



ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Boston, Massachusetts

tinyurl.com/ASCZoom (video)

or (929) 436-2866 (phone)

[Meeting ID: 895 886 6876]

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2, 2025

Happy Groundhog Day!

PRELUDE

Zeal of G-d *Sa Gong Jeong*
You Were Created to Receive the Greatest Love *Minseob Lee*
Hyunju Jung (she/her), piano

WELCOME & GREETINGS Rev. Parisa Parsa (she/her)
Darrell Waters (he/him) Worship Coordinator

INTROIT

Love Is the Spirit music: *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)
text: *Arlington Street Church's Affirmation & Covenant*
Sé (Shea) Brown (they/them), soprano

Love is the spirit of this congregation, To dwell together in peace,
And service is our gift. To speak our truths in love,
This is our great covenant: And to help one another.

OPENING WORDS & CHALICE LIGHTING

Bound in Covenant (excerpt) *Victoria Safford*
Rev. Parisa Parsa

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

***HYMN 358**

Rank by Rank Again We Stand music: *Henry Walford Davies* (1869–1941)
text: *John Huntley Skrine* (1848–1923) and *Carl G. Seaburg* (1922–1998)
Sam LaGrego (he/him), percussion

Rank by rank again we stand, from the four winds gathered hither
Loud the hallowed walls demand whence we come and how, and whither

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

From their stillness breaking clear, echoes wake to warn or cheer
Higher truth from saint and seer call to us assembled here

Ours the years' memorial store, honored days and names we reckon
Days of comrades gone before, lives that speak and deeds that beckon
From the dreaming of the night to the labors of the day
Shines their everlasting light, guiding us upon our way

Though the path be hard and long, still we strive in expectation
Join we now their ageless song one with them in aspiration
One in name, in honor one, guard we well the crown they won
What they dreamed be ours to do, hope their hopes, and seal them true

COVENANT RENEWAL 2025: Rooted & Thriving Al Ingram (he/him)
In this season of Covenant Renewal, we renew our commitment of love and
service and make pledges of financial gifts to support Arlington Street
and our work in the world. Covenant Renewal Sunday is March 2rd!

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 & 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 113**

Where Is Our Holy Church? text: *Edwin Henry Wilson* (1898–1993)
music: *Genevan Psalter* (1551)
adaptation: *William Crotch* (1775–1847)

Where is our holy church?
Where race and class unite
As equal persons in the search
For beauty, truth, and right

The people rise in every land
To break the captive's bond

Where is our holy writ?
Where'er a human heart
A sacred torch of truth has lit
By inspiration taught

Where is our holy land?
Within the human soul
Wherever free minds truly seek
With character the goal

Where is our holy one?
A mighty host respond

Where is our paradise?
In aspiration's sight
Wherein we hope to see arise
Ten thousand years of right

READING

Bound in Covenant (excerpt) *Victoria Safford*

ANTHEM

Chosen People text & music: *Elizabeth Alexander* (b. 1962)

As children we are enchanted by the apple, the ark, the whale
The boy with the slingshot, the baby in the barn
Later we grapple with forgiveness, resurrection and compassion
Chosen people are everywhere now – in the market, under the bridge
The next chapters are ours to imagine

SERMON

Avoiding Shipwreck Rev. Parisa Parsa

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

It's up to us to finance the beloved spiritual community we want to create! Today, we invite you to be part of Arlington Street's story of devotion, innovation, and transformative generosity.



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

If you would like to give regularly, you can set up automatic payments at tinyurl.com/GiveASC or by contacting Liz Teixeira Treasurer@ASCBoston.org. We encourage you to provide now for a future gift to Arlington Street by remembering the church in your will. Thank you for helping to ensure a robust future for our beloved spiritual community!

SHARE THE PLATE: RENEWAL HOUSE

Generosity is a spiritual practice at Arlington Street Church. Because sharing our resources transforms both ourselves and our world, we share our Sunday offering with a partner in our mission of love, service, justice, and peace.



Our Share the Plate partner this month is Renewal House, a program of the UU Urban Ministry. In operation since 1980, Renewal House was one of the first domestic violence shelters in the state to provide shelter for male survivors, and now works closely with programs across Greater Boston in order to bring culturally-responsive and LGBTQ-inclusive advocacy and counseling to those they serve.

To make your gift, please scan the QR code above; visit tinyurl.com/GiveASC; 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

Plowshare Prayer *Spencer LaJoye*
Sé (Shea) Brown (they/them), vocals
Bek Zehr (they/them), vocals
Mark David Buckles (he/him), guitar and vocals

Dear blessed creator, dear mother, dear savior
Dear father, dear brother, dear holy other
Dear sibling, dear baby, dear patiently waiting
Dear sad & confused, dear stuck & abused
Dear end of your rope, dear worn out & broke
Dear go it alone, dear running from home
Dear righteously angry, forsaken by family
Dear jaded & quiet, dear tough & defiant

I pray that I'm heard
And I pray that this works

I pray if a prayer has been used as a sword
Against you & your heart
Against you & your word
I pray that this prayer is a plowshare of sorts
That it might break you open
It might help you grow

I pray that your body gets all that it needs
And if you don't want healing
I just pray for peace
I pray that your burden gets lighter each day
I pray the mean voice in your head goes away
I pray that you honor the grief as it comes
I pray you can feel all the life in your lungs
I pray that if you go all day being brave
That you can go home, go to bed
Feeling safe

I pray you're forgiven. I pray you forgive
I pray you set boundaries & openly live
I pray that you feel you are worth never leaving
I pray that you know I will always believe you

I pray that you're heard
And I pray that this works

Amen on behalf of the last & the least
On behalf of the anxious, depressed & unseen
Amen for the workers, the hungry, the houseless

Amen for the lonely & recently spouseless
Amen for the queers & their closeted peers
Amen for the bullied who hold in their tears
Amen for the mothers of little Black sons
Amen for the kids who grow up scared of guns
Amen for the addicts, ashamed & hungover
Amen for the calloused, the wisened, the sober
Amen for ones who want life to be over
Amen for the leaders who lose their composure
And amen for the parents who just lost their baby
Amen for chronically ill & disabled
Amen for the children down at the border
Amen for the victims of our law & order

I pray that you're heard
And I pray that this works

I pray if a prayer has been used as a sword
Against you & your heart
Against you & your word
I pray that this prayer is a plowshare of sorts

***HYMN**

Life Calls Us On text: *Rev. Kendyl Gibbons* (b. 1955)
music: *Rev. Jason Shelton* (b. 1972)

Hannah Shanefield (she/her), soprano

Here in reverence now we gather
For the blessings we have known,
With a pledge to one another
That we journey not alone.
Joy and sorrow make us wise,
Kin to all that lives and dies;
Love calls us on, love calls us on.

Words and deeds of those before us
Waken here to keep us strong;
Blend our voices in the chorus
Of creation's living song.
Courage bids us lift our eyes

Upward to the shining skies;
Hope calls us on, hope calls on.

Loyal guides in love and duty
Lead us with a trusted light;
Blest are they whose inward beauty
Shows the path of truth and right.
Honor is their earthly prize;
By their work we realize,
Faith calls us on, faith calls us on.

We have shared a radiant hour
When the truth has made us free,

And the spirit's gracious power
Dreamed of good that yet shall be.
Bright the path before us lies

Joyful pilgrims now we rise;
Life calls us on! Life calls us on!
Life calls us on! Life calls us on!

BENEDICTION & EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE

RECESSIONAL

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

Song for You *Jin Kyung*
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.*

Flowers on the High Pulpit

Would you like to make a gift of flowers for the entire congregation to enjoy
on a Sunday morning? You can make your dedication in memory,
in honor, or in celebration of someone or something you love.

You can have flowers delivered or bring your own
(a minimum of two dozen flowers is perfect for our huge space).
Please email office@ASCBoston.org to claim your date! *Thank you!*



This Week at Arlington Street ~ You Are Invited!

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 2

11:00 am ~ Sunday Service (Sanctuary & Zoom)

12:00 pm ~ Potluck Lunch & Coffee Hour (Chapel & Zoom)

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 3

12:00 pm ~ Monday Mettā (Zoom)

4:00 pm ~ Poems to Go On (Zoom)

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 4

6:00 pm ~ Worship Committee (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5

5:00 pm ~ Tea with Ministers (Zoom)

6:00 pm ~ Kundalini Yoga (Zoom)

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6

5:00 pm ~ Arlington Street Writes (Zoom)

7:00 pm ~ Arlington Street Choir Rehearsal (Clarke Room)

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

7:00 pm ~ Ágora Presents: Fabiola Méndez (Parish Hall)

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 9

11:00 am ~ Sunday Service (Sanctuary & Zoom)

12:00 pm ~ Coffee Hour (Chapel & Zoom)

For details and Zoom links for these events and more,
please visit ASCBoston.org.

Arlington Street Prudential Committee

The Prudential Committee is Arlington Street's elected, governing board. "The Pru" is joined by Stephen Anable (Clerk) and Liz Teixeira (Treasurer) in conducting the business of the church.

Alan Kemp, Chair	Rachel Corey	Art Nava
Sandy Dixon, Co-Chair	Cathy DeMatto	Laura Pattison
Kelly Anne Weaver, Co-Chair	Hala Hazar	Bob Sessions

The leadership welcomes your questions and suggestions at Pru_Chair@ASCBoston.org.

Arlington Street Staff Directory

Parish Ministers

Rev. Parisa Parsa (she/her) • Senior Minister (SeniorMinister@ASCBoston.org)

Rev. Beth Robbins (she/her) • Executive Minister (BRobbins@ASCBoston.org)

Music

Mark David Buckles (he/him) • Director of Music (MBuckles@ASCBoston.org)

Administration

Jeff Fogleman (he/him) • Congregational Administrator
(Office@ASCBoston.org)

Office Hours: Monday–Friday 10:00 am–6:00 pm
(617) 536-7050 • www.ASCBoston.org • Office@ASCBoston.org

Parking at Arlington Street Church

Discount parking on Sundays is available at the Back Bay Garage at 500 Boylston Street. Please request a discount coupon from an usher. Also, metered parking is free in the city on Sundays.

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist
351 Boylston Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02116
(617) 536-7050 • office@ASCBoston.org • www.ASCBoston.org
