

ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Boston, Massachusetts

https://zoom.us/j/8958866876 (video)

or (929) 436-2866 (phone) [Meeting ID: 895 886 6876]

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Rev. Erica Rose Long, Community Minister

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

INTROIT

Filled with Loving Kindness music: *Ian W. Riddell* (b. 1961) arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

text: *Traditional Buddhist Meditation* adaptation: *Mark W. Hayes* (b. 1953)

Hannah Shanefield (she/her), soprano Bek Zehr (they/them), mezzo soprano

May I be filled with loving kindness. May I be well.

May you be filled with loving kindness. May you be well.

May you be peaceful, and at ease. May you be whole.

May we be filled with loving kindness. May we be well.

May we be filled with loving kindness. May we be well.

May we be peaceful, and at ease. May we be whole.

GREETINGS Darrell Waters, Worship Coordinator

*HYMN 38

Morning Has Broken.....text: Eleanor Farjeon (1881–1965)

music: Gaelic Melody

harmonization: Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)

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

Morning has broken like the first morning Blackbird has spoken like the first bird Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the word!

Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven Like the first dewfall on the first grass Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden Sprung in completeness where G*d's feet pass

Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning Born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning G*d's recreation of the new day!

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

Sanctuary John W. Thompson (b. 1950) & Randy Scruggs (1953–2018) adaptation: Crawford Harvie/Buckles arrangement: Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)

Open my heart to be a sanctuary With thanksgiving, I'll be a living All made holy, loved, and true Sanctuary for you

To have your candle of sorrow or joy read during the service, please submit it in advance at ASCBoston.org.

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 out 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 1028

The Fire of Commitment...... text: Rev. Mary Katherine Morn (b. 1961) music: Rev. Jason Shelton (b. 1972)

From the light of days remembered burns a beacon bright and clear Guiding hands and hearts and spirits into faith set free from fear

Chorus

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul ablaze When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin

From the stories of our living rings a song both brave and free Calling pilgrims still to witness to the life of liberty

Chorus

From the dreams of youthful vision comes a new, prophetic voice Which demands a deeper justice built by our courageous choice

Chorus

SERMON

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

Still Rising text: Rev. Gretchen Haley (b. 1975), adapted music: Rev. Jason Shelton (b. 1972)

When you've reached the end But the fire still is raging And the way is so unclear Oh, love There's a sweet release In the risk of possibility Oh, still rising

When your patience fails
And the winds of change
are howling
And the way is so unclear
Oh, love

Giving thanks and praise For surprise and possibility Oh, still rising Oh, still rising Still rising high like the butterfly That opens with the kiss of the sun Still rising high like the phoenix cry At the promise of a new day begun

Still rising high as we wave goodbye
To the fear that blocks our
living as one
Still rising high as we testify
To the beauty found in everyone

Still rising Oh, still rising

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Friends, these are extraordinary times that call for extraordinary generosity. Since 1729, the support of our community has allowed Arlington Street to thrive as a beacon of love, service, justice, and peace. This congregation is entirely self-supporting. In addition, we share each Sunday's collection with a partner in our vital mission. It's up to us to finance the beloved spiritual community we want to create! Today, we invite you to be part of Arlington Street's story of devotion, innovation, and transformational generosity. Please consider making a special gift to this morning's offering.

WAYS TO GIVE



- 1. Scan the QR code
- 2. Visit tinyurl.com/GiveASC
- 3. Search @ArlingtonStreet on Venmo (Charities)
- 4. Text the word "GIVE" to (617) 300-0509
- 5. Mail a check to Arlington Street Church

If you're ready to give regularly, you can set up automatic payments at <u>tinyurl.com/GiveASC</u> or by contacting Liz Teixeira at

Treasurer@ASCBoston.org. Rev. Kim, Rev. Beth, and many of our most devoted members and friends pledge 5-10% of their income each year. In addition, we encourage you to provide now for a future gift to Arlington Street by remembering the church in your will. Thank you for helping to ensure a robust future for our beloved spiritual community!

Whatever you give is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity!

FEBRUARY SHARE THE PLATE: RENEWAL HOUSE

Founded in 1980, Renewal House provides temporary emergency shelter and advocacy services to individuals and families escaping domestic violence. Renewal House was one of the first domestic violence shelters in the state to provide shelter for male as well as female survivors, and is sought out by other agencies for its expertise in attending to the spiritual needs of survivors. Renewal House works closely with other programs that serve queer communities, as well as those that serve elders and individuals with disabilities, to support these under-served populations.

Among its many programs, Renewal House offers a 24-hour hotline, bilingual Spanish and English advocacy, support groups and pastoral counseling, English as a second language (ESL) classes and job training, and community outreach education.

To make your gift, please visit <u>www.tinyurl.com/GiveASC</u>; scan the QR code above; or text the amount you want to give and the word **SHARE** (ex. \$50 SHARE) to (617) 300-0509. *Thank you for your generosity!*

OFFERTORY

You can be amazing
You can turn a phrase into a weapon or a drug
You can be the outcast
Or be the backlash of somebody's lack of love
Or you can start speaking up
Nothing's gonna hurt you the way that words do
When they settle 'neath your skin
Kept on the inside and no sunlight
Sometimes a shadow wins
But I wonder what would happen if you

Chorus

Say what you wanna say
And let the words fall out
Honestly I wanna see you be brave
With what you want to say
And let the words fall out
Honestly I wanna see you be brave
Everybody's been there

Everybody's been stared down by the enemy Fallen for the fear and done some disappearing Bow down to the mighty But don't run, stop holding your tongue Maybe there's a way out of the cage where you live Maybe one of these days you can let the light in Show me how big your brave is!

Chorus

And since your history of silence
Won't do you any good
Did you think it would?
Let your words be anything but empty
Why don't you tell them the truth?

Chorus

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

*HYMN

Life Calls Us On text: *Rev. Kendyl Gibbons* (b. 1955) music: *Rev. Jason Shelton* (b. 1972)

Here in reverence now we gather For the blessings we have known, With a pledge to one another That we journey not alone. Joy and sorrow make us wise, Kin to all that lives and dies; Love calls us on, love calls us on.

Words and deeds of those before us Waken here to keep us strong; Blend our voices in the chorus Of creation's living song. Courage bids us lift our eyes Upward to the shining skies; Hope calls us on, hope calls on.

Loyal guides in love and duty
Lead us with a trusted light;
Blest are they whose inward beauty
Shows the path of truth and right.
Honor is their earthly prize;
By their work we realize,
Faith calls us on, faith calls us on.

We have shared a radiant hour When the truth has made us free, And the spirit's gracious power Dreamed of good that yet shall be. Bright the path before us lies Joyful pilgrims now we rise; Life calls us on! Life calls us on!

BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

RECESSIONAL

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



* Out of respect for Arlington Street Church members and friends who are Jewish, we follow the tradition of not spelling out G*d's name.

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