

Share the Plate: Friday Night Supper Program

The Friday Night Supper Program was established here at Arlington Street in 1984. Since then, every Friday night, they have provided nutritious, home-cooked meals to Boston's homeless and hungry.

Through the end of the year, our Share the Plate offering will be given to the Friday Night Supper Program. They will be serving a festive holiday meal and distributing warm clothing and goodies to their guests, and will continue to provide hot meals and outerwear throughout the winter. *Thank you for your generosity!*

Service is Our Gift

Candles Coordinator, *Art Nava (with Ali Jablonsky)*
Candles Chaplain, *Darrell Waters*
Lead Greeter, *David Scanlon*
Lead Usher, *Mike Cournoyer*
Worship Coordinators, *Patrick Cooleybeck (with Lucy Humphrey)*
Assistant Treasurer, *Alma Antoniotti & Gail Jennes*

At Your Service:

- * If you would like a large print order of service or hymnal or a Braille hymnal
- * If you are having trouble hearing the service and would appreciate an assistive listening device
- * If you have mobility challenges and would like assistance

Any usher will be happy to help!

Urban Church Awareness

Remember to be mindful of your belongings, and throughout the week, please help to keep the outside doors to the church secure.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONE. THANK YOU!

OUR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FAITH

Arlington Street Church is an historic congregation (1729) with a progressive faith. Long on the cutting-edge of movements for social justice, we affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every being. All are welcome!

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Prudential Committee is the elected governing board of Arlington Street Church.

THE PRU MEMBERS ARE:

Al Ingram (chair) / Rick Cresta (vice-chair) / Joe Alen Dan Brotman / Lois Hartsough / Eve Lauria Deb Pontes / Ted Rudinsky / Connie Scanlon

OFFICERS OF THE CORPORATION ARE:

Art Nava (treasurer) / Tori Bell & Gaby Whitehouse (co-moderators) / Doc Kinne (clerk)

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

FM amplification headsets are available from the ushers. Please do not remove them from the sanctuary. **Accessible** entry is via the ramp on the Arlington Street alley at the right-hand side of the front doors to the Church. **Braille** hymnals are available! Please ask an usher for assistance.

TIFFANY WINDOWS

The 2015 restoration of Arlington Street Church's Tiffany stained glass windows was made possible through the generous support of this congregation, an anonymous donor, and the George B. Henderson Foundation. The guided tour program for our historic church and its unique Tiffany stained glass windows is closed for the winter and will open again in the spring of 2018. More information is available at www.asctiffany.org.

ALLELUIA!

At Arlington Street Church, we raise a hand and circle two fingers above our heads to signal joyous affirmation.

PARKING AT ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

Parking on Sundays is available at the Back Bay Garage for a discount. Discount coupons are available at the Welcome Table after worship. Additional parking may be available on Arlington Street past "The Castle."

Staff Directory

Parish Ministers

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, *Senior Minister*
Rev. George G. Whitehouse, *Minister at Large*
Beth Robbins,
Interim Director of Family Ministry

Erica Rose Long
*Interim Assistant Director of Family Ministry
Chaplain, Massachusetts General Hospital*

Community Ministers

Dr. Arthur Judge
Hospital Chaplain, retired
Rev. Clyde Grubbs
Spiritual Director
Rev. Fred Small
Minister for Climate Justice
Rev. Joanna Lubkin
Chaplain, Wellesley College
Rev. Vera O'Brien
Chaplain, Brigham and Women's Hospital

Intern Ministers

Karlene Griffiths Sekou
Black Lives Matter, Boston
Liz Weber
UU Church of Reading, Massachusetts

Music

Mark David Buckles, *Director of Music*
Xuan He, *Organist and Pianist*
Rodger Clinton Vine, *Artist in Residence*

Choir Section Leaders

Katie Elledge, *Soprano*
Katherine Maysek, *Alto*
Daniel Rosensweig, *Tenor*

Administration

Jeffrey Bouchard, *Congregational Administrator*
Adam Berman, *Bookkeeper*
Brad Nobles, *Sexton*
Laurinda O'Connor, *Publications*



**ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH**
Unitarian Universalist

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2017

MITTEN TREE SUNDAY!

ADVENT 2: PEACE

8 Unitarian Universalist PRINCIPLES

1. The inherent **WORTH** and **DIGNITY** of every being
2. **JUSTICE**, **EQUITY**, and **COMPASSION** in all relations
3. **ACCEPTANCE** of one another and encouragement of **SPIRITUAL GROWTH**
4. A free and responsible search for **TRUTH** and **MEANING**
5. The right of **CONSCIENCE** and the use of the **DEMOCRATIC** process
6. The goal of world community with **PEACE**, **LIBERTY**, and **JUSTICE** for all
7. **RESPECT** for the **INTERDEPENDENT WEB** of which we are a part
8. Building **BELOVED COMMUNITY** by dismantling racism and oppression within ourselves and our world

Arlington Street Church, *Unitarian Universalist*
351 Boylston Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02116-3303

Office Hours: Monday – Friday, 9:00 AM to 5:00 PM Phone: 617-536-7050 • Fax: 617-536-2729
Email: Office@ASCBoston.org • Web: www.ASCBoston.org

Arlington Street Church
Boston, Massachusetts
Founded in 1729

Gathered in love and service for justice and peace

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2017

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

Nocturne in D-flat *Claude Debussy* (1862 - 1918)
Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring *Johann Sebastian Bach* (1685 - 1750)
Rodger Clinton Vine, piano

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND GREETINGS

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

INTROIT

Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella *Traditional French Carol*
arranged: *Mark Hayes* (b. 1953)
Julie Gregorio, soprano

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH ~ ADVENT 2: PEACE

Peace *The Pontes Family*

*HYMN 235

Deck the Hall

*Dedicated with gratitude and love to Robert Holley
for his magnificent transformation of our sanctuary,
and with thanks to his elves!*

DRESSING THE MITTEN TREE

Beth Robbins and Erica Rose Long

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

Sanctuary *John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs* (b. 1953)
text adapted: *Crawford Harvie/Buckles*
music arranged: *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

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

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.

*HYMN 225

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

SERMON

Meeting Grace Halfway *Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie*

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

CANTICLE

Grace text and music: *Elizabeth Alexander* (b. 1962)

Julie Gregorio, soprano

It's how I hold my head up after I have missed the mark,
It's how I know I'm loved when things are dark,
It's how I stand when I am feeling small,
How I stand again after a fall –
It's how I'm even standing here at all:
Some people call it Grace.

*Falling down like rain on everyone,
So warm, like greetings from the sun,
Like a gentle snow it's making every surface glow.
And I know I didn't earn it:
That's how I know it's Grace.*

It's how two people stay together through the many years,
It's how a broken people sing again,
It's how a man can overcome his shame,
How a woman moves beyond her fears –
It's how I know that holy is my name.
We're all the same to Grace.

I didn't have to earn it through a word or through a deed,
Or through a trial or through a creed,
Or by denying what I need.
I only had to reach out my hand, and it was there.
But still it cannot take away the truths I have to face.
Oh no, that's not how it works with Grace.

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

During the offertory, you are invited to open your heart and engage in the spiritual practice of generosity. For 288 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

Prelude on *Amazing Grace* tune: *Columbian Harmony* (1829)
arranged: *Mark Hayes* (b. 1953)

Rodger Clinton Vine, piano

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

*HYMN 205

Amazing Grace

*BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

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

When You Walk From Here text: *Linnea Good*
music: *Tom Witt*, arranged: *Mark David Buckles*

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

POSTLUDE

Fugue sur le thème du Carillon des Heures de la Cathédrale
de Soissons Op. 12 *Maurice Duruflé* (1902 - 1986)

Today in Children's Religious Education (CRE)

Mitten Tree Sunday is an intergenerational service with many opportunities for families to participate! Thank you to Lena Pontes (and family) for lighting the Advent wreath; Lucy Humphrey for serving as co-Worship Coordinator; and all of the children who are helping dress our Mitten Tree.

Children and youth are invited to sit with their families or join Beth and Erica in the balcony to enjoy the sermon together with coloring, sermon bingo, and some of our favorite stuffed animal friends. We will head up to the balcony as we sing *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* and return during our closing hymn, *Amazing Grace*.

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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