

MISSA BREVIS PRO SERVETO

Program Notes

Today, we celebrate Easter at Arlington Street Church with a performance of a new composition written explicitly to celebrate the values and theology of Unitarian Universalism. Tobin Stokes' Missa Brevis Pro Serveto features text based on the traditional Latin text of the Roman Catholic mass, but while this text is still in Latin, the words are newly and beautifully penned by Unitarian Universalist minister Rev. Frances Dearman.

The structure and the genesis of the text honors Unitarian Universalism's Christian roots and heritage, while the new text expresses a contemporary theology for the Unitarian Universalists of today. The Kerygma invokes the "still, small voice" of God from the story of Elijah. In the silence, we hear a voice proclaiming "reverence for life, freedom, reason, and tolerance... that the world is one, that God is one, that all shall be saved, and that all are worthy." In the Sermo, we hear that "God has no hands but ours," and that "Peace walks on no feet but our own," and the Credo, or Belief Statement, begins not with an affirmation, but with a question: "What do I know of the world?" and ends with the surety that "I believe in lovingkindness... I belief in life."

These are words that are central to our theology. These are words that we need to hear and need to tell others. These are words not just for Unitarian Universalists, but for the wider world. We offer today's performance in the spirit of celebration for all that is divine and holy.

Mark David Buckles, Director of Music

Missa Brevis Pro Serveto is composed in seven movements. There are four of the five traditional Mass movements – Kyrie, Gloria, Credo, and Sanctus (divided into Sanctus and Benedictus), with the Agnus Dei omitted. Two additional movements are added: the Kerygma (Proclamation), and Sermo (Sermon). It is scored for choir, piano, violin, cello, flute, clarinet, horn, and percussion, and was premiered in 2011 at the Annual conference and meeting of the Canadian Unitarian Council in Toronto.

Today's Hymns

Hymn 269 Lo, the Day of Days Is Here

text: Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840-1929)

music: Robert Williams (1781-1821)

arr. Mark David Buckles (b. 1980)

Hymn 270 O, Day of Light and Gladness

text: Frederick Lucian Hosmer (1840-1929)

music: Henry Smart (1813-1879), arr. Mark David Buckles

Hymn 61 Lo, the Earth Awakes Again

text: Samuel Longfellow (1819-1892)

music: John Arnold (1720-1792), arr. Mark David Buckles

Arlington Street Church Choir and Orchestra

Mark David Buckles, conductor

Molly Wood, piano

Instrumentalists

Rachel Kelly, violin

Jerry Liu, cello

Laura Heinrichs, flute

Lisa Snyder, clarinet

Derek Lewis, french horn

Sam Schmetterer, percussion

Sopranos

Eve Lauria

Gaby Whitehouse

Julie Gregorio

Karen Tausch

Teresa Lardo

Tori Bell

Altos

Glorivy Arroyo

Jeanne Monaghan

Joanna Lubkin

Margy Herley

Tenors

Jonathan Price

Reese Millican

Trey Campbell

Basses

Dan Ivey

George Whitehouse

Jim Tice

Paul Rivenberg

Richard Marshall

Steven Simpson

Zachary Ballard



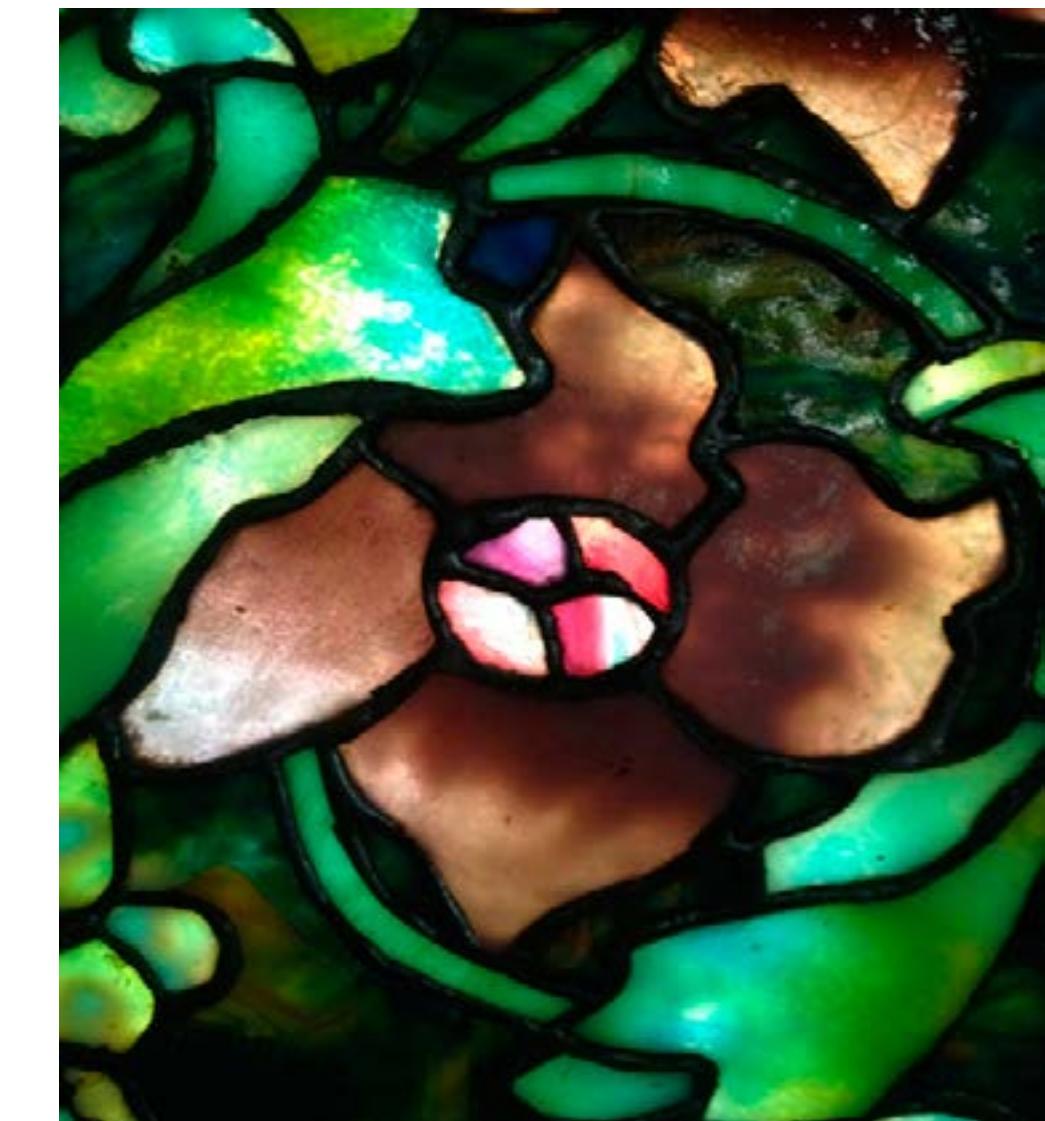
ARLINGTON
STREET CHURCH
Unitarian Universalist

SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST, 2013

MISSA BREVIS PRO SERVETO

text: REV. FRANCES DEARMAN

music: TOBIN STOKES



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Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

SUNDAY, MARCH 31ST, 2013

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN 269

Lo, The Day of Days Is Here

Lo, the day of days is here, Alleluia!
Festival of hope and cheer! Alleluia!
At the south-wind's genial breath, Alleluia!
Nature wakes from seeming death, Alleluia!
Fields are smiling in the sun, Alleluia!
Loosened streamlets seaward run, Alleluia!
Tender blade and leaf appear, Alleluia!
'Tis the springtide of the year, Alleluia!

Lo, the Easter tide is here, Alleluia!
Music thrills the atmosphere, Alleluia!
Join, you people all, and sing, Alleluia!
Love and praise and thanksgiving, Alleluia!

*HYMN 270

O, Day of Light and Gladness

O day of light and gladness, of prophecy and song,
what thoughts within us waken,
 what hallowed mem'ries throng!
The soul's horizon widens, past, present, future blend;
and rises on our vision the life that has no end.

Earth feels the season's joyance; from mountain range to sea
the tides of life are flowing, fresh, manifold, and free.
In valley and on upland, by forest pathways dim,
all nature lifts in chorus the resurrection hymn.

O dawn of life eternal, to thee our hearts upraise
the Easter song of gladness, the Passover of praise.
Thine are the many mansions, the dead die not to thee,
who fillest from thy fullness, time and eternity.

*HYMN 61

Lo, the Earth Awakes Again

Lo, the earth awakes again, Alleluia!
from the winter's bond and pain. Alleluia!
Bring we leaf and flower and spray, Alleluia!
to adorn this happy day. Alleluia!

Once again the word comes true, Alleluia!
All the earth shall be made new. Alleluia!
Now the dark, cold days are o'er, Alleluia!
Spring and gladness are before. Alleluia!
Change, then, mourning into praise, Alleluia!
And, for dirges, anthems raise. Alleluia!
How our spirits soar and sing, Alleluia!
How our hearts leap with the spring! Alleluia!

MISSA BREVIS PRO SERVETO

text: Rev. Frances Dearman

music: Tobin Stokes

INTROIT

I. Kyrie Eleison

Lord, have mercy.
The sea is so great
 and my ship is so small.
Lord, have mercy.
The stars are far away,
 and the night is cold.
Lord, have mercy.
My life is short,
 and we hunger for hope.
Lord, have mercy.

EXULTATION

II. Gloria

Gloria!
Spirit of life, you who breathe
 life into the world,
you who bless the sea
 with ships and
 quicken the fruitful earth,
since through you all living
 things are conceived
and, risen, gaze upon the light
 of day,
through seas and hills,
 through tearing floods,
through the
 leafy homes of birds,
through lush green fields,
we give thanks.

VOW

III. Credo

What do I know of the world?
What does a fish know of water?
What knows a bird of the air?
Nothing but weather,
 nothing but waves.
Nothing comes from nothing;
I am born from the earth, from air
 and fire, from water and stars.
And my life, which I owe to nature,
 being mortal,
 I shall return to the earth.
I believe in spirit,
 breathing upon the waters.
I believe in lovingkindness.
I believe in life.

Quid scio de mundo?
Quid piscis de aqua?
Quid avis de auris?
Nil nisi tempestatem, nil nisi
 undas
Nihil ex nihilo;
sum terrigena, ex aura
 flammaque, ex aqua et stellis.
Et vitam, naturae quam debeo,
 mortalis telluri reddam.

Credo in spiritum, super aquas
 spirantem.
Credo in caritatem.
Credo in vitam.

PROCLAMATION

IV. Kerygma

From the mountains,
 out of silence,
a still small voice is heard
that proclaims through the ages,
 "reverence for life,
freedom, reason, and tolerance."
The voice teaches
 and the hand has written
that the world is one, and the
 holy is one, that all shall be
 saved, and all are worthy.

CHORAL RESPONSE

V. Sermo

How shall we live?
I hate and I love. And we weep
 for friends of long ago,
 now lost.
The work of my hands
 might well be writ in wind
 and running water.
For I see the innocent suffer.

And I tremble
 on the shores of night.
God has no hands but ours.

Peace walks on no feet
 but our own.
May I be hope,
 may I be light from a hill.
May our light go everywhere,
 like the sun.
May our shrine
 be the good heart.

OFFERTORY

VI. Sanctus

Holy the earth
 and blessed is our peace.

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

VII. Benedictus

Speak blessing.
Blessed is she whose hands
 bear lovingkindness.
Blessed is he who walks in peace.
Blessed be.
Go your ways.

Ex montibus, e silentio,
 vox auditur, quieta et parva,
 quae dicit per saecula,
 reverentia vitae,
libertas, ratio, et toleratio.
Docet vox et scripsit manus

ut mundus unus, unus deus, omnis,
 omnis dignus.

Quomodo vivamus?
Odi et amo. Ataque olim
 amissas flemus amicitiias.

Quod feci cum manibus
 in vento et rapida scribere
 oportet aqua.
Namque innocentes poenas
 habere video.
Et noctis ad oras tremesco.

Non habet manus deus nisi
 nostras.
Non incedit pax pedibus nisi
 nostris.
Sim ego spes,
Sim ego lumen ex colle.
Ut sit lux nostra ubique meanti
 similis soli,
ut sacellum cor bonum sit.

Sancta terra
 et pax beata.

Benedicite.
Benedicta quae manibus adhibet
 misericordiam.
Benedictus qui venit in pace.
Benedicti sitis.
Ite, missa est.