

Share the Plate: December

The bounty of this month's Share the Plate will be given to our own Friday Night Supper Program as well as our sister congregation in Dorchester, Bethel Tabernacle Pentecostal Church, for their holiday outreach. Friday Night Supper Program will be providing a festive holiday meal and distributing warm clothing and goodies to their guests. Bethel hosted the annual holiday party for the children and families in their neighborhood who would otherwise be without Christmas gifts. Throughout the winter, both organizations will provide hot meals and outerwear to these most vulnerable populations. Thank you for your generosity!



We are glad you have joined us this morning for worship!

The first principle of Unitarian Universalism affirms the inherent worth and dignity of every being. We celebrate unity in diversity.

This morning, we invite you to:

1. Complete a visitor card and place it in the collection plate
2. Join us for coffee hour in the Parish Hall following the service
3. Introduce yourself to the service leaders, and
4. Please come back again soon!

Church Office ~ Christmas Week

The church office will be closed December 26th - January 2nd
For pastoral emergencies, please call 617-536-7050.

Service is Our Gift

Candles Coordinator, *Kate Birney*
Candles Chaplain, *Art Judge*
Lead Greeter, *Queen Cheryl*
Lead Usher, *Kevin Tyrrell*
Worship Coordinator, *Joanna Lubkin*
Assistant Treasurers, *Nancy George & Kevin Tyrrell*

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE. THANK YOU!

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!

Urban Church Awareness

Remember to be mindful of your belongings, and throughout the week, please help to keep the outside doors to the church secure.

Welcome to Arlington Street Church

TODAY – DECEMBER 25, 2016

Please take a moment to complete this card so that we may welcome you more fully to our congregation. Simply drop it into the offering plate, or hand it to an usher after the service.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone numbers _____

Email _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Children's Name(s) & Age(s) _____

- I/we are visiting for the first time.
- I/we have been attending ASC for _____
- I/we would like a permanent name tag(s) for Sunday worship. (Name tags are placed on a rack in the vestibule.)
- How did you hear about Arlington Street?

I prefer to be contacted by:

- Mail Phone Email No preference

I would like to know more about:

- Membership Classes/Joining ASC Choir/Music
- Social Action Children's Religious Education
- Adult Religious Education & Connections (ASC's small group ministry)
- Young Adult Group Other _____

Staff Directory

Parish Ministers

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, *Senior Minister*
Rev. George G. Whitehouse, *Minister at Large*
Beth Robbins, *Intern Minister*

Community Ministers

Dr. Arthur Judge, *Hospital Chaplain, retired*
Rev. Clyde Grubbs, *Interim Minister, Cambridge*
Rev. Fred Small, *Minister for Climate Justice*
Rev. Joanna Lubkin, *Chaplain, Wellesley College*
Rev. Vera O'Brien, *Chaplain, Brigham and Women's Hospital*

Intern Ministers

Erica Rose Long, *Massachusetts General Hospital*
Liz Weber, *UU Church of Reading, Massachusetts*

All staff members may be reached through the church office

Office@ASCBoston.org or 617-536-7050 ext. 10.

Music

Mark David Buckles, *Director of Music*
Linli Wang, *Organist and Pianist*
Rodger Clinton Vine, *Artist in Residence*

Choir Section Leaders

Julie Gregorio, *soprano*
Emily Jaworski, *mezzo soprano*
Daniel Rosensweig, *tenor*
Lawson Daves, *bass*

Children's Religious Education (CRE)

Laura Evonne Steinman, *CRE Director and Artist in Residence*
Jaimie Dingus, *CRE Assistant*

Administration

Jeffrey Bouchard, *Congregational Administrator*
Adam Berman, *Bookkeeper*
Brad Nobles, *Sexton*
Laurinda O'Connor, *Publications*



ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25TH, 2016

MERRY CHRISTMAS!

7 Unitarian Universalist PRINCIPLES

1. The inherent WORTH and DIGNITY of every being
2. JUSTICE, EQUITY, and COMPASSION in all relations
3. ACCEPTANCE of one another and encouragement of SPIRITUAL GROWTH
4. A free and responsible search for TRUTH and MEANING
5. The right of CONSCIENCE and the use of the DEMOCRATIC process
6. The goal of world community with PEACE, LIBERTY, and JUSTICE for all
7. RESPECT for the INTERDEPENDENT WEB of which we are a part

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 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

I'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!