

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28TH, 2018

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

PRELUDE

Romance for Trees *Takashi Yoshimatsu* (b. 1953)

Hallelu *Stephen Paulus* (b. 1949)

I Know *Devonté Hynes* (b. 1985)

arrangement: *Daniel Padgett* (b. 1979)

Daniel Padgett, piano

WELCOME AND CHALICE LIGHTING

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

INTROIT

No Longer Forward nor Behind

text: *John Greenleaf Whittier* (1807 - 1892)

music: *English Folk Melody*

No longer forward nor behind I look in hope or fear;
But, grateful, take the good I find, the best of now and here.
I break my pilgrim staff, I lay aside the toiling oar;
The angel sought so far away I welcome at my door.

For all the jarring notes of life seem blending in a psalm,
And all the angles of its strife slow rounding into calm.
And so the shadows fall apart, and so the west winds play;
And all the windows of my heart I open to the day.

GREETINGS

***HYMN 57**

All Beautiful the March of Days

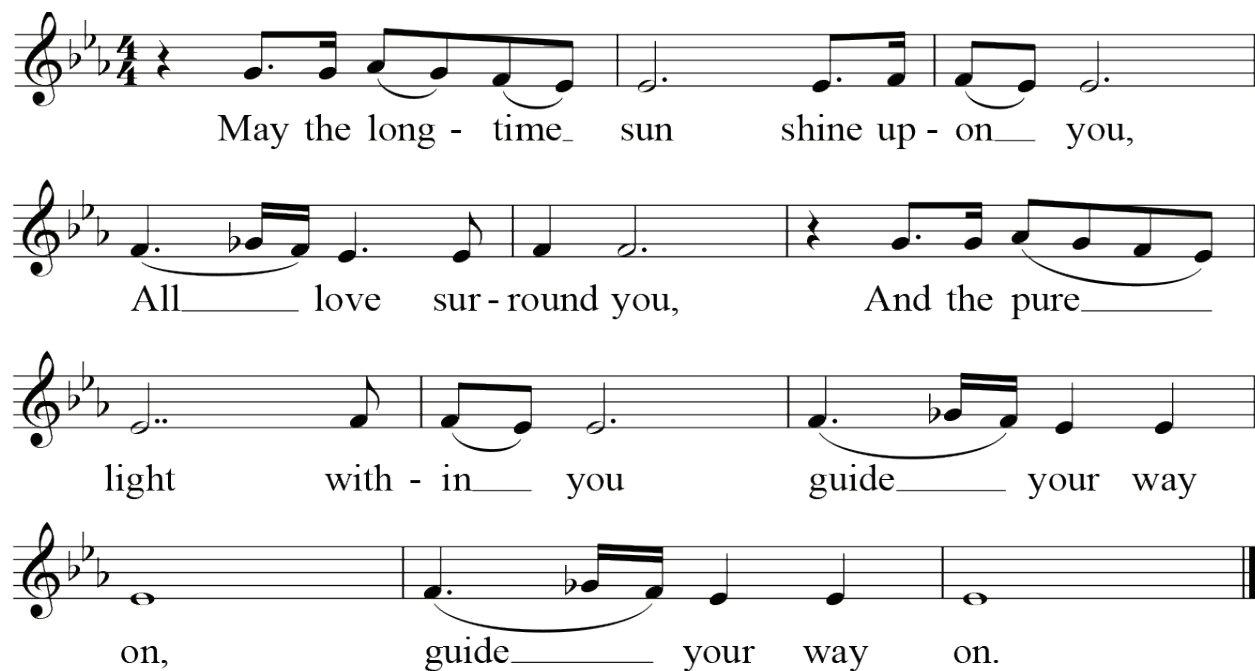
1 All beautiful the march of days, as seasons come and go; the hand that shaped the rose hath wrought the crystal of the snow; hath sent the hoary frost of heaven, the flowing waters sealed, and laid a silent loveliness on hill and wood and field.

2 O'er white expanses sparkling clear the radiant morns unfold; the solemn splendors of the night burn brighter through the cold; life mounts in every throbbing vein, love deepens round the hearth, and clearer sounds the angel-hymn, "Good will to all on earth."

3 O Thou from whose unfathomed law the year in beauty flows, thy self the vision passing by in crystal and in rose. Day unto day doth utter speech, and night to night proclaim, in ever changing words of light, the wonder of thy name.

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	El amor es el espíritu
of this congregation,	de nuestra congregación
And service is our gift.	Y el 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.	Y ayudarnos los unos a los otros.

*HYMN 350

The Ceaseless Flow of Endless Time

1 The ceaseless flow of endless time no one can check or stay; we'll
view the past with no regret, nor future with dismay.

2 The present slips into the past, and dreamlike melts away; the
breaking of tomorrow's dawn begins a new today.

3 The past and future ever meet in the eternal now: to make each
day a thing complete shall be our New Year vow.

SERMON

Who Will You Be?

Beth Robbins, Interim Director of Family Ministry

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

You are the New Day *John David* (b. 1946)
arrangement: *Peter Knight* (1917 - 1985)

You are the new day

I will love you more than me

And more than yesterday

If you can but prove to me

You are the new day

Send the sun in time for dawn

Let the birds all hail the morning

Love of life will urge me say

You are the new day

When I lay me down at night

Knowing we must pay

Thoughts occur that this night might

Stay yesterday

Thoughts that we as humans small

Could slow worlds and end it all

Lie around me where they fall

Before the new day

One more day when time is running out

For everyone

Like a breath I knew would come I reach for

The new day

Hope is my philosophy

Just needs days in which to be

Love of life means hope for me

Borne on a new day

You are the new day

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

Sweet Spot *Antje Duvekot* (b. 1976)

Katie Elledge, soprano

Mark David Buckles, guitar

Once you stood below a mountain
Now you find yourself surprised
This is the sweet spot of your life
'Cause this new view compares to nothing
Gone the hardship of your climb
This is the sweet spot of your life

And it would seem the ice is melting
It seems you've come in from the cold
This is the sweet spot of your life
And all your streams they are now fuller
Than what their riverbanks can hold
This is the sweet spot of your life

So you must hold these days like treasures
In a jewel box in your heart
This is the sweet spot of your life
For you know well they are most precious
Into an old tree you must carve them
This is the sweet spot of your life

May it only sting a moment
When you dive into that blue
This is the sweet spot of your life
'Cause by the time you hit the surface
It has rearranged you
This is the sweet spot of your life

You always wanted something solid
Just one solid thing
Oh but angels are so fickle
They only love you when you sing
But you don't need those fickle angels to shine
This is the sweet spot of your life

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

***HYMN 354**

We Laugh, We Cry

1 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.

2 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.

3 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.

4 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.

***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

An Angel with No Name *Takashi Yoshimatsu* (b. 1953)
Daniel Padgett, piano

Today in Children's Religious Education (CRE)

Children and youth are invited to remain in the service for Beth's sermon or join Erica and Rohn in the Perkins Room to share joys and sorrows and reflect on the three questions Rev. Kim has been asking us this month: What do I love? What am I good at? What does the world need? Together, we will explore our purpose as individuals and as a community.

Allie is 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.

January Share the Plate: Black Lives Matter Boston

As part of the national Movement for Black Lives, Black Lives Matter Boston (BLM Boston) is committed to building equity, political will, and power for all Black lives in Metro Boston and beyond. We exist to challenge and disrupt all racist and oppressive systems, end police and economic violence in our communities, and abolish the prison industrial complex. We imagine and work to build a world where all human beings are accorded dignity and have what they need to flourish. For more information, please visit <https://policy.m4bl.org/platform>.

Thank you for your generosity!