

Welcome Home To Your . . .



***Your Local & Global
Queer Church Community for All.***

A Positive Worship Experience

Today's Theme

We're Still Here

Sunday, August 27th 2023

All Are Welcome!

Service of Gathering

Welcome - Rev Dr Robert Griffin, Executive Minister

Announcements - Rev Dr Anne Atwell, Minister of Connections

Introit – *O God Beyond All Praising*

O God beyond all praising, we worship you today and sing the love amazing that songs cannot repay;

For we can only wonder at every gift you send, at blessings without number and mercies without end:

We lift our hearts before you and wait upon your word, we honor and adore you, our great and mighty Lord.

Sunshine Cathedral Affirmation

*Sunshine Cathedral is a different kind of church where: *Our God is love.*

**Kindness is our worship.*

**Compassion is our prayer.*

**The sacred value of all people is our creed; and*

**Healing the hurts caused by hatred is our mission.*

The Call to Worship

One: This is the day that has been made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Service of Praise

Crucifer: Tito McWilliams-Ramos

Processional Hymn - *Rescue the Perishing*

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, snatch them in pity from fear that is grave;

Weep o'er the erring one, lift up the fallen, tell them of Jesus who's loving always.

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, Jesus is merciful, Jesus always.

*Down in the human heart, crushed by temptation, feelings lie buried that grace can restore;
Touched by a loving heart, wakened by kindness, chords that were broken will vibrate once more.*

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, Jesus is merciful, Jesus always.

Rescue the perishing, duty demands it; strength for your labors true Love will provide;

Back to the caring way patiently help them; tell the poor wand'rer that Hope is alive.

Rescue the perishing, care for the dying, Jesus is merciful, Jesus always.

Opening Prayer (by Ernest Holmes) – Rev Renwick Bell
One: Let us pray in unison:

All: Perfect God within me, Perfect life within me, which is God, come forth into expression through me as that which I Am: lead me ever in the paths of perfection and cause me to see only the Good. Amen.

Please be seated.

Service of Proclamation

A Reading from the Drama of Job (1.1; 2.1-10; 23.2-4, 6-7)

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

There was once a man in the land of Uz whose name was Job. That man was blameless and upright, one who feared God and turned away from evil.

One day the heavenly beings came to present themselves before the LORD, and [the] satan also came among them to present himself before the LORD.

The LORD said to [the] satan, "Where have you come from?" The satan answered the LORD, "From going to and fro on the earth, and from walking up and down on it."

The LORD said to [the] satan, "Have you considered my servant Job? There is no one like him on the earth, a blameless and upright man who adores God and turns away from evil. He still persists in his integrity, although you incited me against him, to destroy him for no reason." Then [the] satan answered the LORD, "Skin for skin! All that people have they will give to save their lives. But stretch out your hand now and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face."

The LORD said..."Very well, he is in your power; only spare his life."

So, the satan went out from the presence of the LORD, and inflicted loathsome sores on Job from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still persist in your integrity? Curse God, and die."

Then Job answered: "Today my complaint is bitter... Oh, that I knew where I might find God, that I might come even to God's dwelling! I would plead my case... God would give heed to me. There an upright person could reason with God, and I should be acquitted.

In these human words, God voice is heard.
Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

Another Reading from the Drama of Job (38.1-7, 29, 34-41; 42.1-3, 10)

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

Then the LORD answered Job out of a whirlwind: "Who is this that darkens counsel by words without knowledge? Gird up your loins...I will question you, and you shall declare to me.

Where were you when I laid the foundation of the earth? Tell me, if you have understanding. Who determined its measurements--surely you know! Or who stretched the line upon it? On what were its bases sunk, or who laid its cornerstone when the morning stars sang together and all the heavenly beings shouted for joy? Out of whose womb came the ice and heavenly frost?

Can you lift up your voice to the clouds, so that a flood of waters may cover you?
Can you send forth lightnings, so that they may go and say to you, 'Here we are'?

Who has put wisdom in the inward parts, or given understanding to the mind?
Who has the wisdom to number the clouds? Or who can tilt the waterskins of the heavens, when the dust runs into a mass and the clods cling together?

Can you hunt the prey for the lion, or satisfy the appetite of the young lions,
when they crouch in their dens, or lie in wait in their covert?

Who provides for the raven its prey, when its young ones cry to God, and wander about for lack of food?

Then Job answered the LORD: "I know that you can do all things, and that no purpose of yours can be thwarted. I have uttered what I did not understand, things too wonderful for me, which I did not know."

And the LORD restored the fortunes of Job when he had prayed for his friends; and the LORD gave Job twice as much as he had before.

In these human words, God voice is heard.
Thanks be to God.

Song of Response - Shine on Me (AAHH 527)

*Shine on me, shine on me, let the light from the lighthouse shine on me.
Shine on me, shine one me, let the light from the lighthouse shine one me.*

Anthem - Something's Coming | Music: Leonard Bernstein | Lyrics: Stephen Sondheim
Performed by Aaron Ball

Homily – We're Still Here – Rev Dr Robert Griffin

Invitation to Prayer

Prayer Chorus - Til the Storm Passes By

In the dark of the midnight, I have oft hid my face, while the storms howl above me, and there's no hiding place;

'Mid the crash of the thunder, precious One, hear my cry, keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

Many times someone told me, there is no need to try, for there's no end of sorrow, there's no hope by and by.

But I know God is with me, and tomorrow I'll rise where the storms never darken the skies.

'Til the storm passes over, 'til the thunder sounds no more, 'til the clouds roll forever from the sky,

Hold me fast, let me stand in the hollow of your hand; keep me safe 'til the storm passes by.

Pastoral Prayer & Prayer Affirmations

Sharing the Sign of Peace

Song of Response - Lean on Me

Some times in our lives we all have pain; we all have sorrow. But if we are wise, we know that there's always tomorrow.

Lean on me when you're not strong – and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on; for it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

Please swallow your pride if I have things you need to borrow. But no one can fill those of your needs that you won't let show.

Lean on me when you're not strong – and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on; for it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

If there is a load you have to bear that you can't carry, I'm right up the road, I'll share your load if you just call me.

Lean on me when you're not strong – and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on; for it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

Just call on me dearest when you need a hand. We all need somebody to lean on. I just might have a problem that you'd understand. We all need somebody to lean on.

Lean on me when you're not strong – and I'll be your friend, I'll help you carry on; for it won't be long 'til I'm gonna need somebody to lean on.

Service of Sacraments

Sacrament of Sharing (Tithes & Offerings)

Rev Kevin Tisdol

Stewardship Thought

"True generosity is an offering, giving freely and out of pure love, no strings attached."

Suze Orman

Offering Prayer

Divine Love, through me, blesses and multiplies all that I have, all that I give, and all that I receive. Thank you, God. Amen.

Offertory Music - Bowl of Apricots No.1 | By Craig Bakalian

Performed by David Suarez

Rise as you are able.

Doxology

God Whose Giving Knows No Ending

*Lend your joy to all our giving, let it light our pilgrim way;
from the night of anxious keeping, loose us in to generous day.*

*Then when years on earth are over, and we've lived our human span,
God, fulfill be young our dreaming, all our stewardship began.*

Service of Hospitality

We Remember

Ron Malven 08/27/1989 – Scott Parkin 08/27/1990
Bill Pazienza 08/27/2000 – Kenneth Brunell 08/28/2005
Raymond F. Leffler 08/29/1985 – Warren Callahan 08/29/2009
Donald Rau 09/01/2014 – Ken Nadaud 09/02/1994
Orlando Diaz 09/02/2009 – Al LaMorges 09/02/2016

Rainbow Candle I is lit

In Memory of Paul Griffin – 8/24/2023
By Rev Dr Anne Atwell & Amy Walker

Eucharistic Intentions – Rev Renwick Bell

One: We celebrate this Eucharist to the glory of God and with special intentions for the Sunshine Cathedral's local and global congregations.

*May we be filled with loving kindness. May we be well.
May we be filled with loving kindness. May we be well.
May we be peaceful and at ease. May we be whole.*

Intercessions – Rev Kevin Tisdol

One: Creative Spirit of Life, we give thanks for all the blessings that are ours. We seek strength to bear the pain that may be ours. In our hearts, we would acknowledge our failures to keep faith with our sisters and brothers. This day and every day, may we affirm the grace of all creation; may we be ever mindful of the world's need for greater compassion, justice, and beauty; and with people all over the world we pray,

All: May peace prevail on earth.

One: And so, it is that we now continue our prayers as Jesus modeled...

Model Prayer

*Creator which art in heaven, hallowed be thy names.
Thy kin-dom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us
our debts as we forgive our debtors. And leave us not in
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kin-dom
and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.*

Please be seated.

The Lord's Supper - Rev Dr Anne Atwell

One: On the night of his arrest, Jesus shared a Passover meal with his closest companions. He compared sharing bread to being a body where many parts work together within and as a whole.

He compared a memorial cup to the life-blood of a ministry dedicated to justice-love.

And he asked that when such a meal was shared again, that he be remembered (+), so that his life and love would be present in their blessed memories.

All: We remember. We share. We give thanks. We summon hope. We are one. Amen.

Invitation to Communion – Rev Renwick Bell

One: These are the gifts of God for all the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Communion is Shared

Communion Song - Be Still

*Be still and know that I'm with you
Be still and know that I am here
Be still and know that I'm with you
Be still, be still, and know*

*When darkness comes upon you
And colors you with fear and shame
Be still and know that I'm with you*

*And I will say your name
If terror falls upon your bed
And sleep no longer comes
Remember all the words I said
Be still, be still, and know*

*And when you go through the valley
And the shadow comes down from the hill
If morning never comes to be
Be still, be still, be still*

*If you forget the way to go
And lose where you came from
If no one is standing beside you*

*Be still and know I am
Be still and know that I'm with you
Be still and know I am*

Prayer of Thanksgiving – Rev Dr Anne Atwell

Noisy Offering

Please rise as you are able.

The Prayer of Protection

*The light of God surrounds us; the love of God enfolds us.
The power of God protects us; the presence of God
watches over us. Wherever we are, God is.*

Benediction - Rev Dr Robert Griffin

Final Song - Love Train

Commissioning

One: Our worship has ended. Let our service begin!

All: Thanks be to God!

Postlude - Barbara Ramcharitar

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Silent Helpers

Prayer Ministry

You can hear a prayer at any time by calling 954.462.2004 (press 6)

WE PRAY FOR THE FOLLOWING...

Craig H.; Kyle; CJB; Steve P. (of blessed memory); Nancy (of blessed memory); TL; Maureen; Teri; Ren's mom; Mama Tullo; Christina; Maxine; SDB; Orion and family; Ken B. (of blessed memory); Jennifer & Janet; A.M.; Grace; Crystal (of blessed memory); Kevin & Kelli; Melissa & Carol; Linda & Kim; Lenae; SD & KW; "mom & dad"; DonnaChristine; Lynne; Elaine; Christina; Gordon; WL; Susan S.; Logan and family; Craig H.; Diana N.; MLF; Anita; Rob L.; WPR;

Colleen; EH; Roxanne; David; Noah; Bruce; Marcelo; Jim; Rosemary; Raymont A.; Bary; MDR; John S.; Lewis family; Beverly; Alice M.; RG; Renaldo; Aaron; Virginia; Bill; Angel & family; Brian; Mark; Bill & NTP; CJ; Steven; Wendy & Victor; Belinda's friend; MM; Marsha; Madeline; Carlton; Kewona BC; the people of Hawaii;

all who work for peace and justice; those who are incarcerated; The people of Ukraine; Drag performers; Trans and non-binary youth; Troy & Phillip; Don E.; those in nursing care and assisted living facilities; LGBTQ+ communities; Global Justice Institute; DSFI; the ministries of Sunshine Cathedral; members & friends of Sunshine Cathedral; all who are part of the Sunshine Cathedral Global Fellowship

LET US PRAYER...

These for whom we pray are spirit, and spirit is life and love, everlasting wholeness, perfect joy, and abiding peace. We see the Truth of these light bearers, these children of God, these spiritual beings and we call forth the Truth to be made manifest in the realm of experience. Miracles abound because there is nothing to fear; there is only love and joy and peace, and so it is that we are thankful. Amen.

Sunshine Cathedral SunBurst New

SAVE THE DATE: 60th Anniversary of the 16th Street Baptist Church Bombing

New Era Masonic Lodge No. 69 PHO and Sunshine Cathedral Presents - "The bomb that shuck a nation!"

A family movie and conversation commemorating the 60th anniversary of the 16th street Baptist church bombing

With church bombing survivor Mr. Earl Davis as guest speaker.

Also showing Spikes Lee "4 Little Girls"

Friday, September 15, 2023 at 7PM at Sunshine Cathedral.

Community partners:

New Era Masonic Lodge

Sunshine Cathedral

African American Research Library

Faith & Love Empowerment Center

Ujima Men's Collective

More information coming soon.

SAVE THE DATE: Sunshine Cathedral Foundation presents a Seminar on Estate Planning & Legacy Giving. Saturday, September 30th beginning at 10AM. Registration | RSVP information will be available soon.

QUEER GOD SQUAD – is a topical panel show produced by Happening Out and featuring Sunshine Cathedral ministers. Watch it daily on the social media and streaming venues where you watch other Sunshine Cathedral programming. When you see it, post it on your social media and tag others. We want to get our message out far and wide. You can do the same with our Sunday services... post and tag. We are trying to reach the world with truly good news.

ANNUAL FALL HARVEST CAMPAIGN – This is the season we put aside money for our Fall Harvest Campaign. Our goal is for every member and friend of Sunshine Cathedral to give \$99 above and beyond their normal gifts on the Sunday before Thanksgiving. By putting aside as little as a dollar a day, we can easily reach that goal. The Harvest Campaign is an easy way to help our ministries thrive. Please join us in committing to giving an extra \$99 in the Fall, and we can start preparing for that right now.

LOAVES & FISHES – The first Sunday of each month is Loaves & Fishes Sunday. We ask people on that Sunday to bring non-perishable food items to help us stock our food pantry. Thank you for helping us combat food insecurity in our community.

GLOBAL FELLOWSHIP – Those who don't live locally but who wish to be part of the Sunshine Cathedral community can learn about the Sunshine Cathedral Global Fellowship by visiting SunshineCathedral.org

OUR SUNDAY BROADCAST is made possible by Happening Out Television Network. Happening Out is housed at Sunshine Cathedral Square. Happening Out programming can be viewed on YouTube, Facebook, Roku, and other streaming venues.

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL PERFORMING ARTS SERIES

As we prepare to launch our 15th Season of the Performing Arts Series, October 2023 - April 2024, with over 25 performances, we invite you to consider becoming a member of the **Sunshine Cathedral Center for the Performing Arts Guild**. You can find a list of currently scheduled shows, and more are being added, at SunshineCathedral.org and select Performing Arts.

Sunshine Circle - \$25.00 – Name appears in program book.

Sunshine Sponsor - \$50.00 – Congratulatory message to SC Center for the Performing Arts

Sunshine Bronze - \$150.00 – Vertical or Horizontal business card ad 3.5"x2" or 2"x3.5"

Sunshine Silver - \$200.00 – Half Page ad 4.5" wide x 3/75" high

Sunshine Benefactor - \$400.00 – Full Page ad 4.5" wide x 7.5" high

Sunshine Gold - \$1,200.00 – *Individual*

1 Season Pass for all shows. Accesses to Pre-Show Gatherings, *when applicable*.

VIP Seating, which includes drinks. VIP Reserved Parking. Name listed in program.

Full Page ad 4.5" wide x 7.5" high

Platinum \$3,600.00 - *Corporate*

4 VIP Tickets for all shows. Accesses to Pre-Show Gatherings, *when applicable*.

VIP Seating. VIP Reserved Parking. Name listed in program. Organization/Business Ad in Pre-Show Video

Sponsors are listed in all electronic Sunshine Cathedral Center for the Performing Arts Marketing. 2 Full Page ad 4.5" wide x 7.5" high

SAINTS OF THE WEEK

August 27: Simeon Bachos (first century CE) – The Ethiopian Eunuch who interacted with the Deacon Philip (Acts 8), a high ranking official in the court of the Ethiopian Queen, is considered by many Queer theologians and hermeneuticists to be a Queer figure (gay or non-binary by today's understandings). He was baptized by Philip. Since the late 2nd century this Ethiopian Eunuch has been known as Simeon Bachos. In 2022 he became a saint in the Episcopal Church.

August 30: Louise Hay (1926 – 2017) – Louise had a difficult start to life. She was abused as a child, dropped out of high school, became a model and married a successful business man, but 14 years later they divorced. It wasn't until she was in her 40s that she discovered the Science of Mind philosophy and studied to become first a Religious Science Practitioner and then a minister. She survived cancer and became a writer, painter, motivational speaker, and publisher. Love, forgiveness, and affirmations were her trademark tools for healing and transformation. Her career as a spiritual leader lasted almost 50 years wherein, she gave people hope and courage to face the difficulties in life. At the outbreak of the AIDS crisis, she started "The Hayride", a popular support group for people diagnosed with a disease that at that time had no treatment. After a long and fascinating life, Louise made her transition about two months before her 91st birthday.

August 31: Aidan of Lindisfarne (590-651) - Irish monk credited with restoring Christianity to Northumbria. He founded a cathedral on the island of Lindisfarne and served as its first bishop. He is known as the Apostle of Northumbria.

September 1: Socrates (469 – 399 BCE) - believed in the mind/body connection. He said, "One ought not to attempt to cure the body without the soul." He also believed in the continuity of life beyond the death of the body. Rather than focusing on the Greek gods of his time, Socrates believed in tending to an "Inner Voice." He was executed (by poison), but said, "You can kill my body, but you cannot kill me." The story of a noble teacher who is executed but who cannot stay dead is also found, of course, in the Christian gospels!

Plato (427 – 347 BCE) - taught that there was a definite energy that emerged out of the cosmic nothingness of "mind." He suggested that this energy was the product of thought and it resulted in ideas which precede manifest form. In fact, Plato believed ideas were the source of life, purpose, and meaning. He believed souls (self-aware consciousness) pre-existed before their human incarnation and that they came to this life with prior knowledge. He believed that everything existed in relation to its resemblance to a Universal Form.

Aristotle (384 – 322 BCE) - believed the universe is governed by [spiritual] law. He defined God as "the first cause and the final cause of all being." Believing in the perfection of God, Aristotle also believed that everything in the world aspires to share in that divine perfection.

Philo (circa 20 BCE – 50 CE) taught that it is our duty to offer love and kindness towards others. He seemed to be able to harmonize Plato's philosophy with teachings of the Hebrew scriptures. He often read the scriptures allegorically rather than literally. He believed that God directs all activity through the Logos (the power of Ideas, Reason, Wisdom).

September 2: Emma Curtis Hopkins (1849 – 1925) - a student of Mary Baker Eddy's and for a time an editor for the Christian Science Journal, Emma and Mrs. Eddy eventually had a parting of the ways. Emma started her own seminary in Chicago and taught students who would become the greats of New Thought, including: Helen Wilmons, Myrtle and Charles Fillmore, a Mrs. Bingham (who introduced metaphysical healing to the Brooks sisters), Annie Rix Militiz, and briefly late in her life, Ernest Holmes. Because of her influence over the founders of so many New Thought groups, ECH is often called, "the Teacher of Teachers."

Helen Brungardt (1931 – 1998) – a New Thought minister with training in and connections to Rosicrucian spirituality, the Science of Mind, Unity, Kriya Yoga (Center of Spiritual Awareness), and Divine Science. She was the minister of Symphony of Life Church in Corrales, New Mexico and a member of the International New Thought Alliance.

Weekly Abundance Snapshot: August 14 - 20, 2023

Our Weekly Need: \$12,043.96

Income Available for Ministry: \$10,929.98

Our (Unclaimed)/Abundance: (\$1,113.98)

SC Square Worship Services: 235

SC Global Fellowship: 192,432

People at SC Square (Weekly Avg): 6,000

Food Sharing Ministry: Total Reached: 744

Remember

Join us for Coffee Hour every Sunday between services in the Social Hall.
Great opportunity for Coffee, Conversation and Connections.

Next Church Potluck

Wednesday, September 20th from 6:00PM – 7:30PM

Sunshine Cathedral Performing Arts

For more information and tickets
visit SunshineCathedral.org

2023 Performances

Marie Schwartz, Flutist
Sunday, 3 September

Organ & Piano Concert
Barbara Ramcharitar & Jihong Park-Adams
Saturday, 23 September (Admission Free)

Muse Duo: Collin Holloway & Luke Benedict
Saturday, 14 October

Judy Gold, Comedian
Saturday, 21 October

Phil Hinton & Jazz Band
Friday, 27 October

The 701 Club with Sister Helen Holy
Elenor Roseafelt as Musical Director
(18+)
Saturday, 18 November

Anthony Nunziata, Vocalist
Saturday, 9 December

2024 Performances

Varla Jean Merman's Stand by Your Drag
(18+)
Saturday, 3 January

Duo Formosa Catherine Lan, Concert
Pianist & Huifang Chen, Violinist
Saturday, 6 January

Tributes
Joe Posa as Joan Rivers & Seith Sikes
(18+)
Saturday, 13 January

Emmanuel Vass, UK Pianist
Hosted by Genvas – Venetian Arts Society
Thursday, 18 January

Tom Goss – Musical Concert
Friday, 19 January

Ross Mathews, Comedian
Saturday, 20 January

Alex Roitman Tango Ensemble
Sunday, 21 January

Christopher Hamblin - "Here in the South"
Friday, 26 January

Alexander Zenoz and the Birds of Paradise
Hosted by ArtsUnited
Saturday, 27 January

Latrice Royale (18+)
Saturday, 10 February

Mark Hayes, Musical Concert
Sunday, 11 February

Matt Alber, Musical Concert
Friday, 16 February

Miss Richfield, 1981 in Bad Advice
(18+)
Saturday, 17 February

R&B Meets Pop, then Opera
Hosted by ArtsUnited
Friday, 23 February

Anne Steele – Musical Concert
Saturday, 24 February

Caroline Rhea, Comedian
Saturday, 2 March

An Evening with Levi Kreis
Hosted by ArtsUnited
Saturday, 16 March

Amy Armstrong – Musical Concert
Saturday, 23 March

Anastasiya Naplekova & Lindsay Garritson
Concert for Ukraine Relief Efforts
Sunday, 5 May

Master Chorale of South Florida
Considering Matthew Shepard
Friday, May 31 & June

