

Today

Coffee Hour

PARISH HALL, IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE WORSHIP SERVICE

Let's gather downstairs for coffee, comestibles, and community! If you're visiting Arlington Street Church, or would like more information about Unitarian Universalism, please visit the Welcome Table. All are welcome!

The Path to Membership

Archives Room, immediately following the worship service

The Membership Team, along with Acting Associate Minister Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek, will offer a brief orientation and some handouts about Unitarian Universalism, our congregation, and our membership process. If you are brand new to Arlington Street Church, you are especially warmly invited to join us for this informal presentation in the Archives Room off the Parish Hall downstairs during Coffee Hour.

“Unplug the Christmas Machine”

12:45 PM – 2:30 PM, Hunnewell Chapel

Join Rev. Kim and Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek for conversation and reflection on your celebration of this season. What traditions and practices reflect our Unitarian Universalist values? What would comprise an ideal holiday? Beyond habits and obligations, what do we love about Christmas, and what shall we decide to let go?

Erick DuPree, our religious educator, has generously offered to be on hand in the Perkins Room to spend time with any children whose parents or grandparents would like to attend. All are welcome!

Young Adult Group

The Young Adult Group (ages 18 – 35) meets after the Sunday service for lunch in the Stage Right Room. You can purchase food from the Sandwich Board during Coffee Hour, or bring your own food. The Stage Right Room is the first room on your left after going down the stairs at the back of the sanctuary.

The Young Adult Group also meets two Fridays per month at 7 pm in the Perkins Room (downstairs next to the kitchen) for activities, food, and worship. Our next meeting will be a special holiday event on Friday, December 18th. All young adults are welcome!

At Your Service...

- * If you would like a large print order of service and hymns, or Brailled hymns
- * If you are having trouble hearing the service and would appreciate an assistive listening device
- * If you have mobility challenges and would like assistance

... any usher will be happy to help!

OUR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FAITH

“We covenant to affirm and promote the goal of world community with peace, liberty, and justice for all.”

This is the sixth of the seven principles and purposes of Unitarian Universalism that our congregations covenant to affirm and promote. To read all seven, as well as the six sources of our free faith, please see the Our Faith brochure in the pew rack.

ALLELUIA!

At Arlington Street Church, we raise a hand and circle two fingers above our heads to signal joyous affirmation.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMMING

Children's Religious Education classes are held during the 11:00 AM service downstairs in the Perkins Room. Infant care is provided in the nursery, right off the sanctuary. An usher will be happy to lead you and your children there. For further information about our Children's Religious Education program, please contact the church office.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

FM amplification headsets are available from the ushers. Please do not remove them from the sanctuary. Accessible entry is via the ramp on the Arlington Street alley at the right-hand side of the front doors to the Church. Braille hymnals are available! Please ask an usher for assistance.

PARKING AT ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

Parking on Sundays is available at the Back Bay Garage for a discount. Discount coupons are available at the Welcome Table after worship. Additional parking may be available on Arlington Street past “The Castle.”

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Prudential Committee is the elected governing board of Arlington Street Church. The members are: Tori Bell, Marilyn Castriotta, Doug Fiero (vice chair), Danny Fournier, Carmen Griggs, Elizabeth Lindholm (chair), Karl Paulnack, Bob Sessions, and Mickey Randazza. Officers of the Corporation are Herbert Gleason (moderator), Rob Cotta (vice moderator), Mark MacDonnell (treasurer), Mark Watanabe (council chair), and Carol Smith (clerk).

Directory

Ministry

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Sr. Minister
Office@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10

Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek,
Acting Associate Minister
yesyvonne@ASCBoston.org, ext. 18

Seanan Holland, Military Chaplain Intern
sholland@ASCBoston.org

Rev. George G. Whitehouse, Minister at Large
GWhitehouse@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10

Rev. Eugene B. Navias, Assoc. Min. Emeritus

Music

Mark David Buckles, Director of Music
MBuckles@ASCBoston.org, ext. 19

Molly Wood, Collaborative Pianist
Office@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10

Choir Section Leaders

Valerie Estle, soprano
Julia Mintzer, alto
Daniel Ross, tenor
J. Jacob Krause, baritone, Assistant Conductor

Program

Erick DuPree, Religious Educator
EDuPree@ASCBoston.org, ext. 12

JP LaFond, R. E. Assistant

Administrative

Edward Thomas, Church Administrator
EThomas@ASCBoston.org, ext. 16

Jeffrey Bouchard, Assistant to
the Administrator
JBouchard@ASCBoston.org, ext. 14

Brad Nobles, Sexton
JBouchard@ASCBoston.org, ext. 17

NB: To reach any staff member by phone, dial 617-536-7050. When prompted, enter *8 and then their extension.

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ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 2009

We covenant to affirm and promote • The inherent worth and dignity of every person • Justice, equity, and compassion in human relations • Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations • A free and responsible search for truth and meaning • The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our congregations and in world affairs • Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part • Words and deeds of prophetic witness which challenge us to confront powers and structures of oppression, injustice, and domination, to recognize the liberating power of love • Wisdom from the world's religions which inspire us in our ethical and spiritual life • Humanist teachings which counsel us to heed the insights of science, and warn us against idolatries of the mind and spirit • Spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature. Grateful for the religious pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

The living tradition
we share draws from
many sources including
wisdom from the
world's religions which
inspire us in our
ethical and spiritual life

Arlington Street Church
Boston, Massachusetts
Founded in 1729

Gathered in love and service for justice and peace

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist
Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6TH, 2009

PRELUDE

Selections from *Robert Schumann (1810 – 1856)*
Album für die Jugend
Molly Wood, piano

CALL TO WORSHIP

Desh Indian Raga, arr. *Ethan Sperry*
sung in honor of our esteemed guest, Lama Surya Das

CHALICE LIGHTING

Dr. Doug Fiero

WELCOME, PARISH HIGHLIGHTS, AND GREETINGS

***HYMN 226**

People, Look East

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Rev. Yvonne Schumacher Strejcek

CHILDREN’S BLESSING

Go In Joy text: *Barbara Pescan*
music: *Bart Bradfield*

Go in joy, — go in peace to meet the day! With
op - en hearts em - brace life's won - der. We will guide you,
we will love you on your way.

The children are invited to leave for their classes with Erick DuPree. All children are welcome!

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW AND JOY

John Markham O’Connor & Harlow Robinson, Candles Coordinators

You are invited to share your sorrows and joys with the congregation by filling out a Candle Card in the back pew on the right-hand side of the sanctuary. Candle Cards are collected

until the beginning of the first hymn. After the service, Candle Cards are posted downstairs during coffee hour. You may also submit a candle by Saturday night at the church website, ASCBoston.org, and clicking on “Worship.”

There Will Be a Light *Ben Harper (b. 1969), arr. Buckles*
Valerie Estle, soprano; Daniel Ross, tenor

AFFIRMATION AND COVENANT

Love is the spirit El amor es el espíritu
of this congregation, de nuestra congregación
And service is our gift. Y el servicio es nuestro regalo.
This is our great covenant: Esto es a lo que nos comprometemos:
To dwell together in peace, Convivir en paz,
To speak our truths in love, Hablar nuestras verdades con amor,
And to help one another. Y ayudarnos los unos a los otros.

***HYMN**

Filled With Loving Kindness

SERMON Rev. Kim Crawford Harvie and Lama Surya Das
Putting the Holy in Holiday

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTIPHON

Be Ye Lamps Unto Yourselves music: *Sarum Antiphonal*
text: *attributed as the last words of the Buddha*

Be ye lamps unto yourselves,
be your own confidence,
hold to the truth within yourselves
as to the only lamp.

ANTHEM

Cybele Laments music: *Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)*
text: *François Mauriac (1885 – 1970)*

Commissioned for the Arlington Street Church Choir
In Memory of David Clarence McCammack Jr.

from “Plaintes de Cybèle” from *Le Sang d’Atys*

A line of sand, the dune’s upswelling rise,
A lip of foam and seaweed fringe: the sea...
The soft traces of lashes on your brown eyes
And by your vacant brow, the thick dark trees:
So like your eyes whose fire lights your face,
Stars in my night whose twin flames burn in space
Blaze on another world when you’re asleep.

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Over 300 pledging members and friends support the work of Arlington Street Church with commitments averaging \$20 a week plus volunteer service. Whatever you give is greatly appreciated. Please consider a generous donation today! Contributions placed in an envelope will be credited toward your pledge or gift.

OFFERTORY

Waltz in A flat Major (“L’adieu”) *Frederic Chopin (1810 – 1849)*
Op. 69 No. 1
Molly Wood, piano

***HYMN 30**

Over My Head

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

(sung twice; please join us!)

When You Walk From Here text: *Linnea Good*
music: *Tom Witt, arr. Buckles*

When you walk from here, When you walk from here,
Walk with justice, Walk with mercy,
And with God’s humble care.

***BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

POSTLUDE

Wichtige Begebenheit (“A Great Event”) *Schumann*
from *Kinderszenenit*
Molly Wood, piano

Please silence your cell phone. Thank you!

Service is Our Gift

Art Nava , Lead Greeter
Dr. Doug Fiero, Prudential Committee
Harlow Robinson, Assistant Candles Coordinator
John Markham O’Connor, Candles Coordinator
Michael Orzech, Lead Worship Coordinator
Philip Roberts, Lead Usher
Philip Roberts, Assitant Treasurer
Scott Schroeder, Assitant Treasurer