



ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Boston, Massachusetts
tinyurl.com/ASCZoom (video)
or (929) 436-2866 (phone)
[Meeting ID: 895 886 6876]

SUNDAY, APRIL 6, 2025

PRELUDE

Being Built Together *Chan-haeng Lee*
This Love *Samuel Park*
Hyunju Jung (she/her), piano

WELCOME & GREETINGS Matt Meyer (he/him), Guest Worship Leader
Lucy Humphrey (they/them) Worship Coordinator

INTROIT

Jordan *Joy Oladokun* (b. 1992)
Bek Zehr (they/them), guitar and vocals

They drowned me in the Jordan
Then they tried to wash me clean
They got the stains out
But now it's too damn hard to breathe
They told me he's a good Lord
As they tied the shackles to my feet
They drowned me in the Jordan
And then they walked away from me

I washed up on the shores alone
In a tattered wedding gown
Disillusioned and heart hardened
Everything I'd known had let me down, down, down
That is where you found me
Grace and whisky on your breath
You pulled me back on my feet
And taught me how to dance again

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

Chorus

Now we're building our own promised land
On this new ground we stand
G-d bless the work of our hands
And make good on our plans
'Cause now I've found love
There's no turning back

I don't feel so young now
Gave the best years of my life away
I tried to build an institution
Instead of trying to keep the faith
But here in the wild
You loved me though I was not lovely or deserving
You kissed the curse from my lips
And taught them to rejoice again

Chorus

OPENING WORDS & CHALICE LIGHTING

Whatever Seed of Faith You Can Muster *Enfleshed Liturgies*
Matt Meyer

The flaming chalice is the symbol of our free faith.

***HYMN**

Bright Morning Star *Appalachian Folk Song*
additional lyrics: *Matt Meyer* (b. 1985)

Bright morning star a-rising
Bright morning star a-rising
Bright morning star a-rising
Day is a breakin' in my soul.

Bright morning star's a-rising...

We'll raise a mighty chorus
To sing out loud for justice
We'll raise a song in joyfulness
Day is a breakin' in my soul

Bright morning star's a-rising...

We'll dance this day in revelry
We'll dance here in good company
I know we're saved already...
Day is a breakin' in my soul

Bright morning star's a-rising...

We're born into belonging
A people made for loving,
A bright new day is dawning
Day is a breakin' in my soul

Bright morning star's a-rising...

On earth as up in heaven
We'll build the world imagined
Grace in our hearts has fashioned
Day is a breakin' in my soul

Bright morning star's a-rising...

In faith we'll grow together
We'll build this world up better
With love here at the center
Day is a breakin' in my soul

Bright morning star's a-rising...

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 tinyurl.com/ASCCandle.
During the service, candles are welcome in the Zoom chat.
Send an email to care@ascboston.org to reach a member of our pastoral care team*

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.

STORY

Desmond Gets Free *Matt Meyer*

***HYMN**

I'm Gonna Lift My Sister Up *Faya Ora Rose Tourè (b. 1945)*

I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy
I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy
I'm gonna lift my sister up, she is not heavy

If I don't lift her up
If I don't lift her up
If I don't lift her up
I will fall down.

I'm gonna lift my brother up, he is not heavy...

I'm gonna lift my sibling up, they are not heavy...

I'm gonna lift my neighbor up, they are not heavy...

I'm gonna lift my people up, they are not heavy...

SERMON

Holy Doubt *Matt Meyer*

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION & PRAYER

ANTHEM

Time for Everything *Nicole Serrano (b. 1989)*
Bek Zehr, guitar and vocals

There's a time for everything under the sun
At least that's what I had learned when I was young
But lately all the time has shown
Is you can't trust everything you're told
This is what it's like at 31
I'm not really sure what I believe
Is it history or is it poetry?
'Cause lately all I'm certain of
If there's a g-d, they are love
And there's a time for everything under the sun

Chorus

So when is it time for a liberation?
When is it time for new revelation?
'Cause this doesn't feel a whole lot like the Jesus we're preaching
No, this doesn't look a whole lot like the loving we're living
No, this doesn't sound a whole lot like salvation

I don't like the labels anymore
Feels like propaganda getting us through their doors
'Cause what we say and what we mean
They don't line up and they make us mean
What the hell are we even fighting for?
I'm so tired of the politics and the wars
And using our theologies like swords
We've got 40,000 different names
And every name is shifting blame
I mean, is this really what the church is for?
Oh, and who said we decide who's in or out?
As if you're gay you know you'd better straighten out
Or if your skin makes us feel unsafe
Just quiet down, take up less space
When's the time we learn to shut our mouths?

Chorus

I know the truth is worth fighting for
But something isn't lining up anymore
'Cause a g-d who'd rather die
Than not have us right by their side

Is more about love than we'll ever know
So from this day until my final breath
I'm gonna give away everything inside my chest
I won't withhold what's given me
Even if you disagree
'Cause there's a time for everything under the sun
And it's time for us to learn how to really love

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:

Louis D. Brown Peace Institute's Mother's Day Walk for Peace



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.

In 1993, Louis D. Brown was a 15-year-old 10th grader growing up in Roxbury with very big dreams: college, graduate school, a doctoral degree in aerodynamic engineering. Ultimately, Louis wanted to be the first African-American and youngest-ever President of the United States. That fall, on his way to a Teens Against

Gang Violence meeting, Louis was killed in the crossfire of a gang shootout.

In 1994, his extraordinary mother, Tina Chéry, honored her son's dream by founding The Louis D. Brown Peace Institute. Dedicated to education in peacemaking and nonviolence, the institute also assists survivors of homicide victims.

The Mother's Day Walk for Peace is a beloved, 29-year-long Boston tradition and an important fundraiser for the Peace Institute. The theme this year is Cultivating Cycles of Peace.

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.

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

OFFERTORY

Til Everyone is Saved *Matt Meyer*

I was told the way to heaven was narrow.
I was told only a few got in.
I was told to be good, better than the rest.
I was told it was hard to win.

I was told that g-d, he loved everyone.
But he punished more than he blessed.
I was told his compassion was the reason,
He loved some more than the rest.

I wanted so much to be good.
I wanted to be better than the rest.
I tried to walk a path so narrow
I tried to win his love and pass his test.

But now I've known bullies and abusers.
I know they're not always mean.
I know that the love they offer to a few
Is how our loyalty they win.

Chorus

We're not saved til everybody's saved.

We're not free til everyone is free.
Riches for some while the rest are in need,
That's no reward for me.

Now I know the answer to their wager
Would I vow myself in loyalty?
To the g-d of the few, to the tyrants of fear?
Well, that's no question for me

Don't just doubt their rules & regulations
Be sure to doubt their questions as well
Doubt their declarations all are that are meant to divide
Doubt the questions that are meant to control.

Then let us wonder aloud to each other
How we might begin again here in love
Let us wonder aloud of the world we imagine
Here on earth, as it is up above.

Chorus

*HYMN

Olam chesed yibaneh עולם חסד יבנה *Rabbi Menachem Creditor* (b. 1975)

Olam chesed yibaneh

I will build this world from love... yai dai dai
And you must build this world from love... yai dai dai
And if we build this world from love... yai dai dai
Then G-d will build this world from love... yai dai dai

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

Improvisation

Matt Meyer, percussion



*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.*

*** As part of our continuing commitment to offer an authentic, inclusive welcome,
we have retired the recitation of the Spanish version of our Affirmation and Covenant.
We honor its history in our community and look forward to new ways
of building deeper relationships with our neighbors of many cultures.*

Arlington Street Staff Directory

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

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

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

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

kel alford (she/her) • Student Minister (StudentMin@ASCBoston.org)

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

Sandy Dixon, Co-Chair

Kelly Anne Weaver, Co-Chair

Rachel Corey

Cathy DeMatto

Hala Hazar

Art Nava

Laura Pattison

Bob Sessions

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



This Week at Arlington Street ~ You Are Invited!

SUNDAY, APRIL 6

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

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

4:00 pm ~ Celebrity Series: Boston Conservatory Faculty Brass Quintet (Sanctuary)

MONDAY, APRIL 7

12:00 pm ~ Monday Mettā (Zoom)

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

TUESDAY, APRIL 8

6:00 pm ~ Buddha's Belly (Zoom)

7:00 pm ~ Arlington Street Meditation Room (Zoom)

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 9

5:00 pm ~ Tea with Ministers (Zoom)

(Prompt: "When do you feel most alive?")

6:00 pm ~ Kundalini Yoga (Zoom)

THURSDAY, APRIL 10

5:00 pm ~ Arlington Street Writes (Zoom)

7:00 pm ~ Choir Rehearsal (Clarke Room)

7:30 pm ~ Concert by Calum Graham (Sanctuary)

SUNDAY, APRIL 13

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](https://ascboston.org).



Do you believe in magic?

Please join us
for the Arlington Street Church
2025 Annual Gala

Saturday, May 17
6pm

Masterful magicians
Alluring appetizers
Charming cocktails
Stupendous silent & live auctions

tickets
\$100 per person



<https://givebutter.com/c/2025ASCgala>