



ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

Unitarian Universalist

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, 2007

Mitten Tree Sunday

Happy Solstice! and ¡Las Posadas!

We do member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association
covenant to affirm and promote • The inherent worth and dignity
of every person • justice, equity and compassion in human relations •
Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our
congregations • **The living tradition and meaning •**
The right of conscience and the use of the democratic process within our
congregations • **we share draws from** community with
peace, liberty, and justice for all • Respect for the interdependent web of all
existence of **many sources including** share draws
from many sources • Direct experience of that transcending mystery and
wonder, affirming the power of human beauty, the awe and inspiration of the
and an openness to the forces which create and sustain life • Words and
deeds of prophetic women and men which challenge us to confront powers
and structures of oppression, violence, and social injustice • Inspiring power
of love • Wisdom from the world's religions which inspires us in our ethical
and spiritual lives • A collective mission to respond to the deepest longings
to God's love by loving our neighbors as ourselves • Humanist teachings
which comfort, cheer, and sustain us in our lives • The best of science,
and warn us against idolatry of the mind and spirit • Spiritual teachings of
earth-centered traditions which inspire us to live in **harmony with the**
rhythms of nature. Grateful for the religious
pluralism which enriches and ennobles our faith, we are inspired to deepen
our understanding and expand our vision. As free congregations we enter
into this covenant, promising to one another our mutual trust and support.

Arlington Street Church
Boston, Massachusetts
Founded in 1729

Gathered in love and service for justice and peace

Welcome!

TO ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH, UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST

Whether you are a longtime member, a regular guest, or a first-time visitor, we warmly welcome you to this morning's service. The experience of worship in this congregation strives to create a *community of seekers*, celebrating and nurturing a broad diversity of personal spiritual journeys.

Unitarian Universalism is rooted in a rich, historic tradition that embraces the ancient foundations of Jewish and Christian teaching and the flowering of liberal religious thought in early New England. It also affirms the truths of all of humanity's sacred paths as inspirations for our spiritual growth. Through quiet prayer and meditation, beautiful music, the sharing of our joys and concerns, and the message of the pulpit, we try to create a variety of textures and perspectives to speak to many different minds and hearts.

Most significantly, since its founding in 1729, Arlington Street Church has been "gathered in love and service for justice and peace." The ultimate meaning we can give to our experience together here is the challenge we take into our hearts to go forth from this place, working to transform and heal our lives and relationships, our community, and the world!

Please take a moment to complete this card so that we may welcome you more fully to our congregation. Please drop it into the offering plate or hand it to an usher after the service.

12/16/2007

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone numbers _____

E-mail _____

Spouse/Partner _____

Children's Name(s) & Age(s) _____

- I/we are visiting for the first time.
- I/we have been attending ASC for _____
- I/we would like a permanent nametag(s) for Sunday worship.
(Nametags are placed on a rack in the vestibule.)
- Check here if you do *not* want to receive **Snapshot**, the e-newsletter of ASC with bi-weekly highlights of our community.

I prefer to be contacted by:

- Mail
- Phone
- E-mail
- No preference

I would like to know more about:

- Membership Classes/Joining ASC
- Children's Religious Education
- Adult Religious Education and *Connections* (ASC's small group ministry)
- Other _____
- Choir/Music
- Social Action

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist
Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16TH, 2007

Mitten Tree Sunday
Happy Solstice! and ¡Las Posadas!

PRELUDE

A Phrygian Berceuse
A Dorian Pastoral
Prelude on “Slane”

Jeffrey Smith
Eric Thiman (1900 – 1975)
Thiman
Gordon Young (1919 – 1998)

THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Joy to the World

WELCOME, PARISH HIGHLIGHTS, AND GREETINGS

CHALICE LIGHTING

Sherene Aram

Our flaming chalice, symbol of Unitarian Universalism, burns in celebration of the principles and purposes of our liberal faith.

***CAROL AND MITTEN TREE DECORATING**

The Twelve Days of Christmas

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1. partridge in a pear tree | 7. swans a-swimming |
| 2. turtle doves | 8. maids a-milking |
| 3. french hens | 9. ladies dancing |
| 4. calling birds | 10. lords a-leaping |
| 5. gold rings | 11. pipers piping |
| 6. geese a-laying | 12 drummers drumming |

While the children of our church school present their very special artwork created in celebration of the magical twelve days, you are invited to join in decorating the Mitten Tree with gifts for guests of our Friday Night Supper program. Thank you!

**COMMUNITY CANDLES
OF JOY AND SORROW**

Desmond Ravenstone

HYMN 123 (seated)

Spirit of Life

Carolyn McDade,

Spanish trans. *Rev. Lilia Cuervo* and *Ervin Barrios*

Spirit of Life, come unto me.
Sing in my heart, all the stirrings of compassion.
Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
Move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; wings set me free;
Spirit of life, come to me, come to me.

Fuente de Amor, ven hacia mí.
Y al corazón, cántale tu compasión.
Sopla al volar, sube en la mar;
Hasta moldear la justicia de la vida.
Arráigame, libérame,
Fuente de Amor, ven a mí, ven a mí.

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.

***CAROL FOR LAS POSADAS**

Alegre Vengo

Alegre vengo de la montaña
de mi cabaña que alegre está
y a mis amigos les traigo flores
de las mejores de mi rosál.
Y a mis amigos les traigo flores
de las mejores de mi rosál.

Valentina Paez

Trad. Carol from Puerto Rico

Happy I come from the mountains
from my home that is joyful
And I bring flowers to my friends
The best flowers from my rose bush
And I bring flowers to my friends
The best flowers from my rose bush

The children are invited to go to their classes with Dan Kane, intern minister, and Erick DuPree, children's religious educator, at the conclusion of this carol.

SERMON

Releasing Expectations

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

ANTHEM

Hallelujah from Messiah *Georg Frederick Handel* (1685 – 1759)

OUR SHARED RESPONSIBILITY

Over 300 pledging members and friends support the work of Arlington Street Church with commitments averaging \$20 a week plus volunteer service. Whatever you give is greatly appreciated. Please consider a generous donation today! Contributions placed in an envelope will be credited toward your pledge or gift.

OFFERTORY

Ev'ry Valley from Messiah

Handel

***CAROL 226**

People Look East

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

May the Peace of the World's Beauty

Tom Benjamin

May the peace of the world's beauty restore us,
and the vision of a world at peace
provoke us ever onward, provoke us ever onward.
Amen, amen.

***BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

POSTLUDE

Postlude in G

Henry Smart (1813 – 1879)

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

...and Service is Our Gift

Sherene Aram, Prudential Committee Member
Erick DuPree, Children's Religious Educator
Carol Fisher and Ellen Spencer, Assistant Treasurers
Lois Hartsough, Lead Worship Coordinator
Darin Jensen, creative lead for the Twelve Days
Alex Rodriguez Powers-Patey,
Children's Religious Education Assistant
Desmond Ravenstone, Candles Coordinator
Jeffrey Smith, Guest Organist
Ellen Spencer, Head Usher
Rev. George Whitehouse, Associate Worship Coordinator

OUR UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FAITH

“The living tradition we share draws from many sources including spiritual teachings of earth-centered traditions which celebrate the sacred circle of life and instruct us to live in harmony with the rhythms of nature.”

This is the sixth of the six sources of Unitarian Universalism from which our living tradition draws. To read all six sources, as well as the seven principles of our free faith, please see the *Our Faith* brochure in the pew rack.

ALLELUIA!

At Arlington Street Church, we raise a hand and circle two fingers above our heads to signal joyous affirmation.

CHILDREN’S PROGRAMMING

Children’s Religious Education classes are held during the 11:00 AM service downstairs in the Perkins Room. Infant care is provided in the nursery, right off the sanctuary. An usher will be happy to lead you and your children there. For further information about our Children’s Religious Education program, please contact the church office.

SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS FOR SPECIAL NEEDS

FM amplification headsets are available from the ushers. Please do not remove them from the sanctuary. **Accessible** entry is via the ramp on the Arlington Street alley at the right-hand side of the front doors to the Church. **Braille** hymnals are available! Please ask an usher for assistance.

PARKING AT ARLINGTON STREET CHURCH

Parking on Sundays is available at the Back Bay Garage for a discount. Discount coupons are available from Alison Green Will, or at the Welcome Table after worship. Additional parking may be available on Arlington Street past “The Castle.”

CONGREGATIONAL LEADERSHIP

The *Prudential Committee* is the elected governing board of ASC. The members are: Sherene Aram, Tori Bell, Marilyn Castriotta, Charlene Galarneau, Elizabeth Lindholm, David McClain, Steven Procopio (Co-Chair), Jenn Shaw, and Mark Watanabe (Co-Chair). Officers of the Corporation are Herbert Gleason (moderator), Sarah Richards (vice-moderator), D. Richard Pooler (treasurer), and Carol Smith (clerk).

Directory

Ministry

Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie, Sr. Minister
Office@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10

Dan Kane, Intern Minister
DKane@ASCBoston.org, ext. 18

Rev. George G. Whitehouse, Minister at Large
GWhitehouse@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10

Music

Mark Buckles, Acting Music Director
MBuckles@ASCBoston.org, ext. 41

NB: To reach any staff member by phone, dial 617-536-7050. When prompted, enter their extension.

Program

Alison Green Will,
Membership and Leadership Coordinator
AWill@ASCBoston.org, ext. 19

Administrative

Edward Thomas, Business Administrator
EThomas@ASCBoston.org, ext. 16

Corey Spence, Administrative Assistant
office@ASCBoston.org, ext. 10

Jeffrey Bouchard, Facilities Manager
JBouchard@ASCBoston.org, ext. 14

Brad Nobles, Sexton
office@ASCBoston.org, ext. 17

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