sunday of Advent You Are A Blessing

Nursery care is available for children under 5 years old, upstairs in Room 203, where our professional caregivers provide activities, crafts, snacks, and a scripture-based curriculum.

During worship, children are invited to explore our 'Prayground' to the right of the worship platform. There is also a Family Room across the hall from the Prayground for those who would like a quiet place to rock or nurse. Rocking chairs are also available at the back of the Sanctuary.

Hearing devices are available from the ushers.



Scan the QR code to the right to fill out a visitor card, contribute to our offering, and more!

*Chiming the Trinity *means we invite you to rise in body and spirit

Introit

Veni Emmanuel

Nathan Jeide-Dettweiler Soloist

Emmanuel,
ve Israel;
nely exile here,
od appear.

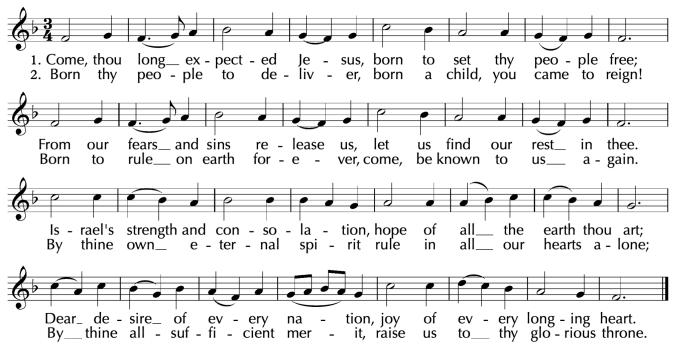
Gaude, gaude, Emmanuel nascetur pro te, Israel.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel.

*Lighting the Advent Candle by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC

All:	God says, " Do not be afraid. "
One:	God says,
All:	"I have called you by name."
One:	God says,
All:	"I will be with you."
One:	God says,
All:	"You are precious and honored in my sight."
One:	At the beginning of this season,
All:	at the start of this week,
One:	at the top of this hour, as we light this candle of hope
All:	may we wrap ourselves in these words.
One:	May we begin again.
All:	Let us worship our Holy God!

Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus



*Greetings

Amy Norton-Benfield, Associate Pastor Anna Jeide-Detweiler, Seminarian

Centering Prayer of Confession in unison Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

Affirming God,
Your first words to creation were words of love.
You looked at this earth and said, "It is good."
You spoke affirmations through the prophets.
You spoke blessings over Mary.
You spoke belonging through Christ.
At every turn, you have reiterated that we are a blessing,
made in your image, held in your love.
Forgive us for forgetting this truth.
Forgive us for measuring our worth by society's measuring stick instead of yours.
We believe.
Help our unbelief.
In Christ's name we pray,
Amen.

Silent Confession

We take up to one minute to pray our own private confessions in silence.

One: O God, in your compassion;

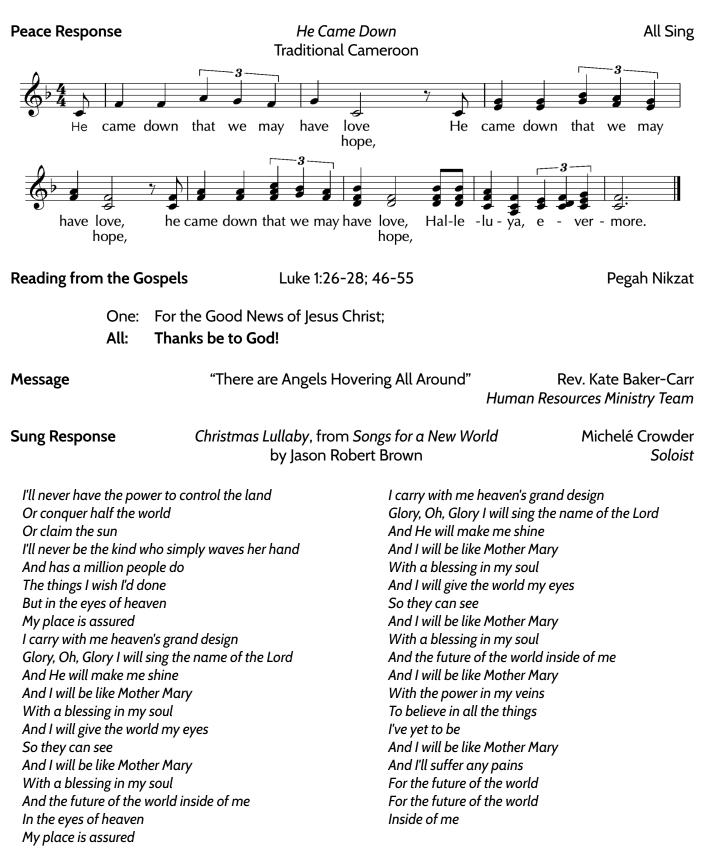
All: Hear our prayer.

*Assurance of Grace

*The Peace of Christ

One: The Peace of Christ and the Love of God be with you always;

All: And also with you.



One: O God, hear our prayer;

All: And guide us in your love.

Lord's Prayer

We invite you to use whatever word for God you choose: Mother, Father, Allah, or...

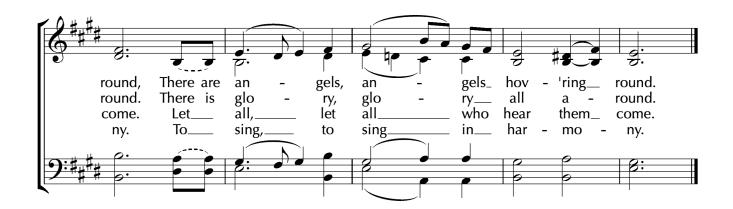
Our Creator, who art in heaven,	As we forgive those
hallowed be thy name,	who trespass against us.
Thy kingdom come,	And lead us not into temptation,
thy will be done,	But deliver us from evil.
On Earth as it is in Heaven.	For thine is the kingdom,
Give us this day our daily bread	and the power and the glory
and forgive us our trespasses,	forever and ever. Amen.

Prayer Response

There Are Angels Hovering 'Round

All Sing Traditional





Affirmation of Faith in unison

Prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org

We believe in a blessing God who calls us Beloved. We believe that this blessing showed up in the life of Mary, and was also bestowed upon the hemorrhaging woman, the poor in spirit, the children. the crowds, the Jews, the Gentiles. the faithful and the doubting. So in faith. we trust that God's blessing, like ripples on the water, forever reaches toward us. And with wild hope, we believe that because of this blessing, we are covered in love. We are more than enough. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Offering

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

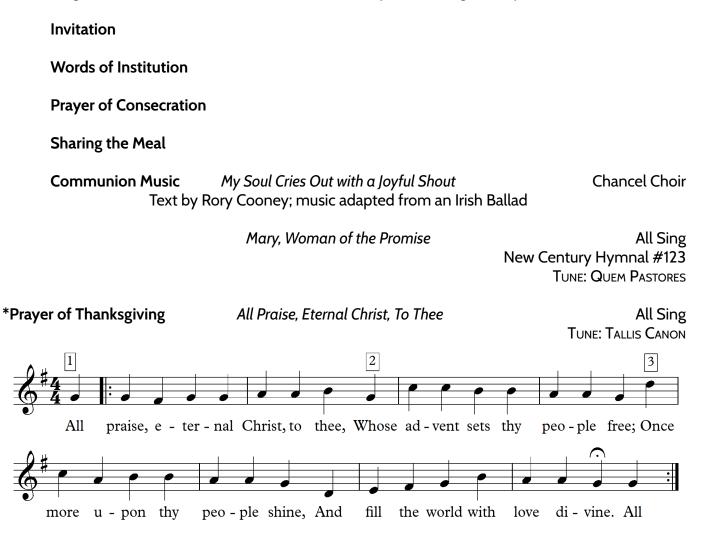
Bogoroditse Devo by Arvo Pärt

Rejoice, virgin mother of God, Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb, for you have borne the Saviour of our souls. Chancel Choir Michelé Crowder, Ruby Abreu Valentine Umeh, Robbie Allen *Solo Quartet*



Feast of Communion

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

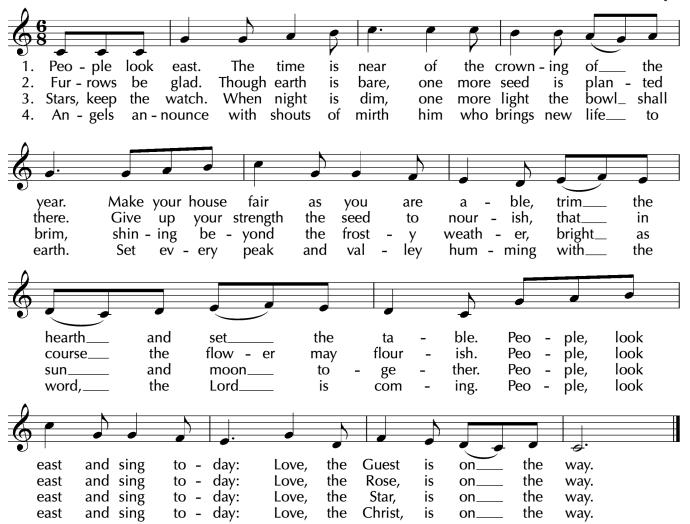


*Prayer of Dedication

*Closing Hymn

People Look East

All Sing TUNE: BESANÇON



*Holy Business and Benediction

*Postlude

Kommst du nun, Jesu, vom Himmel herunter by J. S. Bach

Susan DeSelms

Come now, Jesus, from heaven down to earth.

Hymns reprinted with permission under ONE LICENSE #A-738972. All rights reserved.

Thank you to those serving in worship today:			
Communion Preparers:	Reed Family		
Liturgist:	Pegah Nikzat		
Ushers:	Alan Fobes, Geoff Sanzenbacher, Jesse Marshall, David Mann, Ella M.		

Welcome

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 Seminarian Minister of Music Choir Section Leader **Choir Section Leader Choir Section Leader Choir Section Leader** Handbell Choir Director Multimedia Producer Parish Administrator Accounting Administrator **Building Manager** Custodian Custodian Custodian **Nursery Supervisor** Nursery Staff Nursery Staff Nursery Staff Nursery Staff **Pastor Emerita**

The People of the United Parish **Reverend Kent French Reverend Amy Norton-Benfield** Anna leide-Detweiler Susan DeSelms **Ruby Abreu Robbie Allen** Michelé Crowder Valentine Umeh Tricia Kopko Jordan Wuth Sarah Fitzpatrick **Jim Smith Rebekah Shore Emery Bibbins** lesse Kieffer Violet Nowlan Katy Lum Melanie Caicedo Anne Florient Ione Madsen Hardy Emma Nelson Patricia Coughlin



American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist 210 Harvard Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02446 office@upbrookline.org

upbrookline.org

617-277-6860