

# ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Boston, Massachusetts

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

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

# SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 2024 INGATHERING SUNDAY

PRELUDE	
Méditation de Thaïs	Jules Massenet (1842–1912)
You Raise Me Up	
•	arrangement: Dan Coates
Hyunju Jung (she/her), piano	
WELCOME & GREETINGS Rev. 1	Beth Robbins (she/her), Executive Minister
INTROIT	
Here Together	
Hannah Shanefield (she/her), sopran	10
We are here, here together	
In this holy moment	
And we're grateful for the winding roa	d
That brought us to this place	
OPENING WORDS & CHALICE LIGHT	ΓING
	Rev. Parisa Parsa (she/her), Senior Minister
*HYMN 361	
Enter, Rejoice, and Come In	text and music: <i>Louise Ruspini</i> arrangement: <i>Mark David Buckles</i> (b. 1980)
Enter, rejoice, and come in	Open your ears to the song
Enter, rejoice, and come in	
Today will be a joyful day!	Don't be afraid of some change
Enter, rejoice, and come in!	<u> </u>
, ,	Enter, rejoice, and come in
Open your hearts, everyone	, .g,

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

# 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 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 at ASCBoston.org.

During the service, candles are welcome in the Zoom chat.

### **AFFIRMATION & 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,

Esto servicio es nuestro regalo.

Esta es a lo que nos comprometemos:

Convivir en paz,

Hablar nuestras verdades con amor,

Y ayudarnos los unos a los ostros.

#### \*HYMN 295

Sing Out Praises for the Journey ...... text: Rev. Mark M. DeWolfe (1953–1988) music: Henry Purcell (1659–1695)

Sing out praises for the journey, Pilgrims, we, who carry on, Searchers in the soul's deep yearnings, Like our forebears in their time. We seek out the spirit's wholeness In the endless human quest.

Look inside, your soul's the kindling Of the hearth fire pilgrims knew. Find the spirit, always restless, Find it in each mind and heart. Touch and hold that ancient yearning, Kindling for a newfound truth.

Stand we now upon the threshold, Facing futures yet unknown.
Hearth behind us, wayside hostel Built by those who knew wild roads. Guard we e'er their sacred embers Carried in our minds and hearts.

#### **READING**

#### **SERMON**

# SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, & PRAYER

#### **ANTHEM**

Achieved Is the Glorious Work, from Creation ...... Joseph Haydn (1732–1809)

~ in honor of Donald O. Rickter ~

#### **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. 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 <u>tinyurl.com/GiveASC</u>
- 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 <a href="mailto:tinyurl.com/GiveASC">tinyurl.com/GiveASC</a> or by contacting Liz Teixeira at Treasurer@ASCBoston.org. 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!

#### SEPTEMBER SHARE THE PLATE: MIRA COALITION



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.

This month's Share the Plate will go to the **Massachusetts Immigrant Refugee** and Advocacy Coalition. MIRA Coalition places immigrant and refugee voices at the forefront to advocate for the well-being of our communities.

To make your gift, please visit tinyurl.com/GiveASC; 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**

I feel the current raging around me
Try to summon up my strength
once more
I am weary on this journey
Afraid I will not reach that
distant shore

I cry for help, feel like I'm sinking
There is no one near me I can see
But there you are in the water
with me
You take my hand and guide
me graciously

#### Chorus

Will you come with me on this journey With every breath we take keep reaching for the dawn I know alone, I will falter With a good friend near me I will carry on

There is a kindness in your smile
And gentleness within your speech
You reassure me
your love surrounds me
And I know safety is at last within
my reach

#### Chorus

It's an illusion we carry with us
As we wade on through the waters
of our lives
That we must be strong and hold
our own here
But a helping hand will save us by
and by

#### Chorus

#### SHARING OUR INVITATIONS

#### \*HYMN 1014

The promise of the Spirit
Faith, hope and love abide
And so every soul is blessed
and made whole
The truth in our hearts is our guide

Sometimes we build a barrier
To keep love tightly bound
Corrupted by fear, unwilling to hear
Denying the beauty we've found

#### Chorus

We are answering the call of love
Hands joined together as
hearts beat as one
Emboldened by faith, we dare
to proclaim
We are answering the call of love

#### Chorus

A bright new day is dawning When love will not divide Reflections of grace in every embrace Fulfilling the vision divine

#### Chorus

We are answering the call of love

#### BENEDICTION & 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 the wishes of Native American activists, we are suspending our spoken land acknowledgement until we have established a relationship of accountability and repair with local indigenous groups. We continue to occupy the ancestral lands of the Massachusetts people.

## 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 or bring your own (a minimum of two dozen flowers is perfect for our huge space).

Please email office@ASCBoston.org to claim your date! *Thank you!* 

# Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist 351 Boylston Street Boston, Massachusetts 02116

(617) 536-7050 • office@ASCBoston.org • www.ASCBoston.org

# This Week at Arlington Street ~ You Are Invited!

#### **MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 9**

Happy birthday, Art Nava!

## 12:00 pm ~ Monday Mettā (Zoom)

Come for a half hour of Mettā sending lovingkindness to ourselves and to the world. No meditation experience necessary. Bring your open heart!

## 4:00 pm ~ Poems to Go On (Zoom)

Please come whether or not you think you like poetry! Feel free just to listen or bring a favorite poem. We'll have the opportunity to read aloud and share what these poems mean to us. All are welcome!

#### TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10

# 6:00 pm ~ Buddha's Belly ~ The Buddhist Book Discussion (Zoom)

Buddha's Belly gatherings are an opportunity to read books by contemporary teachers, explore questions about Buddhism, and ask your burning questions about meditation. We're reading Jack Kornfield's *A Path with Heart: A Guide Through the Perils and Promises of Spiritual Life.* For our gathering on September 10, please read Chapter 9, "The Spiritual Roller Coaster," ending at "Chakras" (page 126).

# 7:00 pm ~ Arlington Street Meditation Center (Zoom)

Our gathering includes seated meditation, a brief reading from Buddhist teachings, and conversation. Beginners and experienced meditators from all traditions (or none!) are warmly welcome.

#### WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11

5:00 pm ~ Tea with the Ministers (Zoom)

#### [please note new time!]

Make a cuppa, find a comfortable seat, and come take a civilized late afternoon break with Rev. Parisa, Rev. Beth, and one another. Our next discussion prompt is "Share a story about a time in your youth when you remember learning (directly or indirectly) how to prepare for guests." All are warmly welcome!

# WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11 (continued)

### 6:00 pm ~ Kundalini Yoga Class (Zoom)

Experience fun exercises and poses, breathing techniques, chanting, meditation, and deep relaxation in this unique class led by Jean Ko Stewart. Moving energy through your body brings positive change and growth. There is a \$10 charge that goes to the church. (This class is NOT in the Arlington Street Zoom room. Please email Office@ASCBoston.org for Zoom access.)

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12

## 5:00 pm ~ Arlington Street Writes! (Zoom)

Trisha Zembruski invites you to the spiritual practice of writing inspired by Zen meditation, based on Natalie Goldberg's *Writing Down the Bones*. No writing experience necessary – all you need is paper, pen, and willingness! (This meeting is NOT in the Arlington Street Zoom room. Join by video at tinyurl.com/ASCWrites or participate by phone by dialing (929) 205-6099. The meeting ID is 833 4627 6104.)

7:00 pm ~ Arlington Street Choir Rehearsal (Arlington Street Church - 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor) Experience the spiritual practice of communal singing! Musicians and non-musicians are welcome – we are a mix of professionals and amateurs and are always happy to welcome new members. Take a couple of hours out of your week to create something beautiful, make friends, and add more music to your life!

#### FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

7:00 pm ~ PJ Sin Suela Concert (CROMA@Arlington Street Church)
Join our friends at Ágora as they present PJ Sin Suela, the charismatic Puerto
Rican rapper, activist, and doctor on his U.S. tour. His new production is titled
"Toda temporada tiene su encanto" (Every Age Has Its Charm). PJ arrives in

"Toda temporada tiene su encanto" (Every Age Has Its Charm). PJ arrives in Boston with the energy and spectacular creativity that characterize his performances, presenting new songs and the hits that have propelled his artistic career. Learn more and purchase tickets at cromaspace.com.

#### THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 19

# 2:00 pm ~ UU Urban Ministry Volunteer Training (Virtual)

Learn more about the Urban Ministry and discover opportunities to contribute to their important work. For more information, please visit uuum.org.

To access gatherings in the Arlington Street Zoom room, visit tinyurl.com/ASCZoom or participate by phone by dialing (929) 436-2866. For either option, the meeting ID is 895 886 6876.