

Arlington Street Church, Unitarian Universalist

Boston, Massachusetts

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 23RD, 2012

ADVENT 4 ~ LOVE

PRELUDE

Good King Wenceslas *Ovid Young* (b. 1970)
Sleigh Ride *Leroy Anderson* (1908-1975)
Molly Wood, piano

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Angels from the Realms of Glory .. text: *James Montgomery* (1771-1864)
music: *Henry Smart* (1813-1879)
arr. *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

CHALICE LIGHTING

A String of Christmas Lights *Phillip McCrary*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

Love *Catie Scudera, Intern Minister*

PARISH HIGHLIGHTS AND GREETINGS

*CAROL 239

Go Tell It on the Mountain

COMMUNITY CANDLES OF SORROW & JOY

You are invited to share your sorrows and joys with the congregation by filling out a Candle Card in the back pew on the right-hand side of the sanctuary. Candle Cards are collected until the beginning of the first hymn. After the service, Candle Cards are posted downstairs during coffee hour. You may also submit a candle by Saturday night at the church website, ASCBoston.org, by clicking on "Worship."

Some of us pray with words, some of us pray through action, and some of us use words other than prayer to describe our connection to the divine and to one another. As you feel called, please join us in singing the chorus of *Healing Prayer*.

Healing Prayer music: *Nick Page* (b. 1952)
text: *African American Spiritual "Balm in Gilead" and Nick Page*
Glorivy Arroyo, mezzo soprano; Julie Gregorio, soprano

The image shows musical notation for the chorus of 'Healing Prayer'. It consists of two staves: 'Drone' and 'Melody'. Both staves are in 3/4 time and have a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The Drone staff has a treble clef and contains a series of quarter notes: B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, B-flat, E-flat, A-flat. The Melody staff has a treble clef and contains a series of notes: B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, B-flat, E-flat, A-flat, B-flat, E-flat, A-flat. The lyrics 'We pray' are written under the first three notes of the melody, and 'We' is written under the last note. A triplet of eighth notes is marked over the first three notes of the melody.

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.
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LESSON

The Snail Express Laura Evonne Steinman

***CAROL**

Rudolph, The Red-Nosed Reindeer text: *Robert May* (1905-1976)
music: *Johnny Marks* (1909-1985)

Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer had a very shiny nose.
And if you ever saw him, you would even say it glows.
All of the other reindeer used to laugh and call him names.
They never let poor Rudolph join in any reindeer games.
Then one foggy Christmas Eve, Santa came to say:
“Rudolph with your nose so bright
won’t you guide my sleigh tonight?”
Then all the reindeer loved him, as they shouted out with glee,
“Rudolph the red-nosed reindeer, you’ll go down in history!”

LESSON

Take Joy Ann S. Clarke

***CAROL 236**

O Thou Joyful Day

LESSON

A Blue Diwali Catie Scudera

CANTICLE

Tomorrow Never Knows, *in memory of Ravi Shankar* (1920-2012)
Lennon/McCartney; arr. *Mark David Buckles* (b. 1980)

LESSON

Wild and Sweet Rev. Kim K. Crawford Harvie

SILENT REFLECTION, MEDITATION, AND PRAYER

***CAROL 240**

I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day

ANTHEM

In the Lonely Midnight music: *Elizabeth Alexander* (b. 1962)
text: *Rev. Theodore Chickering Williams* (1855-1915)

In the lonely midnight on the wintry hill,
Shepherds heard the angels singing, “Peace, good will.”
Listen, O ye weary, to the angels’ song,
Unto to you the tidings of great joy belong.

Though in David's city angels sing no more,
Love makes angel music on earth's darkest shore;
Though no heavenly glory meet your wondering eyes,
Love can make your dwelling bright as paradise.

Though the Child of Mary, sent from heaven on high,
In His manger cradle may no longer lie,
Love is King forever, though the proud world scorn;
If ye truly seek Him, Christ your King is born.

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

What Child Is This? *Traditional English Carol*
Rodger Clinton Vine, organ arr. *Richard Purvis* (1913-1994)

***CAROL 231**

Angels We Have Heard on High

***BENEDICTION AND EXTINGUISHING THE CHALICE**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

We Wish You A Merry Christmas *trad. 16th century English Carol*

We wish you a Merry Christmas (3)
and a Happy New Year!

Good Tidings we bring to you and your kin.

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

POSTLUDE

Finale from *Variations on a Noel* *Marcel Dupré* (1886-1971)
Rodger Clinton Vine, organ

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

TODAY in CRE

Children's Religious Education (CRE)

Today is our lessons and carols service for all to enjoy! If your child is getting restless, head to the Perkins room to create crowns for the Christmas Eve service. Thanks to Deb Pontes for this activity!

On Sunday, December 30th, Laura, our religious educator, won't be here, but CRE will be baking cookies for those who are going to ring in the new year right here, at Arlington Street!

On Sunday, January 6th, we begin our theme of "sharing" by sharing our wishes for the new year. We'll also prepare to draw animal designs that we can later transfer onto wood for the garden!