

# Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup>, 2018

*You are invited to share your sorrows and joys with the congregation by filling out a Candles Card in the back pew on the right-hand side of the sanctuary. Candles Cards are collected until the end of greetings.*

## PRELUDE

The Robin's Nest ..... *Paddy Fahey* (b. 1926)  
The Frost is All Over ..... *Traditional Irish Tune*  
The First Day in Spring ..... *Tommy Peoples* (b. 1948)  
Spring is Come ..... *Gian Marco Pietrasanta*  
Julie Metcalf, fiddle  
Mark David Buckles, guitar

## WELCOME AND CHALICE LIGHTING

*The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.*

## INTROIT

Follow the Heron ..... *Karine Polwart* (b. 1970)  
Julie Metcalf, violin and voice  
Mark David Buckles, piano and voice  
  
The back of the winter is broken  
And light lingers long by the door  
The seeds of the summer have spoken  
In gowans that bloom on the shore  
*By night and day we'll sport and we'll play  
And delight as the dawn dances over the bay  
Sleep blows the breath of the morning away  
And we follow the heron home*  
  
In darkness we cradled our sorrow  
And stoked all our fires with fear  
These bones that lie empty and hollow  
Are ready for gladness to cheer  
  
Long may you sing of the salmon  
And the snow-scented sound of your home  
While the north wind delivers its sermon  
Of ice and salt water and stone

## GREETINGS

### \*HYMN 330

The Arching Sky of Morning Glows

1 The arching sky of morning glows like frescoes high in vaulted rows.  
The ragged hills of greening spring like chorus masters bid us sing.  
2 The colors of our contoured land no artist born could hue as grand,  
but contours of the human heart sole groundings are for every art!  
3 Whenever sounds the sacred sigh beneath this gable of the sky, the  
forms of art and spirit blend, by craft and morn our hearts transcend.

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

## CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Longtime Sun ..... *Mike Heron* (b. 1942)  
from *A Very Cellular Song* .... arranged: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

May the long - time\_ sun shine up - on\_ you,  
All\_\_\_\_\_ love sur - round you, And the pure\_\_\_\_\_  
light with - in\_ you guide\_\_\_\_\_ your way  
on, guide\_\_\_\_\_ your way on.

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

## 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.
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## \*HYMN 77

Seek Not Afar for Beauty

*to the tune of Hymn 164 The Peace Not Past Our Understanding*

1 Seek not afar for beauty; lo, it glows in dew-wet grasses all  
about your feet, in birds, in sunshine, childish faces sweet, in  
stars and mountain summits topped with snows.

2 Go not abroad for happiness; behold it is a flower blooming at  
your door. Bring love and laughter home, and evermore joy shall  
be yours as changing years unfold.

3 In wonder-workings or some bush aflame, we look for Truth  
and fancy it concealed; but in earth's common things it stands  
revealed, while grass and flowers and stars spell out the name.

## SERMON

Embracing Extravagance

Beth Robbins, Interim Director of Family Ministry

## SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

## ANTHEM

Scare Away the Dark ..... *Michael David Rosenberg* (b. 1984)

## 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

Vals til Mor og Far ..... *Rune Barlund* (b. 1988)

## PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

### \*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)

### \*BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

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

When You Walk From Here ..... text: *Linnea Good*  
music: *Tom Witt*, arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

*When you walk from here, When you walk from here,  
Walk with justice, Walk with mercy, walk humbly in God's care.*

## POSTLUDE

Here Comes the Sun ..... *George Harrison* (1943 - 2001)  
Mark David Buckles, piano

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## Today in Children's Religious Education (CRE)

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Children and youth are invited to join Erica in the Perkins Room to share joys and concerns and explore the extravagance and beauty we find in our world.

Allie and Lena are available in the nursery to care for babies and small children. To find the nursery, go through the leather door to the right of the pulpit and cross through the chapel. The nursery is on your left before the stairs.

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## **March Share the Plate: Rise Against Hunger**

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For the fifth year in a row, we are teaming up with Rise Against Hunger to advance their powerful mission of eradicating world hunger by 2030!

On the afternoon of April 8th, we are transforming the Parish Hall into an all-ages assembly line. In just a few hours, we will package rice, soy, dehydrated vegetables, and vitamins into an astonishing 20,088 meals. To be successful, this event requires our participation in packing the meals as well as a significant financial investment. Please give generously to ensure that we can meet our goal of sending love and nourishment to some of the world's most vulnerable people.

*Thank you for your generosity!*