# 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, July  $24^{TH}$ , 2022

### **PRELUDE**

We laugh, we cry, we live, we die; we dance, we sing our song We need to feel there's something here to which we can belong We need to feel the freedom just to have some time alone But most of all we need close friends we can call our very own

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love And we have found a need to be together We have our hearts to give, we have our thoughts to receive And we believe that sharing is an answer

A child is born among us and we feel a special glow We see time's endless journey as we watch the baby grow We thrill to hear imagination freely running wild We dedicate our minds and heart to the spirit of this child

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love And we have found a time to be together And with the grace of age, we share the wonder of youth And we believe that growing is an answer

Our lives are full of wonder and our time is very brief The death of one among us fills us all with pain and grief But as we live, so shall we die, and when our lives are done The memories we shared with friends, they will linger on and on And we believe in life, and in the strength of love And we have found a place to be together We have the right to grow, we have the gift to believe That peace within our living is an answer

We seek elusive answers to the questions of this life We seek to put an end to all the waste of human strife We search for truth, equality, and blessed peace of mind And then, we come together here, to make sense of what we find

And we believe in life, and in the strength of love And we have found a joy being together And in our search for peace, maybe we'll finally see Even to question, truly is an answer

## **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 <u>here</u>. During the service, candles are welcome in the Zoom chat.

## AFFIRMATION AND COVENANT

Love is the spirit El amor es el espíritu de nuestra congregación And service is our gift. Yel servicio es nuestro regalo.

This is our great covenant: Esto es a lo que nos comprometemos:

To dwell together in peace, Convivir en paz,

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

## \*Hymn 298

Eve Lauria, soprano

Wake, now, my senses, and hear the earth call; feel the deep power of being in all; keep, with the web of creation your vow, giving, receiving as love shows us how.

Wake, now, my reason, reach out to the new; join with each pilgrim who quests for the true; honor the beauty and wisdom of time; suffer thy limit, and praise the sublime.

Wake, now, compassion, give heed to the cry; voices of suffering fill the wide sky; take as your neighbor both stranger and friend, praying and striving their hardship to end.

Wake, now, my conscience, with justice thy guide; join with all people whose rights are denied; take not for granted a privileged place; G\*d's love embraces the whole human race.

Wake, now, my vision of ministry clear; brighten my pathway with radiance here; mingle my calling with all who will share; work toward a planet transformed by our care.

#### **SERMON**

Following George (Being Curious) ...... Rev. Ali Jablonsky

## SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

#### ANTHEM

The Rainbow Connection

Paul Williams (b. 1964) and Kenneth L. Ascher (b. 1944)

Eve Lauria, soprano

Why are there so many songs about rainbows,

And what's on the other side?

Rainbows are visions, but only illusions

And rainbows have nothing to hide.

So we've been told and some choose to believe it.

But I know they're wrong; wait and see.

Someday we'll find it, the Rainbow Connection;

The lovers, the dreamers, and me.

Who said that every wish would be heard and answered

When wished on the morning star?

Somebody thought of that, and someone believed it;

Look what it's done so far

What's so amazing that keeps us stargazing,

And what do we think we might see?

Someday we'll find it, the Rainbow Connection;

The lovers, the dreamers, and me.

All of us under its spell;

We know that it's probably magic.

Have you been half asleep and have you heard voices?

I've heard them calling my name.

Is this the sweet sound that calls the young sailors?

The voice might be one and the same.

I've heard it too many times to ignore it.

Its something that I'm supposed to be.

Someday we'll find it, the Rainbow Connection;

The lovers, the dreamers, and me.

#### 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 <a href="www.tinyurl.com/GiveASC">www.tinyurl.com/GiveASC</a>; or text the word GIVE to (617) 300-0509. If you're ready to give regularly, Liz Teixeira (<a href="treasurer@ascboston.org">treasurer@ascboston.org</a>) would be delighted to assist you with setting up automatic payments. We are so grateful! *Thank you!* 

### SUMMER SHARE THE PLATE

Generosity is a spiritual practice at Arlington Street Church. Because sharing our resources transforms both ourselves and our world, we share our Sunday offering with a partner in our mission of love, service, justice, and peace.

Since September, we have given generously to many causes about which we are passionate, including NEADS Service Dogs; Gay for Good, the Refugee & Immigrant Assistance Center and The Memory Project (support for refugee families arriving from Afghanistan); and World Central Kitchen (feeding Ukrainian refugees). During the Summer months, our Share the Plate offerings are saved to use for future local emergencies and to help in rescue and rebuilding efforts following natural (and unnatural) disasters around the world. In 2017, we were able to make a significant gift in the wake of a 10-alarm fire in East Cambridge that displaced over 100 residents just weeks before Christmas. This past September, we supported Louisiana's Lowlander Center's Hurricane Ida relief, doubling our impact with gifts from the summer Share the Plate. *Thank you for your generosity!* 

## OFFERTORY

Over the Rainbow .... *Harold Arlen* (1905 – 1986) and *E.Y. Harburg* (1896 – 1981)

Eve Lauria, soprano

Somewhere over the rainbow, way up high,
There's a land that I heard of once in a lullaby.
Somewhere over the rainbow skies are blue

And the dreams that you dare to dream really do come true.

Someday I'll wish upon a star
And wake up where the clouds are far behind me
Where troubles melt like lemon drops
Away above the chimney tops
That's where you'll find me

Somewhere over the rainbow bluebirds fly Birds fly over the rainbow; why then, oh, why can't I?

If happy little bluebirds fly Beyond the rainbow why, oh, why can't I?

### **PARISH HIGHLIGHTS**

# \*Hymn 131

Love Will Guide Us ...... text: Sally Rogers music: Traditional, arrangement: Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)

Eve Lauria, soprano

Love will guide us, peace has tried us Hope inside us will lead the way On the road from greed to giving Love will guide us through the hard night

If you cannot sing like angels
If you cannot speak before thousands
You can give from deep within you
You can change the world with your love

You are like no other being What you can give, no other can give To the future of our children To the future of the world where we live

Share the song and share the silence Share the shade and share the light With every friend, neighbor, stranger On our journey through this life

Hear the song of hope within you Heed the song of peace in your heart Spring's beginning shall lead to the harvest Love will guide us on our way

Love will guide us, peace has tried us Hope inside us will lead the way On the road from greed to giving Love will guide us through the hard night

#### 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

Eve Lauria, vocals; Cheng Cheng, piano

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.