

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 12TH, 2010

MITTEN TREE SUNDAY

ADVENT 3: JOY!

PRELUDE

Vesper Voluntaries, Op. 14 *Edward Elgar* (1857-1934)
Molly Wood, organ

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Second Principle *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)
We believe in justice, equity, and compassion in all relations. Amen.

CHALICE LIGHTING

Kālidāsa (c.4th - 6th c. CE)

WELCOME

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

The Christmas that I Celebrate, adapted from, *Roger E. Greeley*
Maya, Anna, Sarah, and Patrick Cooleybeck

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS AND GREETINGS

One Member's Journey *Karl Paulnack*

*HYMN 226

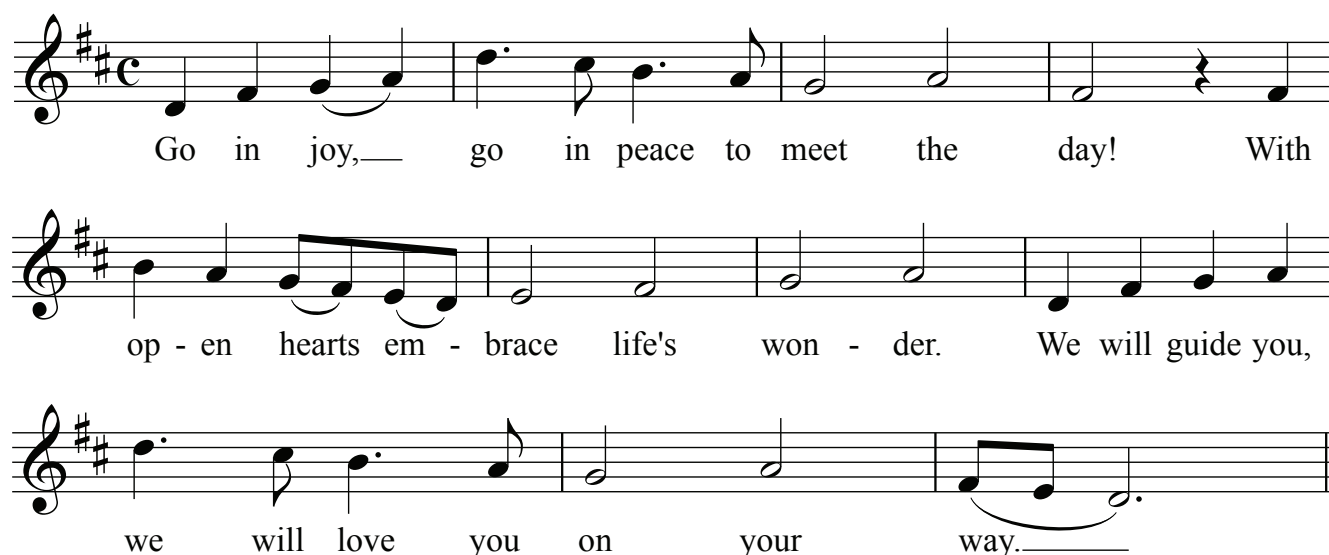
People, Look East

DECORATING THE MITTEN TREE

Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree *Johnny Marks*
The Chipmunk Song *Ross Bagdasarian*
Let It Snow! Let It Snow! Let It Snow! *Sammy Cahn, Jule Styne*
Molly Wood, piano

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children's Benediction 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.

*Following the Children's Blessing, all children are always
welcome to join us for Children's Religious Education!*

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

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, by clicking on “Worship.”

Some of us pray with our words, some of us pray through our actions, and some of us use words other than prayer to describe our connection to the divine and one another. As you feel called, please join us in singing the chorus of *Healing Prayer*.

Healing Prayer..... music: *Nick Page* (b. 1952)
text: *African American Spiritual “Balm in Gilead” and Nick Page*
Glorivy Arroyo, mezzo soprano; J. Jacob Krause, baritone

The image shows musical notation for the song 'Healing Prayer'. It consists of two staves. The top staff is labeled 'Drone' and the bottom staff is labeled 'Melody'. Both staves are in the key of D major (two sharps) and 3/4 time. The Drone staff has a single note (D) that is sustained throughout the piece. The Melody staff begins with a quarter note (D), followed by a half note (E), and then a quarter note (F#). This is followed by a triplet of eighth notes (G, A, B), then a quarter note (C), a quarter note (D), and a quarter note (E). The piece ends with a quarter note (D). The lyrics 'We pray' are written below the Drone staff, and 'We' is written below the Melody staff.

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.

*HYMN

Meditation on Breathing *Sarah Dan Jones* (b. 1962)

SERMON

Holy Emptiness Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

Love Came Down at Christmas

text: *Christina Rossetti* (1830-1894), alt.
music: *Carson P. Cooman* (b. 1982)

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we the Godhead,
Love incarnate, love divine;
Worship we our Jesus:
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Love shall be our token,
Love be yours and love be mine,
Love to God and to all the world,
Love for plea and gift and sign.

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

Greensleeves trad. arr. *Richard Purvis* (1913-1994)
Rodger Clinton Vine, organ

***HYMN 235**

Deck the Hall with Boughs of Holly

***BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

Rhoda E. McCulloch (1884-1978)

***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.

POSTLUDE

Finale (Fugato and Presto) from *Variations on a Noel*
Rodger Clinton Vine, organ *Marcel Dupré* (1886-1971)

**You are invited to stand as you are willing and able.*

TODAY – December 12th, 2010

Children's Religious Education (CRE)

December's focus is our third Unitarian Universalist Principle:
Acceptance of each other and spiritual growth!

This week, we will be reading *The Mitten Tree Story* by Candace Christiansen and sharing how we can grow from this story. We will also be creating some of our own felt mittens for holiday cards to sell during coffee hour. Donations will go toward the matching gift for Friday Night Supper Program!

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE. THANK YOU!

**LET'S COME TOGETHER TO
CELEBRATE THE HOLIDAYS !**

Holiday Events, Holiday Services

- Dec. 12, 11AM** Mitten Tree Sunday ~ Please bring new men's gloves, hats, and scarves for our Friday Night Supper Guests
- 12:30PM** Christmas Music on the Piano ~ Rodger Clinton Vine
1PM Carol Sing
- Dec. 19, 11AM** Christmas Sunday ~ Lessons and Carols
- Dec. 21, 8PM** Winter Solstice Vespers ~ Beautiful readings, meditation by candlelight, songs, & wassailing the trees in the Public Garden
- Dec. 24, 5PM** Christmas Eve by Candle Light family service
7 & 9PM Community Services with the Boston Gay Men's Chorus

For more information, visit www.ASCBoston.org. All 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

Service is Our Gift

Assistant Treasurers, Alma Antoniotti and Gail Jennes
Candles Coordinator, Liz Weber
Lead Greeter, Mark Watanabe
Lead Usher, Rob Cuddi
Worship Coordinator, Rebecca Froom

**IF YOU FELT THIS WAS A GREAT SERVICE,
NEXT WEEK, BRING A FRIEND TO SHARE IN THE JOY!**