

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

<https://zoom.us/j/8958866876> (video)

or (929) 436-2866 (phone)

[Meeting ID is 895 886 6876]

SUNDAY, JANUARY 1ST, 2023

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

WELCOME HOME, REV. VERA O'BRIEN!

Rev. Vera discovered Unitarian Universalism on a Thanksgiving morning in the 1980's when she unexpectedly followed the Pilgrim's Progress into the service at First Parish in Plymouth. She received her MDiv from Meadville Lombard Theological School, one of our Unitarian Universalist seminaries. In 2007, Rev. Vera was ordained here at Arlington Street while serving as our Lifespan Religious Educator and a chaplain at Brigham and Women's Hospital. She is currently a chaplain at South Shore Hospital in Weymouth, Massachusetts and one of our affiliated community ministers.

PRELUDE

Hail to the Brightness of Zion's Glad Morning *Lowell Mason* (1792 – 1872)

Gathered Here, Within this Place *Don Besig* (b. 1936)

Hyunju Jung, piano

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Rev. Vera O'Brien, Chaplain, South Shore Hospital

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

INTROIT

A New Year Carol music: *Benjamin Britten* (1913 – 1976)

text: *Anonymous*

Eve Lauria, soprano

Here we bring new water from the well so clear
For to worship G*d with, this happy New Year.

Sing levy dew, sing levy dew, the water and the wine;
The seven bright gold wires and the bugles that do shine.

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her toe,
Open you the West Door, and turn the Old Year go.
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew...

Sing reign of Fair Maid, with gold upon her chin,
Open you the East Door, and let the New Year in.
Sing levy dew, sing levy dew...

GREETINGS Rev. Ali Jablonsky, Chaplain, Tufts Medical Center

***HYMN 1000**

Morning Has Come text and music: *Rev. Jason Shelton* (b. 1972)

Morning has come, arise and greet the day!
Dance with joy and sing a song of gladness!
The light of hope here shines upon each face
May it bring faith to guide our journey home

A new day dawns, once more the gift is giv'n
Wonder fills this moment shared together
The light of peace here shines upon each face
May it bring faith to guide our journey home

Open our eyes to see that life abounds
Open hearts to welcome it among us
The light of love here shines upon each face
May it bring faith to guide our journey home

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

Sanctuary *John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs* (b. 1953)
adaptation: *Crawford Harvie/Buckles*
arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

Open my heart to be a sanctuary
All made holy, loved and true
With thanksgiving, I'll be a living
Sanctuary for you

To have your candle of sorrow or joy read during the service, please submit it in advance [here](#). During the service, candles are welcome in the Zoom chat.

AFFIRMATION AND COVENANT

Love is the spirit of this congregation, And service is our gift. This is our great covenant: To dwell together in peace, To speak our truths in love, And to help one another.	El amor es el espíritu de nuestra congregación Y el servicio es nuestro regalo. Esto es a lo que nos comprometemos: Convivir en paz, Hablar nuestras verdades con amor, Y ayudarnos los unos a los otros.
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***HYMN 350**

The Ceaseless Flow of Endless Time text: *John Andrew Storey* (1935 – 1997)
music: *American Folk Melody*
arrangement: *Annabel Morris Buchanan* (1889 – 1983)

*sung to the tune of **Hymn 299** Make Channels for the Streams of Love*

The ceaseless flow of endless time
No one can check or stay
We'll view the past with no regret
Nor future with dismay

The present slips into the past
And dreamlike melts away
The breaking of tomorrow's dawn
Begins a new today

The past and future ever meet
In the eternal now
To make each day a thing complete
Shall be our New Year vow

SERMON

Time Rev. Vera O'Brien

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

Our Time text & music: *Stephen Sondheim* (1930 – 2021)
from *Merrily We Roll Along*

Eve Lauria, soprano
Hyunju Jung, piano

Something is stirring,
Shifting ground
It's just begun
Edges are blurring
All around,
And yesterday is done.

Feel the flow,
Hear what's happening:
We're what's happening.
Don't you know?
We're the movers and we're the shapers.
We're the names in tomorrow's papers.
Up to us, now, to show 'em.

It's our time, breathe it in:
Worlds to change and worlds to win.
Our turn coming through,
Me and you, now,
Me and you!

Feel how it quivers,
On the brink,
Everything!
Gives you the shivers,
Makes you think
There's so much stuff to sing.

And you and me,
We'll be singing it like the birds,
Me with music and you the words,
Tell 'em things they don't know!
Up to us, pal, to show 'em.

Our time, breathe it in:
Worlds to change and worlds to win.
Our turn, we're what's new,
Me and you, pal,
Me and you!

Feel the flow,
Hear what's happening:
We're what's happening!
Long ago
All we had was that funny feeling,
Saying someday we'd send 'em reeling,
Now it looks like we can!
Someday just began!

It's our heads on the block.
Give us room and start the clock.
Our time coming through,
Me and you, now,
Me and you!

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

These are extraordinary times that call for extraordinary generosity. At the top of the pandemic, we shut down the sanctuary and committed to continue to pay our staff ... with no idea when we might reopen. Without missing a beat, our Tech Team pivoted to a virtual format — and so did we all. As the virus raged, we nourished a dream of the day when we might once again reopen the Great Doors and made wildly expensive upgrades to our sound system, purchased technology to support a hybrid service format, and readily agreed to make it available to the community partners who share our mission and this beautiful space. And all the while, Arlington Street members and friends have given with open, grateful hands.

Today, we invite you to be part of Arlington Street's pandemic story — a story of devotion, innovation, and transformational generosity. To make your gift,



please scan the QR code; visit www.tinyurl.com/GiveASC; search **@ArlingtonStreet** on Venmo, or text the word GIVE to (617) 300-0509. If you're ready to give regularly, Liz Teixeira (treasurer@ascboston.org) would be delighted to assist you with setting up automatic payments. We are so grateful! *Thank you!*

JANUARY'S SHARE THE PLATE: FRIDAY NIGHT SUPPER PROGRAM

Established here at Arlington Street in 1984, the Friday Night Supper Program (fridaynightsupper.org) provides nutritious, home-cooked meals to Boston's hungry and unhoused people. They also distribute warm clothing and outerwear throughout the winter. Our own Art Nava and Patrice Keegan serve on the board; Barbara Gindhart is a longtime volunteer.

To make your gift, please scan the QR code above; visit www.tinyurl.com/GiveASC; or text the amount you want to give and the word SHARE (ex. \$50 SHARE) to (617) 300-0509. *Thank you for your generosity to this lifesaving ministry!*

OFFERTORY

G*d's Great Grace it is Has Brought Us *Jae Hoon Park* (1922 – 2021)

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

***HYMN**

Life Calls Us On text: *Rev. Kendyl Gibbons* (b. 1955)
music: *Rev. Jason Shelton* (b. 1972)

Here in reverence now we gather
For the blessings we have known,
With a pledge to one another
That we journey not alone.
Joy and sorrow make us wise,
Kin to all that lives and dies;
Love calls us on, love calls us on.

Words and deeds of those before us
Waken here to keep us strong;
Blend our voices in the chorus
Of creation's living song.
Courage bids us lift our eyes
Upward to the shining skies;
Hope calls us on, hope calls on.

Loyal guides in love and duty
Lead us with a trusted light;
Blest are they whose inward beauty
Shows the path of truth and right.
Honor is their earthly prize;
By their work we realize,
Faith calls us on, faith calls us on.

We have shared a radiant hour
When the truth has made us free,
And the spirit's gracious power
Dreamed of good that yet shall be.
Bright the path before us lies
Joyful pilgrims now we rise;
Life calls us on! Life calls us on!

BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

For our benediction, you are invited to put your hands over your heart in Namaste
I bow to the Divine in You.

RECESSIONAL

Where You Go (I Will Go) *Shoshana Jedwab* (b. 1964)
arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

Where you go I will go, beloved
Where you go I will go
Where you go I will go, beloved
Where you go I will go
For your people are my people
Your people are mine
Your people are my people
Your divine, my divine

POSTLUDE

When Peace, Like a River, Attendeth My Way *Philip Paul Bliss* (1838 – 1876)
Hyunju Jung, piano



** Out of respect for Arlington Street Church members and friends who are Jewish,
we follow the tradition of not spelling out G*d's name*

Flowers on the High Pulpit

Would you like to make a gift of flowers for the entire congregation to enjoy on a Sunday morning? You can make your dedication in memory, in honor, or in celebration of someone or something you love. You can have flowers delivered, bring your own (a minimum of two dozen flowers is perfect for our huge space), or a member of the staff will purchase them (~\$50). Please email our congregational administrator, Jess (JAcosta@ASCBoston.org), to claim your date! *Thank you!*