Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15TH, 2019

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

Sechs Kinderstücke Op. 72 Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847) Yulia Yun, piano

Introit

We believe in a free and responsible search for truth and meaning.

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND GREETINGS

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

KINDLING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Advent III ~ Joy Jenna Crawford

*Hymn 390

Gaudeamus Hodie (Let Us Rejoice Today)

Gaudeamus, gaudeamus hodie. Gaudeamus, gaudeamus hodie. Gaudeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus hodie.

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

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 226

People Look East

1 People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year. Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table. People, look east and sing today: Love the Guest, is on the way.

2 Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there. Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course and flower may flourish. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.

3 Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim, one more light the bowl shall brim, shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together. People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.

SERMON

Kindling a Spark Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

Verleih uns Frieden music: Felix Mendelssohn (1809 - 1847) text: *Martin Luther* (1483 - 1546) adapted from *Da Pacem*, *Domine*, a votive antiphon for peace

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

During the offertory, you are invited to open your heart and engage in the spiritual practice of generosity. For 290 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 unpledged offering is shared with a partner



in our mission of love, service, justice, and peace. As a i convenient option, you may text the word GIVE to (617) 300-0509 (all texted gifts support church operations) or scan the QR code.

Thank you for your stewardship and support!

OFFERTORY

Mark David Buckles, guitar and vocals

When there is love,

I can't wait to talk about it

When things get rough,

I like to walk with you

Or when it's night,

I like to be the light that's missing

And remind you every minute

Of the future isn't written, not yet

When there is love,

Or when the heart feels heavy

We can lighten it up,

If you've had enough,

Well you can empty your glass

And we can fill it back up

You know it's up to us to make it all up,

So what you making up?

I can make it up back.

You could be loved no matter what

And know the only time is right now,

It's right where you are

You don't need a vacation

When there's nothing to escape from

Chorus

Singing la la la la la la

La la la la la, let's all sing

La la la la la, laying it down,

Everything is sound

Singing la la la la la la

La la la la la, let's all sing

La la la la la, laying it down

Ha la la la la lelujah, we're connected now

Let's sing to be happy,

To feel things,

To communicate, and be heard

Or sing out to protest, and to project,

And to harmonize with birds

Whether it's your birthday or your dying day,

It's a celebration too

Rejoice to use your voice

And give wings to any old choice

Whatever you're choosing right now,

It's right where you are

You don't need a vacation

When there's nothing to escape from

Set your vibration and undulation
To the highest it can go
And trust me, hear me
If it makes you wanna sing, just sing it

Chorus

It's a song that I've forgotten often It doesn't make me wrong Cause we all need the darkness, To see the light in our own eyes

Chorus

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

*Hymn

Set a Fire Will Reagan

Set a fire down in my soul

That I can't contain and I can't control

I want more of you, G*d / Love

I want more of you, G*d / Love

There's no place I would rather be

There's no place I would rather be

There's no place I would rather be

Than here in your love, here in your love!

*BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

*Recessional (sung twice; please join in!)

Where You Go (I Will Go) Shoshana Jedwab (b. 1964)

choral arrangement: Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)

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

Yulia Yun, piano

Welcome, Families!

There are activity pages and Sermon Bingo cards in the children's pew, on the right aisle in the front of the sanctuary. If you have arrived with a baby or small child who becomes restless, there's a nursery/playroom with the service piped in for your listening pleasure. 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.