

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH, 2016

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

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 end of greetings.

PRELUDE

Vom Himmel hoch, da komm' ich her

Fugues on the Magnificat Octavi Toni

VIII.10-13 *Johann Pachelbel* (1653 - 1706)

Linli Wang, organ

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND GREETINGS

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH: CHRISTMAS ... Rick Cresta

KINDLING OF THE CHANUKIAH *Traditional Hebrew text* translation: *Joanna Lubkin*

Joanna Lubkin, Arlington Street Affiliated Community Minister

Baruch atah Adoshem, Elokeinu melech ha'olam,
asher kidshanu b'mitzvotav v'tzivanu
l'hadlik ner shel Chanukah.

Baruch atah Adoshem, Elokeinu melech ha'olam,
sheh-asah nisim lavoteinu bayamim hahem baz'man hazeh.

Baruch atah Adoshem, Elokeinu melech ha'olam,
shehechyanu v'kiymanu v'higyanu la'zman ha-zeh.

Blessed are You, Source of All,
who brings moments of holiness to our lives
through the ritual of lighting the Chanukah lights.

Blessed are You, Source of All,
who brings our attention to miracles
from ages past to this very moment.

Blessed are You, Source of All,
who has given us life, sustained us,
and has brought us to this very moment.

CANTICLE

Light One Candle *Peter Yarrow* (b. 1938)

Daniel Rosensweig, tenor

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

Sanctuary *John W. Thompson* and *Randy Scruggs* (b. 1953)
text adapted by *Crawford Harvie / Buckles*
music arranged by *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

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.

*CAROL 237

The First Noel

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

Abridged from Charles Dickens Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

I. Stave One: Marley's Ghost

*CAROL 246

O Little Town of Bethlehem

II. Staves Two, Three, Four: The Three Spirits

*CAROL 231

Angels We Have Heard on High

III. Stave Five: The End of It

*CAROL 240

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

REFLECTION AND MEDITATION

Keeping Christmas

*CAROL 239

Go Tell It on the Mountain

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

During the offertory, you are invited to open your heart and engage in the spiritual practice of generosity. For 287 years, the abundant support of our community has allowed Arlington Street Church to remain a beacon for liberal religious values in downtown Boston. Your gifts in the Sunday plate sustain both



the church and the larger community – half of the offering is shared with a partner in our mission of love, service, justice, and peace. As a convenient option, you may text the word GIVE to 617-300-0509 or scan the QR code.

Thank you for your stewardship and support!

OFFERTORY

The Christmas Song

Bob Wells (1922 - 1998) and Mel Tormé (1925 - 1999)

Daniel Rosensweig, tenor

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

*CAROL

Joy to the World! text: *Isaac Watts* (1674 - 1748)
melody: *G.F. Handel* (1685 - 1759)
music: *Lowell Mason* (1792 - 1872)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room
And heaven and nature sing. (x3)

Joy to the earth! The savior reigns!
Let hearts their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains,
Repeat the sounding joy. (x3)

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love. (x3)

*BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

*RECESSIONAL (*sung twice; please join in!*)

We Wish You a Merry Christmas *Trad. 16th century English Carol*

We wish you a Merry Christmas (x3)
and a Happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

POSTLUDE

Praise the Lord with the Drum and Cymbals

Sigfrid Karg-Elert (1877 - 1933)

Linli Wang, organ

Today in Children's Religious Education (CRE)

There is no formal children's programming happening onsite today.

If you have arrived with a baby or small child, welcome! There is a nursery/playroom with the service piped in for your listening pleasure.

Go through the leather door to the right of the pulpit and cross through the chapel. The nursery is on your left before the stairs.

Beth Robbins, Jaimie Dingus, Mark David Buckles, and the choir are away this morning. Today, we give special thanks to Daniel Rosensweig and Linli Wang for their beautiful music!