



ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Boston, Massachusetts

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

or (929) 436-2866 (phone)

[Meeting ID: 895 886 6876]

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 24, 2023

Happy Christmas Eve Morning!

PRELUDE

- Still, Still, Still *Austrian Christmas Carol*
arrangement: *John Schmidt* (b. 1966)
- White Christmas *Irving Berlin* (1888–1989)
- Blessings at Christmas *Hyunchul Kim* (b. 1969)
Hyunju Jung, piano

WELCOME, CHALICE LIGHTING, AND LAND ACKNOWLEDGMENT

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Senior Minister

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

KINDLING THE ADVENT WREATH

Advent IV. Love Rev. Beth Robbins, Executive Minister

INTROIT

Love Came Down at Christmas text: *Christina Rossetti* (1830–1894), alt.
music: *Carson P. Cooman* (b. 1982)

Love came down at Christmas,
Love all lovely, love divine;
Love was born at Christmas,
Star and angels gave the sign.

Worship we our Jesus:
But wherewith for sacred sign?

Worship we the G*dhead,
Love incarnate, love divine;

Love shall be our token,
Love shall be yours and love be mine,
Love to G*d and to all the world,
Love for plea and gift and sign.

GREETINGS Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

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

***CAROL 237**

The First Noel *Traditional English Carol*

The first Noel the angel did say
Was to certain poor shepherds, in fields as they lay
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep
On a cold winter's night that was so deep
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the king of Israel!

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east beyond them far
And to the earth it gave great light
And so it continued both day and night
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the king of Israel!

And by the light of that same star
Three magi came from country far
To seek a king was their intent
And to follow the star wherever it went
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel
Born is the king of Israel!

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 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 out 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.

A CHRISTMAS CAROL *Charles Dickens* (1812–1870), abridged
Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

I. Stave One: Marley's Ghost

*CAROL 246

O Little Town of Bethlehem music: *Lewis Redner* (1831–1908)
text: *Phillips Brooks* (1835–1893)

O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;
Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light;
The hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth.
Let praises ring: from G*d they bring goodwill to all on earth.

How silently, how silently the wonder is made known,
When G*d imparts to human hearts the gift that is our own.
No ear may hear that coming, but in this worldly din,
When souls are truly humble, then the dear babe rests within.

II. Staves Two, Three, Four: The Three Spirits

*CAROL 231

Angels We Have Heard on High text: *James Chadwick* (1813–1882)
tune: *French Carol* (1855)
arrangement: *Edward Shippen Barnes* (1887–1958)

Angels we have heard on high
Sweetly singing o'er the plains
And the mountains in reply
Echoing their joyous strains
Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why these songs of happy cheer?
What great brightness did you see?

What glad tidings did you hear?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

See him in a manger laid
Whom the angels praise above
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid
While we raise our hearts in love
Gloria, in excelsis Deo
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

III. Stave Five: The End of It

*CAROL 240

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day music: *John Baptiste Calkin* (1827–1905)
text: *Henry Wadsworth Longfellow* (1807–1882)

I heard the bells on Christmas Day
Their old familiar carols play
And wild and sweet the words repeat
Of peace on earth, goodwill to all

I thought how, as the day had come
The belfries of all Christendom
Had rolled along th'unbroken song
Of peace on earth, goodwill to all

And in despair I bowed my head
"There is no peace on earth," I said

"For hate is strong and mocks the song
Of peace on earth, goodwill to all."

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep:
"G*d is not dead, nor doth G*d sleep;
The wrong shall fail, the right prevail
With peace on earth, goodwill to all."

Till, ringing, singing on its way
The world revolved from day to day
A voice, a chime, a chant sublime
Of peace on earth, goodwill to all.

IV. Keeping Christmas

*CAROL 239

Go Tell It on the Mountain *African American Spiritual*
Mark David Buckles, guitar and vocals

Chorus

Go tell it on the mountain
Over the hills and ev'rywhere
Go tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O'er silent flocks by night
Behold throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light

Chorus

The shepherds feared and trembled
When lo! above the earth

Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed the baby's birth

Chorus

Down in a lowly manger
The humble babe was born
And G*d sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn

Chorus


CHRISTMAS OFFERING

In the spirit of the season, please consider making a special gift this morning. Your generosity will support our partnership with Agora Cultural Architects and the rededication of this building as a community hub of arts and culture. Thank you for helping make critical upgrades to ensure our historic building is safe and welcoming for all!

Members of Arlington Street's governing board have seeded the Christmas offering with generous leadership gifts. Rev. Beth and Rev. Kim have both given \$500. Your contribution of any amount will be deeply appreciated.

Merry Christmas!

WAYS TO GIVE



1. Scan the QR code
2. Visit tinyurl.com/GiveASC
3. Search @ArlingtonStreet on Venmo (Charities)
4. Text the word "GIVE" to (617) 300-0509
5. Mail a check to Arlington Street Church

Whatever you give is greatly appreciated. Thank you for your generosity!

DECEMBER SHARE THE PLATE: FRIDAY NIGHT SUPPER PROGRAM

Friday Night Supper Program was established here at Arlington Street in 1984. Every Friday night, approximately 100 people experiencing homelessness or living in poverty are served a hot, nutritious, home-cooked dinner in our parish hall. The meal is served sit-down, restaurant-style, in a warm, welcoming atmosphere, providing a sense of dignity, choice, and abundance. *Let's help feed our neighbors!*

To make your gift, please visit www.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

Unredeemable, from *Spirited* *Benj Pasek* (b. 1985) & *Justin Paul* (b. 1985)
Mark David Buckles, vocals
Hyunju Jung, piano

Am I forever unredeemable?
Can I ever overcome
All the wrongs I'm running from?
Can my worst be left behind?
And do I deserve to find
There's a soul who could see any
good in me?
Or will I only ever be unredeemable?

Spent every waking minute
Taking all that I could take
Never stopped to reckon with
The ruin in my wake
With all the bridges that I burned
All the wounds I didn't mend
All the worth I thought I earned
It turned worthless in the end
What was it for?
Is it possible I was meant for
something more?

Am I forever unredeemable?
Can I be the man who breaks
From a lifetime of mistakes?
Can my worst be left behind?
And do I deserve to find

The kind of love that I could lean on
every day?
Or will I learn I have to stay unredeemable?

We have to believe inside the worst of us
There is some decency there
You know that you can achieve
something miraculous
If you'd only care

I have to go, I have to try
That's how I'll know, know if I...

Am forever unredeemable
If I'll ever be someone
Who makes up for all they've done
Or is all I am unlovable?
Am I someone someone can forgive?
Can I take the leap and live?
There's a lot I'd leave behind
But I've got to go and find
If it's true that there is truly good in me
And maybe see that I won't always be
unredeemable
Am I unredeemable?
Unredeemable...

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS

***CAROL 245**

Joy to the World! text: *Isaac Watts* (1674–1748)
tune: *G. F. Handel* (1685–1759)
music: *Lowell Mason* (1792–1872)

Joy to the world! The Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
Let every heart prepare him room
And heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature
sing.

Joy to the earth! The savior reigns!
Let hearts their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills,
and plains,

Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness,
And wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
And wonders, and wonders of his love.

BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

***RECESSIONAL CAROL**

We Wish You a Merry Christmas *Traditional 16th Century English Carol*

Chorus

We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
We wish you a Merry Christmas
And a Happy New Year!

Good tidings to you, wherever you are
Good tidings for Christmas
And a Happy New Year!

Chorus

POSTLUDE

It's Beginning to Look a Lot Like Christmas *Meredith Willson* (1902–1984)
arrangement: *Mark Hayes* (b. 1953)

Hyunju Jung, piano



** 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.*

WELCOME TO ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

We're thrilled to welcome you to this special Christmas Eve service! Arlington Street opens its doors to all spiritual seekers of good heart. Every Sunday morning, we gather at 11:00 for beautiful music and an inspiring message from Rev. Kim. We hope you'll stay connected by signing up at tinyurl.com/eNewsASC and come back again soon!

YOU ARE INVITED: SPRING BLING FLING!

Don't miss Arlington Street's spring gala supporting the restoration of our beloved spiritual home. On the evening of **Saturday, May 4th**, plan to show up in your most sparkling attire for an evening of music and dance, food and drink, auction items, and lots more!

SPECIAL THANKS

Boston Gay Men's Chorus
Reuben Reynolds, Conductor
Courtney Furno, Assistant Conductor

Mark David Buckles, Director of Music
Hyunju Jung, Collaborative Pianist and Organist
Joe Della Penna, Jazz Artist in Residence
Rodger Clinton Vine, Organist in Residence

Art Nava, Kem Morehead, Kevin Tyrrell, Michael Fisher,
and Rich Abreu, today's extraordinary Tech Team

Philip Roberts, Bill Briggs, Queen Cheryl, and their team of ushers and greeters

Liz Teixeira, Treasurer

Rev. George Whitehouse, Doc Kinne, and the bell ringers

Robert Holley, for creating the exquisite sanctuary decorations

Kevin Tyrrell, Elf Jefe, and a host of elves for "bringing in the greens"

Jon Andersen-Miller, Darrell Waters, and Queen Cheryl for beautification

Bruce Dallaire and Tom Anderson for mailing 348 candles to our Zoomers!

Lois Hartsough for above-and-beyond volunteer service in the church office

Arlington Street Church staff, members, and friends

You, for your radiant presence here!