

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, AUGUST 28TH, 2022

PRELUDE

Together We Will Live Forever *Clint Mansell* (b. 1963)
from *The Fountain*

Gnossienne No. 3 *Erik Satie* (1866 – 1925)

New Day *Philip Wesley*

Cheng Cheng, piano

WELCOME Melissa Dlugolecki

CHALICE LIGHTING

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

GREETINGS Nikki DeRome, Worship Coordinator

***HYMN 123**

Spirit of Life *Carolyn McDade* (b. 1935)
translation in 1999: *Ervin Barrios* (b. 1954)

Hannah Shanefield, vocals

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me

Fuente de amor, ven hacia mí.
Y al corazón, cántale tu compasión.
Sopla al volar, sube en la mar;
Hasta moldear la justicia de la vida
Arráigame, libérame,
Fuente de amor, ven a mí, ven a mí

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.

*HYMN 1010

We Give Thanks *Rev. Wendy Luella Perkins (b. 1966)*
arrangement: *Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)*

Hannah Shanefield, vocals

Oh, we give thanks for this precious day
For all gathered here, and those far away
For this time we share with love and care
Oh, we give thanks for this precious day

SERMON

Permission To Grieve *Melissa Dlugolecki*

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

The Hardest Part of Love *Stephen Schwartz and John Caird*
from *Children of Eden* (1991)

Hannah Shanefield, vocals
Cheng Cheng, piano

Oh, this son of mine I love so well
And oh, the toll takes.
I would give to him a garden and keep it clear of snakes.
But the one thing he most treasures is to make his own mistakes, oh...
He goes charging up the cliffs of life, a reckless mountaineer.
I could help him not to stumble, I could warn him what to fear.
I could shout until I'm breathless, and he'd still refuse to hear, oh...
But you cannot close the acorn once the oak begins to grow,
And you cannot close your heart to what it fears and needs to know:
That the hardest part of love
Is the letting go...

As a child, I found a sparrow that had fallen from its nest,
And I nursed it back to health till it was stronger than the rest.
But when I tried to hold it then,
It pecked and scratched my chest, till I let it go...
And I watched it fly away from me with its bright and selfless song,
And part of me was cursing I had helped it grow so strong,
And I feared it might go hungry, and I feared it might go wrong, oh...
But I could not close the acorn once the oak began to grow,
And I cannot close my heart to what it fears and needs to know:
That the hardest part of love
Is the letting go...

And it's only in Eden grows a rose without a thorn.
And your children start to leave you on the day that they are born.
They will leave you there to cheer for them, they will leave you there to
mourn, ever so.
Like an ark on uncharted seas, their lives will be tossed.
And the deeper is your love for them, the crueler is the cost.
And just when they start to find themselves, is when you fear
they're lost, oh...
But you cannot close the acorn once the oak begins to grow,
And you cannot close your heart to what it fears and needs to know:
That the hardest part of love,
And the rarest part of love,
And the truest part of love
Is letting go.

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; 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!*



SUMMER SHARE THE PLATE

Generosity is a spiritual practice at Arlington Street Church. Because sharing our resources transforms both ourselves and our world, we share our Sunday offering with a partner in our mission of love, service, justice, and peace.

Since September, we have given generously to many causes about which we are passionate, including NEADS Service Dogs; Gay for Good, the Refugee & Immigrant Assistance Center and The Memory Project (support for refugee families arriving from Afghanistan); and World Central Kitchen (feeding Ukrainian refugees). During the Summer months, our Share the Plate offerings are saved to use for future local emergencies and to help in rescue and rebuilding efforts following natural (and unnatural) disasters around the world. In 2017, we were able to make a significant gift in the wake of a 10-alarm fire in East Cambridge that displaced over 100 residents just weeks before Christmas. This past September, we supported Louisiana's Lowlander Center's Hurricane Ida relief, doubling our impact with gifts from the summer Share the Plate. *Thank you for your generosity!*

OFFERTORY

Ave verum corpus, K.618 *Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart* (1756 – 1791)
transcription: *Franz Liszt* (1811 – 1886)

Cheng Cheng, piano

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

***HYMN 128**

For All that is Our Life lyrics: *Bruce Findlow* (1922 – 1994)
music: *Patrick L. Rickey* (b. 1964)

Hannah Shanefield, vocals

For all that is our life
We sing our thanks and praise;
For all life is a gift which we are called to use
To build the common good
And make our own days glad.

For needs which others serve,
For services we give,
For work and its rewards,
For hours of rest and love;
We come with praise and thanks
For all that is our life.

For sorrow we must bear,
For failures, pain, and loss,
For each new thing we learn,
For fearful hours that pass;
We come with praise and thanks
For all that is our life.

For all that is our life
We sing our thanks and praise;
For all life is a gift which we are called to use
To build the common good
And make our own days glad.

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)

Hannah Shanefield, vocals
Cheng Cheng, piano

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

What a Wonderful World *George David Weiss* (1921 – 2010)
and *Bob Thiele* (1922 – 1996)

Cheng Cheng, piano

