

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 25th, 2011 Merry Christmas!

Prelude

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming *Michael Praetorius* (1571-1621) Mark David Buckles, piano

CHALICE LIGHTING

WELCOME, PARISH HIGHLIGHTS, AND GREETINGS

*CAROL 236

O, Thou Joyful Day

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."

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.

*CAROL 241

In the Bleak Mid-Winter

A CHRISTMAS CAROL

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.

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

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

Prelude on *Joy to the World* *Raymond Haan* (b. 1938) Rodger Clinton Vine, organ

*CAROL

Joy to the World!

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

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

He rules the world with truth and grace, and make the nations prove The glories of his righteousness, and wonders of his love...

***Benediction and extinguishing the chalice**

Postlude

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

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE. THANK YOU!

Service *is* Our Gift

Arthur Judge, Worship Coordinator Nancy Perna and Dave Erbe, Assistant Treasurers Charles Dimino, Candles Coordinator Queen Cheryl, Lead Greeter Dave Erbe, Lead Usher