

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

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

or (929) 436-2866 (phone)

[Meeting ID is 895 886 6876]

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18TH, 2022

LESSONS & CAROLS

ADVENT IV. LOVE

PRELUDE

Still, Still, Still *Austrian Christmas Carol*
arrangement: *John Schmidt* (b. 1966)
Blessing on the Christmas Time *Hyunchul Kim* (b. 1969)
Hyunju Jung, piano
Selection of Christmas Favorites
Zoe Arcuri, cello

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Senior Minister

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

INTROIT

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing text: *Rev. Charles Wesley* (1707 – 1788)
adaptation: *Rev. George Whitefield* (1714 – 1770)
music: *Felix Mendelssohn* (1809 – 1847)
arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

Hark! The herald angels sing,
“Glory to the new-born king
Peace on earth and mercy mild
G*d and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful all ye nations rise
Join the triumph of the skies
With angelic host proclaim
“Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! The herald angels sing
“Glory to the new-born king!”

GREETINGS Rev. Beth Robbins, Executive Minister

KINDLING THE ADVENT WREATH ~ ADVENT IV. Love

Rev. Fred Small, Community Minister for Environmental Justice

I Will Light Candles this Christmas *Rev. Howard Thurman* (1899 – 1981)

I will light candles this Christmas,
Candles of joy despite all the sadness,
Candles of hope where despair keeps watch,
Candles of courage for fears ever present,

Candles of peace for tempest-tossed days,
Candles of grace to ease heavy burdens,
Candles of love to inspire all my living,
Candles that will burn all year long.

SONG

Light These Lights (Hear My Prayer) *Debbie Friedman* (1951 – 2011)
arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

Hannah Shanefield, vocals
Mark David Buckles, guitar and vocals

Oh hear my prayer
I sing to you
Be gracious to the ones I love
And bless them with goodness, and mercy and peace
Oh hear my prayer to you

Let us light these lights
And see the way to you
And let us say: Amen

LESSON *Rev. Dr. Kelly Murphy Mason*
Community Minister for Spiritual Direction

What Happened Where

*HYMN 223

Rock of Ages music: *German Synagogue Melody*
arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)
translation: *Marcus Jastrow* (1829 – 1903) & *Gustav Gottheil* (1827 – 1903), alt.

Maoz tzur y'shuati l'cha naeh l'shabeach
Tikon beit t'filati v'sham todah n'zabeach
L'eit takhin matbeach mitzar hamnabeach
Az egmor b'shir mizmor chanukat hamizbeach

Rock of Ages, let our song praise your saving power
You amidst the raging foes were our sheltering tower
Raging they assailed us, but your arm availed us
And your word broke their sword when our own strength failed us

Kindling new the holy lamps, priests, unbowed by suffering
Purified the nation's shrine, brought to G*d their offering
And in lands surrounding hear the joy abounding
Happy throngs singing songs with a mighty sounding

Children of the prophet's word whether free or fettered
Wake the echoes of the songs where you may be scattered
Yours the message cheering that the time is nearing
Which shall see nations free, tyrants disappearing

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

To have your candle of sorrow or joy read during the service, please submit it in advance [here](#). 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 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.

*CAROL 231

Angels We Have Heard on High text: *James Chadwick (1813 – 1882)*
tune: *French Carol (1855)*
arrangement: *Edward Shippen Barnes (1887 – 1958) &*
Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?
What glad tidings did you hear?

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See him in a manger laid
Whom the angels praise above
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid
While we raise our hearts in love

Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

LESSON Rev. Beth Robbins, Executive Minister
Light in the Darkness

LESSON Jess Acosta, Congregational Administrator
John 1:1-5 *Inclusive Bible Translation*

***CAROL 244**

It Came Upon the Midnight Clear text: *Rev. Edmund Sears* (1810 – 1876)
music: *Richard Storrs Willis* (1819 – 1900)

It came upon the midnight clear,
That glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth,
To touch their harps of gold:
“Peace on the earth, to all goodwill,
From heaven’s all-gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay,
To hear the angels sing.

Still through the cloven skies they come,
With peaceful wings unfurled,
And still their heavenly music floats
O’er all the weary world;
Above its sad and lowly plains,
They bend on hovering wing,
And ever o’er its Babel sounds
The blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of war and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel-strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;
And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring;
O hush the noise, all ye of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

For lo! the days are hastening on,
By prophet bards foretold,
When with the ever-circling years
Comes round the age of gold
When peace shall over all the earth
Its ancient splendors fling,
And the whole world give back the song
Which now the angels sing.

LESSON Rev. Ali Jablonsky, Chaplain, Tufts Medical Center
A Wish for Wings that Work *Berkeley Breathed* (b. 1957)

LESSON Rev. John Gibbons, Community Minister for Good Trouble
Lucky

***CAROL 243**

The Friendly Beasts text: *Robert Davis* (1881 – 1950)
("Jesus, Our Brother") music: *12th Century French Carol*

Jesus, our, brother, kind and good
Was humbly born in a stable rude
And the friendly beasts around him stood
Jesus, our brother, kind and good

"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown
"I carried his mother uphill and down
I carried her safely to Bethlehem town
I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown

"I," said the cow, all white and red
"I gave him my manger for his bed
I gave him hay to pillow his head
I," said the cow, all white and red

"I," said the sheep with curly horn
"I gave him my wool for his blanket warm
He wore my coat on Christmas morn
I," said the sheep with curly horn

"I," said the dove, from the rafters high
"I cooed him to sleep that he should not cry
We cooed him to sleep, my mate and I
I," said the dove, from the rafters high

And all the beasts, by some good spell
In the stable dark were glad to tell
Of the gifts they gave Emmanuel
The gifts they gave Emmanuel

LESSON Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie &
Rev. Erica Rose Long, Chaplain, Massachusetts General Hospital
A Child's Christmas in Wales *Dylan Thomas* (1914 – 1953)

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

All Hayle to the Days text: *Thomas D'Urfey* (1653 – 1723) & others
music: *Traditional English Carol*
arrangement: *Elizabeth Norton* (b. 1959)

All hayle to the days
That merite more praise
Then all the rest of the year;
And welcome the nights,
That double delights
As well for the poor as the peer:
Good fortune attend
Each merry man's friend
That doth but the best that he may,

Forgetting old wrongs
With Carrols and Songs
To drive the cold winter away.

Thus none will allow
Of solitude now,
But merrily greets the time,
To make it appeare
Of all the whole yeare
That this is accounted the Prime,
December is seene
Apparel'd in greene
And January, fresh as May,
Comes dancing along
With a cup or a Song
To drive the cold winter away.

This time of the yeare
Is spent in good cheare,
Kind neighbours together to meet
To sit by the fire,
With friendly desire
Each other in love to greet:
Old grudges forgot
Are put in a pot,
All sorrows aside they lay;
The old and the young
Doth carrol this Song,
To drive the cold winter away.

When Christmas tide
Comes in like a Bride,
With Holly and Ivy clad,
Twelve dayes in the yeare
Much mirth and good cheare
In every household is had:
The Countrey guise
Is then to devise
Some gambols of Christmas play;
Whereas the yong men do
Best that they can to
Drive the cold winter away!

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

These are extraordinary times that call for extraordinary generosity. At the top of the pandemic, we shut down the sanctuary and committed to continue to pay our staff ... with no idea when we might reopen. Without missing a beat, our Tech Team pivoted to a virtual format — and so did we all. As the virus raged, we nourished a dream of the day when we might once again reopen the Great Doors and made wildly expensive upgrades to our sound system, purchased technology to support a hybrid service format, and readily agreed to make it available to the community partners who share our mission and this beautiful space. And all the while, Arlington Street members and friends have given with open, grateful hands.

Today, we invite you to be part of Arlington Street's pandemic story — a story of devotion, innovation, and transformational generosity. To make your gift, please scan the QR code; visit www.tinyurl.com/GiveASC; or text the word GIVE to (617) 300-0509. If you're ready to give regularly, Liz Teixeira (treasurer@ascboston.org) would be delighted to assist you with setting up automatic payments. We are so grateful! *Thank you!*



DECEMBER'S SHARE THE PLATE: EVERYTOWN FOR GUN SAFETY

Everytown For Gun Safety (Everytown.org) is the largest gun violence prevention organization in the United States. A coalition comprising Mayors Against Illegal Guns, Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America, and survivors of gun violence, Everytown advocates for increased penalties for gun trafficking, education on responsible gun ownership, and closing legislative loopholes that allow gun sales without background checks. In addition, they lobby for gun control legislation on state and federal levels and provide support services to survivors of gun violence.

To make your gift, please scan the QR code above; visit www.tinyurl.com/GiveASC; 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

Winter Song *Sara Bareilles* (b. 1979) & *Ingrid Michaelson* (b. 1979)

Mark David Buckles, piano and vocals
Julie Metcalf, violin and vocals

This is my winter song to you
The storm is coming soon
It rolls in from the sea
My voice: a beacon in the night
My words will be your light
To carry you to me

Is love alive?
Is love alive?
Is love alive?

They say that things just cannot grow
Beneath the winter snow
Or so I have been told
They say we're buried far
Just like a distant star
I simply cannot hold

Is love alive?
Is love alive?
Is love alive?

This is my winter song
December never felt so wrong
'Cause you're not where you belong
Inside my arms

I still believe in summer days
The seasons always change
And life will find a way
I'll be your harvester of light
And send it out tonight
So we can start again

Is love alive?
Is love alive?
Is love alive?

This is my winter song
December never felt so wrong
Because you're not where you belong
Inside my arms

This is my winter song to you
The storm is coming soon
It rolls in from the sea
My love: a beacon in the night
My words will be your light
To carry you to me

Is love alive? Is love alive?
Is love alive? Is love alive?
Love is alive, love is alive...
Love is alive, love is alive...

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

*HYMN 239

Go Tell It on the Mountain *African American Spiritual*
arrangement: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

Mark David Buckles, guitar and vocals
Julie Metcalf, violin

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our savior's birth

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born
And G*d sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

For our benediction, you are invited to put your hands over your heart in Namaste
I bow to the Divine in You.

RECESSIONAL

We Wish You a Merry Christmas *Traditional 16th Century English Carol*

We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring to wherever you are.
Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year!

POSTLUDE

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas *Meredith Willson (1902 – 1984)*
arrangement: *Mark Hayes (b. 1953)*

Hyunju Jung, piano

** 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*



Flowers on the High Pulpit

Would you like to make a gift of flowers for the entire congregation to enjoy on a Sunday morning? You can make your dedication in memory, in honor, or in celebration of someone or something you love. You can have flowers delivered, bring your own (a minimum of two dozen flowers is perfect for our huge space), or a member of the staff will purchase them (~\$50). Please email our congregational administrator, Jess (JAcosta@ASCBoston.org), to claim your date! *Thank you!*