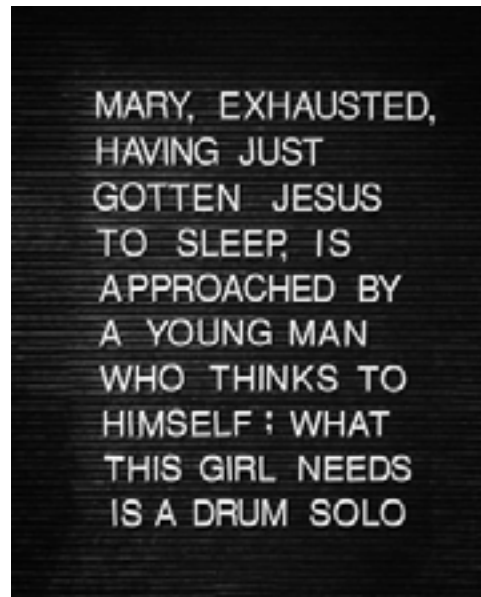


SATURDAY, DECEMBER 23, 2020



*Queen Santa's Elves: Keith Perron, Barbara Gindhart, Bill Briggs  
photo credit: Nikki DeRome*

Dearly beloved,

This is it! Grab your candles, settle in to your Hollywood Square, and get ready for Christmas Eve by Candle Light! Here's the link to the Zoom room: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81283690266>

Hot tip: If you'd like to hear Rev. George play the bells and Yulia Yun play a piano prelude of carols, plan to be 15 minutes early to the service! Rev. Beth, Rev. Jo, Mark David, all our staff musicians, the Arlington Street Church Choir, the heavenly host of the Boston Gay Men's Chorus, and I will be thrilled to see you at 7:00 and again at 9:00!

Please join me in thanking Queen Cheryl and all her elves — last weekend, Bill Briggs, Keith Perron, and Barbara Gindhart reprised their Best Supporting roles — for distributing candles and candy canes, blowing bubbles, and bringing JOY to all of Arlington Street. And our deepest thanks to Tom Anderson and Bruce Dallaire, who, in addition to driving all over the city to leave Christmas Eve candles on doorsteps, mailed out candles to those at a distance. Kelley Gove reported that hers made it to Caspar, Wyoming! *Wonderful!*

And then, in between Christmas and the New Year, our annual "in between" service will once again be led by Rev. Vera O'Brien and Worship Coordinator Darrell Waters. Rev. Vera, who serves as a hospital chaplain, brings us a sermon on abundance. "Even as we face the challenges still ahead of us in the New Year," she says, "we will look at how we can claim and celebrate the abundance of life." Musical highlights include Hana and Kazuhiro Omori singing *Love Will Guide Us*; Tevan Goldberg on *I Got Plenty* (Bonnie Raitt); and Ann-Marie Iocoviello on Melissa Ferrick's *Everything I Need*. Yulia Yun will play both a Mozart piano sonata and Pharrell Williams' *Happy* ... on organ!

As always, right about now, I remember these lines from Anglo-American poet W.H. Auden:

And now,  
Let us allow Christmas  
To overtake us  
In all our haste and unpreparedness  
And renew the miracle of love  
Once again in our lives.

*Faithfully yours, with love,*  
**Kim**

p.s. So many thanks to all of you who have donated to [All Souls ~ A Campaign for the Preservation of Arlington Street Church!](#) If you haven't, now's the time! *One week to go!*

p.p.s. Aren't the photos of people being vaccinated just fabulous? Chaplain Ali Jablonsky sent me hers from Tufts Medical Center this week — I can't stop looking at it — and it occurs to me to ask you to please send me yours. I'd like to tile them up on my home screen! And if you'd be willing to let me share them, I'd love that, too. *Thank you!*



This week's Great Conjunction of Jupiter and Saturn is the closest since 1623 (nearly 400 years!) and the closest observable since 1226 (nearly 800 years)!

*Peace on Earth  
Goodwill  
to All People*

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist *Gathered in love and service for justice and peace*

351 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116-3303 Phone: 617-536-7050 • Fax: 617-536-7051 Email: [devotion@ASCBoston.org](mailto:devotion@ASCBoston.org) • Web: [www.ASCBoston.org](http://www.ASCBoston.org)