Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8TH, 2013

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND CHALICE LIGHTING

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH ~ ADVENT 2

Peace Catie Scudera

On the four Sundays before Christmas, we light a candle on the Advent wreath in recognition of the eternal cycle of the seasons, and in honor of the birth of prophets old and new.

*HYMN 235

Deck the Hall with Boughs of Holly

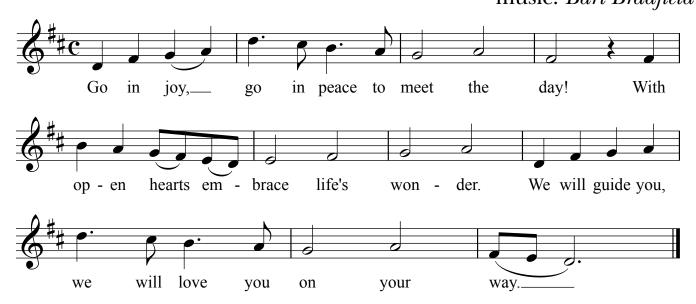
GREETINGS

Introit

We believe in a free and responsible search for truth and meaning. Amen.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children's Benediction text: Barbara Pescan music: Bart Bradfield



At this time, all children are welcome to join the Children's Religious Education program!

New Member Joining Ceremony

Responsive Reading 468, "We Need One Another"

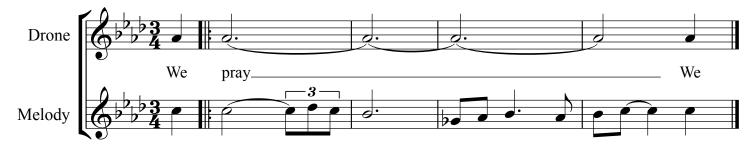
COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

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."

Some of us pray with words, some of us pray through action, and some of us use words other than prayer to describe our connection to the divine and to one another. As you feel called, please join us in singing the chorus of *Healing Prayer*.

Healing Prayer music: Nick Page (b. 1952) text: African American Spiritual "Balm in Gilead" and Nick Page Glorivy Arroyo, mezzo soprano; Julie Gregorio, soprano



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

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

To speak our truths in love, Hablar nuestras verdades con amor, And to help one another. Y ayudarnos los unos a los otros.

*HYMN 225

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

SERMON

Fruitcake Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

The Lamb text: William Blake (1757-1827)

music: John Tavener (1944-2013)

Little Lamb who made thee
Dost thou know who made thee
Gave thee life & bid thee feed.
By the stream & o'er the mead;
Gave thee clothing of delight,
Softest clothing wooly bright;
Gave thee such a tender voice,
Making all the vales rejoice!
Little Lamb who made thee
Dost thou know who made thee
Little Lamb I'll tell thee,

Little Lamb I'll tell thee!

He is called by thy name,
For he calls himself a Lamb:
He is meek & he is mild,
He became a little child:
I a child & thou a lamb,
We are called by his name.
Little Lamb God bless thee.
Little Lamb God bless thee.

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

Die Armen will der Herr umarmen, from *Cantata BWV 186 for Advent* text: *Salomo Franck* (1659-1725); music: *J.S. Bach* (1685-1750) Julie Gregorio, soprano; Nick Place, piano

Die Armen will der Herr umarmen Mit Gnaden hier und dort! Er schenket ihnen aus Erbarmen Den höchsten Schatz, des Lebens Wort! The Lord will embrace the poor with mercy everywhere;
He sends them, out of compassion, the highest treasure, the Word of Life.

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

*HYMN 226

People, Look East

*BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

*CHORAL BENEDICTION (sung twice; please join in!)
When You Walk From Here text: Linnea Good

music: Tom Witt, arr. Buckles

When you walk from here, When you walk from here, Walk with justice, Walk with mercy, And with God's humble care.

POSTLUDE

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

Today in Children's Religious Education (CRE)

Today we are meeting in our age-based groups.

- Kindergarten-2nd graders and Sandy are reading *Fanny in the Kitchen*.
- 2nd-5th graders and Carol are continuing to learn about Islam by reading *Sitti's Secrets*.
- 5th-8th graders and Hillary are exploring the seven principles of Unitarian Universalism.

If you are interested in getting involved with CRE, please email Erica at elong@ascboston.org.

Note: Next week we will be putting together our annual Mitten Tree. Please bring new or gently used mittens, scarves, and hats to be hung on the Mitten Tree and presented as gifts to the guests of the Friday Night Supper.