

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 30TH, 2018

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

Selections from Kinderszenen Op. 15

Robert Schumann (1810 - 1856)

Daniel Rosensweig, piano

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND GREETINGS

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

INTROIT

Look to the Rainbow text: *E.Y. Harburg (1896 - 1881)*

from *Finian's Rainbow* music: *Burton Lane (1912 - 1997)*

Jennifer Soloway, soprano

***HYMN 347**

Gather the Spirit

1 Gather the spirit, harvest the power. Our sep'rate fires will kindle one flame. Witness the mystery of this hour. Our trials in this light appear all the same.

(Chorus) Gather in peace, gather in thanks. Gather in sympathy now and then. Gather in hope, compassion and strength. Gather to celebrate once again.

2 Gather the spirit of heart and mind. Seeds for the sowing are laid in store. Nurtured in love, and conscience refined, with body and spirit united once more. (Chorus)

3 Gather the spirit growing in all, drawn by the moon and fed by the sun. Winter to spring, and summer to fall, the chorus of life resounding as one. (Chorus)

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

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.

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

***HYMN 21**

For the Beauty of the Earth

1 For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies, for the love which from our birth over and around us lies:

(Chorus) Source of all, to thee we raise this, our hymn of grateful praise.

2 For the joy of ear and eye, for the heart and mind's delight, for the mystic harmony linking sense to sound and sight: (Chorus)

3 For the wonder of each hour of the day and of the night, hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light: (Chorus)

4 For the joy of human care, sister, brother, parent, child, for the kinship we all share, for all gentle thoughts and mild: (Chorus)

SERMON

Eleven Words Rev. Vera O'Brien, Affiliated Community Minister

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

CANTICLE

Brave *Sara Bareilles* (b. 1979) and *Jack Antonoff* (b. 1984)
Jennifer Soloway, soprano

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

During the offertory, you are invited to open your heart and engage in the spiritual practice of generosity. For 289 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

Prelude Op. 28, No. 15 *Frédéric Chopin* (1810 - 1849)
Daniel Rosensweig, piano

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

***HYMN 6**

Just as Long as I Have Breath

1 Just as long as I have breath, I must answer, "Yes," to life; though with pain I made my way, still with hope I meet each day. If they ask what I did well, tell them I said, "Yes," to life.

2 Just as long as vision lasts, I must answer, "Yes," to truth; in my dream and in my dark, always that elusive spark. If they ask what I did well, tell them I said, "Yes," to truth.

3 Just as long as my heart beats, I must answer, "Yes," to love; disappointment pierced me through, still I kept on loving you. If they ask what I did best, tell them I said, "Yes," to love.

***BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

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

Where You Go (I Will Go) *Shoshana Jedwab* (b. 1964)
choral arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

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
'Cause your people are my people
Your people are mine
Your people are my people
Your divine, my divine

POSTLUDE

Prelude Op. 28, No. 4 *Frédéric Chopin* (1810 - 1849)
Daniel Rosensweig, piano

Today in Family Ministry

Thank you for coming this morning! There is no formal Family Ministry programming today.

If you have arrived with a baby or small child who becomes restless, you are welcome to enjoy our nursery/playroom. Go through the leather door to the right of the pulpit and cross through the chapel. The nursery will be on your left before the stairs. The service is piped in for your listening pleasure!

In the Pulpit Today

Rev. Vera O'Brien is currently an interfaith chaplain at HopeHealth and serves patients at the McCarthy Care Center in Sandwich and on Martha's Vineyard.

She was ordained at Arlington Street Church in 2007 while serving as our LifespAn Religious Educator.

Share the Plate: Friday Night Supper Program

The Friday Night Supper Program was established here at Arlington Street in 1984. Since then, every Friday night, they have provided nutritious, home-cooked meals to Boston's hungry and unhoused people.

Through the end of the year, our Share the Plate offering will be given to the Friday Night Supper Program. They will be serving a festive holiday meal and distributing warm clothing and goodies to their guests, and will continue to provide hot meals and outerwear throughout the winter. *Thank you for your generosity!*