

*Welcome Home To Your . . .*



*Your Local & Global Queer Church Community for All*

*A Positive Worship Experience*

*Today's Theme*

*Immersed in Divine Love*

*Sunday, April 25<sup>th</sup> 2021*

*October 2020 Began Our  
50th Church Year Long Anniversary Celebration  
October 1971 - 2021*

## **Service of Gathering**

*Welcome*

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins & Rev Dr Robert Griffin

*Announcements*

Rev Kevin Tisdol

***Please rise as you are able.***

### **Opening Affirmation**

*Sunshine Cathedral is a different kind of church where the past is past and the future has infinite possibilities.*

### **The Call to Worship**

This is the day our God has made.

*Let us rejoice and be glad in it.*

## **Service of Praise**

### **Processional Hymn**

*Wade in the Water*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children,  
wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water.*

*See that host all dressed in white,  
God's gonna trouble the water.  
The leader looks like the Israelite,  
God's gonna trouble the water.*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children,  
wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water.*

*See that band all dressed in red,  
God's gonna trouble the water.  
Looks like the band that Moses led,  
God's gonna trouble the water.*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children, wade in  
the water, God's gonna trouble the water.*

*If you don't believe I've been redeemed,  
God's gonna trouble the water.  
Just follow me down to Jordan's stream,  
God's gonna trouble the water.*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children,  
wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water.*

*Wade in the water, wade in the water children,  
wade in the water, God's gonna trouble the water.*

## **Opening Prayer**

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

Spirit of life,  
we come together during this season of Eastertide to  
rejoice in the ongoing song of life that is within us and  
around us.

In this season of renewal, of life bursting into bloom or  
song,  
remind us that we have an inner beauty,  
reflecting the image of your creative power.

Spirit of Resurrection, remind us of the power of hope to  
triumph over fear, the power of love to prevail over the  
horrors of hate, the potential for peace to be victorious  
over hostility.

We pray for all that is still possible, but not yet fulfilled...  
Spirit of life, as we feel you flowing and pulsing within,  
we pray for a courageous and joyous faith,  
empowering us to become our finest and truest selves,  
empowering us to see your image in our neighbors,  
empowering us to participate with you in the creation  
of a new time of life,  
in which love, justice, beauty and peace are abundantly  
available to all.

In faith we pray.

***Amen.***

### **Sung Response**

*Always With Me*

*Always with me! I can never stray beyond God's tender  
care, for our God is omnipresent, here and there and  
everywhere.*

*Yes, everywhere, and everywhere, here and there and  
everywhere.*

***Please be seated.***

## **Service of Proclamation**

### **The Acts of the Apostles (8.26-31)**

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

Then an angel of the Lord said to Philip, "Get up and  
go toward the south to the road that goes down from  
Jerusalem to Gaza." (This is a wilderness road.) So he  
got up and went. Now there was an Ethiopian eunuch,  
a court official of the Candace, queen of the Ethiopi-  
ans, in charge of her entire treasury. He had come to  
Jerusalem to worship and was returning home; seated  
in his chariot, he was reading the prophet Isaiah. Then  
the Spirit said to Philip, "Go over to this chariot and  
join it." So Philip ran up to it and heard him reading the  
prophet Isaiah. He asked, "Do you understand what you  
are reading?" He replied, "How can I, unless someone  
guides me?" And he invited Philip to get in and sit beside  
him.

In these human words, God's voice is heard.

*Thanks be to God.*

***Please rise as you are able.***

**Sung Response***Now the Green Blade Rises*

*Now the green blade rises from the buried grain, wheat that in dark earth for many days has lain.*

*Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again like wheat that rises green.*

**The Acts of the Apostles (8.35-39)**

Rev Kevin Tisdol

Then Philip...proclaimed to him the good news about Jesus. As they were going along the road, they came to some water; and the eunuch said, "Look, here is water! What is to prevent me from being baptized?" He commanded the chariot to stop, and both of them, Philip and the eunuch, went down into the water, and Philip baptized him. When they came up out of the water, the Spirit of the Lord snatched Philip away; the eunuch saw him no more, and went on his way rejoicing.

In these human words, God's voice is heard.

*Thanks be to God.*

**Prayer**

Rev Kevin Tisdol

One: What is to keep any of us from being immersed in God's love? Nothing at all.

All: *Alleluia! Amen.*

**Please be seated.****The Anthem***The Human Heart*

By Lynn Ahrens and Stephen Flaherty  
Performed By Sara Burns

**Homily***Immersed in Divine Love*

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins, Senior Minister

**Song of Response****Please rise as you are able.***Ac-Cent-Tchu-Ate the Positive*

*You've got to ac-cent-u-ate the positive, e-lim-inate the negative, latch on to the affirmative, don't mess with Mister In-between.*

*You've got to spread joy up to the maximum, bring gloom down to the minimum, have faith or pandemonium li'ble to walk upon the scene.*

*We better ac-cent-u-ate the positive, e-lim-inate the negative, latch on to the affirmative, don't mess with Missus In-between.*

*No, don't mess with Missus In-between.*

*You've got to ac-cent-u-ate the positive, e-lim-inate the negative, latch on to the affirmative, don't mess with Mister In-between.*

*You've got to spread joy up to the maximum, bring gloom down to the minimum, have faith or pandemonium li'ble to walk upon the scene.*

*We better ac-cent-u-ate the positive, e-lim-inate the negative, latch on to the affirmative, don't mess with Missus In-between.*

*No, don't mess with Missus In-between.*

**Sign of Peace***I Come to the Garden Alone*

*You speak and the sound of your voice is so sweet the birds hush their singing; and the melody that you give to me within my heart is ringing.*

*And you walk with me, and you talk with me, and you tell me I am your own, and the joy we share we as we tarry there, none other has ever known.*

**Service of Sacraments****Sacrament of Sharing (Tithes & Offerings)**

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

**Stewardship Thought**

*"The habit of giving only enhances the desire to give."*  
Walt Whitman

**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.*

**Offering Music**

Teresa's Bulgar  
Folk arranged by Aaron Kula  
Performed By Teresa Flores

**Rise as you are able.****Doxology***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.*

## **Sacrament of Hospitality**

### **Eucharistic Intentions**

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

#### **We Remember**

Andree Fortin	04/25/2004	William Smith	04/30/1998
Alex Ramos-Vargas	04/26/1990	Frank Troina	04/30/2005
Pauline Richardson	04/26/1998	Gregg Gustafson	05/01/1994
Griff Pitts	04/27/2003	Dean DiFiore	05/01/1996
Barbara Gillenwater	04/27/2006	Robert Rodd	05/01/1999
Phil Cappetta	04/28/1990	Harry Hinman	05/01/2014
Randy Sellmann	04/30/1998		

#### **Rainbow Candle I & II are Lit Today**

In Memory of  
Andree Fortin

by  
Linda Edin

#### **Intercessions**

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

#### **Bless Us All**

*Bless us all who gather here  
The loving family I hold dear  
No place on Earth compares with home  
And every path will bring me back from where I roam*

*Bless us all, that as we live  
We always comfort and forgive  
We have so much that we can share  
With those in need we see around us everywhere*

*Let us always love each other  
Lead us to the light  
Let us hear the voice of reason  
Singing in the night  
Let us run from anger  
And catch us when we fall  
Teach us in our dreams  
And please, yes please bless us one and all*

*Bless us all with playful years  
With noisy games and joyful tears  
We reach for you and we stand tall  
And in our prayers and dreams we ask you  
Bless us all  
We reach for you and we stand tall  
And in our prayers and dreams we ask you  
Bless us all.*

One: Spirit of Community, in which we share and find strength and common purpose, we turn our minds and hearts toward one another seeking to bring into our circles of concern all who need our love and support: those who are ill, those who are in pain, either in body or in spirit, those who are lonely, those who have been wronged. We call to mind leaders of nations. We seek to bless our Sunshine Cathedral and all who have requested our prayers. We remember also our (+) dearly departed, thankful that they live on in our hearts and love. We are part of a web of life that makes us one with all humanity, one with all the universe. We are grateful for the miracle of consciousness that we share, the consciousness that gives us the power to remember, to love, to care. And with people all over the world we pray –

*All: May peace prevail on earth.*

These prayers we offer in the spirit of Jesus, son of Mary, and as he did we continue to pray:

#### **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**

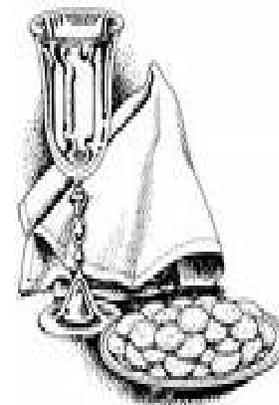
Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

#### **Invitation to Communion**

Rev Anne Atwell

One: These are the gifts of God for all the people of God.  
*All: Thanks be to God.*

#### **Communion is Shared**



## Communion Songs

### *I Love Myself the Way I Am*

*I love myself the way I am, there's nothing I need to change.  
I'll always be the perfect me, there's nothing to rearrange.  
I'm beautiful and capable of being the best me I can; and  
I love myself just the way I am.*

*I love you, the way you are, there's nothing you need to do.  
When I feel the love inside, it's easy to love you.  
Behind your fears, your rage and tears, I see your shining  
star, and I love you just the way you are.*

*I love the world the way it is, 'cause I can clearly see that  
all the things I judge are done by people just like me.  
So 'til the birth of peace on earth that only love can bring,  
I'll help it grow by loving everything.*

*I love myself the way I am, and still I want to grow, but  
change outside can only come when deep inside I know:  
I'm beautiful and capable of being the best me I can; and  
I love myself just the way I am.*

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

***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 Durrell Watkins

### **Final Song**

*This Little Light of Mine*

*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

*Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine.  
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine,  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.*

### **Commissioning**

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

All: *Thanks be to God!*

### **Postlude**

Barbara Ramcharitar

**Sunshine Cathedral CCLI# 11274929**

## SILENT HELPERS PRAYER MINISTRY

Please hold these in the power of loving prayer:

### **Centering Thought:**

"Bless you for the good that's in you, bless you every day; there's some good in everybody, we're just made that way." Peggy Lee & Mel Torme

### **We pray for the following ~**

Anne K. (of blessed memory); John A.; Champion; Eddie; Von; Bill; Rick; Tim; Melissa; Giles N.; Paul R.; Scott Y.; Paul F. (of blessed memory); Emily & Brett; Tara & Sam; MLF; Anita; Carol W.; Ann; Melody; CJ; Gilda's mother of blessed memory; Nancy; Lynn; Helen (of blessed memory); Elizabeth; Caroline & Felipe G.; Elijah N.; Mary and those for whom she is concerned; Sedali; Dalise; Gilda; Betto; Sueli; Maiza; Martha; Terri; Shawna; medical practitioners; those who have been infected with or affected by COVID 19; those in nursing care and assisted living facilities; LGBTQ+ communities; Troy P.; Global Justice Institute; DSFI; the Sunshine Cathedral;

### **LET US PRAY**

*God is.*

*God is good.*

*God is omnipresent.*

*We are each in God's presence.*

*We each have access to God's goodness.*

*Comforted and empowered by this Truth,*

*let us now expect and allow miracles.*

*Amen.*

### **REMEMBER:**

Prayers can be submitted via [Sunshine Cathedral.org](http://SunshineCathedral.org) or by emailing any SC clergyperson.

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



# SunBurst News

## STAY THE COURSE

– Sunshine Cathedral asks that you continue to reserve your seat at [Sunshinecathedral.org](http://Sunshinecathedral.org) if you wish to worship onsite, and we ask that you wear a mask at all times while you are here. We have increased seating capacity to 30% and will increase to 50% in the near future. We very much hope to be back to 100% capacity by Christmas. We ask that everyone consider getting a COVID vaccination. For as long as is prudent, we will continue to follow safety protocols to keep everyone safe.

## TWELVE THINGS I HAVE LEARNED SO FAR

By Bishop Steven Charleston

- (1) You do not always have to be right.
- (2) People can change.
- (3) Loss comes to us all, but so does grace.
- (4) We can disagree and still be together.
- (5) Kindness is the greatest treasure I have to give away.
- (6) We are all healed even if it does not happen on our timeline.
- (7) Imagination is a form of prayer.
- (8) I own nothing.
- (9) Life is full of sacred signs if only we look to see them.
- (10) The ancestors are real.
- (11) Not all of my friends and mentors are human.
- (12) Now is eternal and it is my home.

## 7 DAY PER WEEK CHURCH

– Join us Sundays at 9 am or 10:30 am for worship on site (with reservations and masks) or online (10:30 am on Facebook or YouTube). Join us Mondays – Saturdays at Noon (Eastern) for Midday Prayer (Facebook live and on demand). Join us Monday evenings (6 pm Eastern, Facebook live or on demand) for Christians & Cocktails. Ask about our Pantry Food Sharing ministry on Wednesdays. Also ask about A Course in Miracles and our presence in Second Life. There are also various Recovery groups that meet on campus (with pandemic protocols). Sunshine Cathedral remains your 7 Day Per Week church.

## A MESSAGE FROM THE MYSTIC POET RUMI

– “Do not feel lonely; the entire universe is inside you.”

## ECUMENISM

- Sunshine Cathedral is affiliated with the International Council of Community Churches (which is a member of the World and National Councils of Churches), Metropolitan Community Churches, the Global Justice Institute (at MCC New York), the Divine Science Federation (of which our senior minister is president), and BOLD Justice (a Broward County network of churches working together with government and community leaders for a kinder and more just life for all in our county). In relationship and partnership we can achieve so much.

## A POWERFUL WORD FROM

**REV. DR. JACQUI LEWIS (Middle Collegiate Church)**

- “I believe the God who makes us all awesomely and wonderfully in Her image created our sexuality as well, as a gift to be celebrated, as unique as our fingerprints. Our sexualities, genders, ethnicities—all these identities honor the complexity and beauty of God. When we see each other, when we acknowledge the divinity embedded in each body, we know more about the Holy mystery that is God.”

## FOLLOW AND SUBSCRIBE

- We invite you to Follow Sunshine Cathedral on Facebook and subscribe to our YouTube channel. And if our ministry has been a blessing to you, please tell others about the Sunshine Cathedral.

## A REMINDER FROM MINGYUR RINPOCHE

– “When you transform your mind, everything you experience is transformed.”

## HOUT TV

- Our Sunday broadcast is made possible by Happening Out Television Network and donors who support our televised ministry. Happening Out is a streaming network that produces LGBTQ+ themed news and social programming. You can find them on Facebook and YouTube. Their studio is on the campus of the Sunshine Cathedral.

## FOOD SHARING PROGRAM

- The first Sunday of every month is Loaves and Fishes Sunday. Please consider bringing a donation of non-perishable food items with you next week to help Sunshine Cathedral's Food Sharing Ministry. All donations are greatly appreciated and make a big difference in people's lives.

## SAINTS OF THE WEEK

### April 25: St. Mark the Evangelist

—Evangelist. The writer of the oldest gospel in our canon. Mark's gospel was written around 70 ce.

### April 27: Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803 – 1882)

- American essayist, philosopher, poet, and leader of the Transcendentalist movement in the early 19th century. His teachings directly influenced the growing New Thought movement of the mid-1800s. Emerson wisely noted, “A person will worship something, have no doubt about that. We may think our tribute is paid in secret in the dark recesses of our hearts, but it will come out. That which dominates our imaginations and our thoughts will determine our lives, and our character. Therefore, it behooves us to be careful what we worship, for what we are worshipping, we are becoming.” Referring to divine unity and omnipresence, Emerson wrote, “the currents of the Universal Being circulate through me; I am part and parcel of God.”

**April 28: Oskar Schindler (1908-1974)**

—“Righteous Gentile.” Schindler was a German industrialist who made a fortune on the labor of Jews in his factory. Although raised as a Catholic, he was not religious. For reasons which have never been clear, and at great personal risk, he used his power and influence to save the lives of 1,100 men, women, and children during WW2. At the end of the war he was impoverished. Today he is buried in Jerusalem at Yad Vashem (Holocaust Memorial) among the “Righteous Gentiles.”

**April 29: St. Catherine of Siena (1347-1380)**

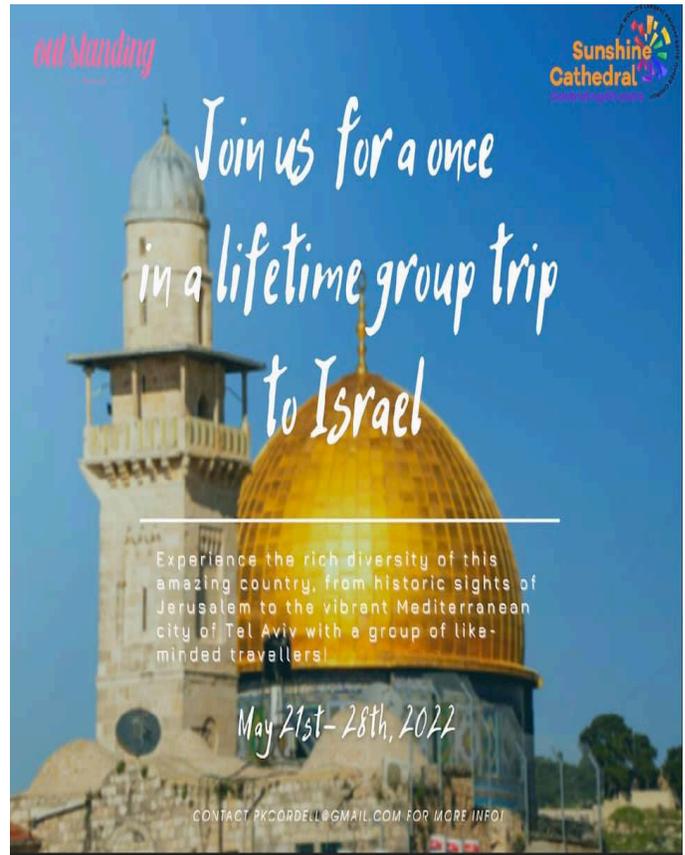
—Doctor of the Church. An Italian mystic, teacher, and nun, Catherine devoted herself to serving the poor and sick around her. She experienced ecstatic visions and was believed to have received the sign of the stigmata.

**April 30: Pseudo-Dionysius (5th or 6th century)**

– Mystical theologian who influenced later mystics, theologians, and philosophers. He understood “god-talk” to always be symbolic, that is, divine Transcendence necessitates speaking of the Divine in symbols, but whatever we say about God must fall short of all that God is. He believed “evil” is temporary and has no real substance to it.

**May 1: St. Thomas a Kempis (1380-1471)**

—Priest. Thomas was a simple Augustinian monk whose life is not remembered so much as his writings. His best known work on the spiritual life is The Imitation of Christ, a classic that has been influential among both Protestants and Catholics. He emphasized that our actions are far more important than our knowledge.



**Sunshine Cathedral Food Pantry**

**Open** every Wednesday from 11AM – ?? or by appointment

**No ID required. No income verification. No questions. No judgment.**

For more information or to schedule an appointment, please contact Rev. Anne 954-462-2004 ext. 208

To make a donation to the Sunshine Cathedral Food Sharing Program, check out our website [sunshinecathedral.org](http://sunshinecathedral.org) and click on the Food Sharing tab.

*Sunshine Cathedral Financial Information*

**Donating to Sunshine Cathedral**

**Venmo or CashApp**

**Venmo - @SunshineCathedral**

**CashApp - \$SunshineCathedral**

**Text to Give - 954.399.7333**

**Financial Data Snapshot from 18 April**

Weekly Generosity Income Needed	\$10,797.56
Generosity Income Received	\$10,799.24
Our Abundance and/or (Need)	\$1.68
Per Capita Giving	\$36.65
Worship Services	149
Online Virtual Resourcing	72,534
Food Shairing	571

*Detailed information located at [SunshineCathedral.org](http://SunshineCathedral.org)*

Online via GoToMeeting  
Every Monday at 1:00 PM

## BEREAVEMENT SUPPORT GROUP

Each of us mourns the death of a loved one differently. Many folks find comfort in sharing the pain, anger, depression and other emotions they feel following a loss.

You must register to attend these meetings  
Visit: [SunServe.org/OnlineGroups](http://SunServe.org/OnlineGroups)




## The Cathedral Staff

1480 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue  
Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33315  
954.462.2004  
[www.sunshinecathedral.org](http://www.sunshinecathedral.org)

### Executive Leadership Team

Rev. Durrell Watkins, DMin, Senior Minister  
Rev. Robert Griffin, DMin, Executive Minister  
Rev. Anne Atwell, DMin, Minister of Connections  
Rev. Kevin Tisdol, Minister of Education  
Mrs. Sara Burns, Co-Director of Worship Arts & Vocalist  
Ms. Barbara Ramcharitar, Co-Director of Worship Arts & Organist

### Artists-in-Residence

Tara Sperry, Vocalist  
Paul Phillips, Bassist  
Teresa Flores, Percussionist  
Gary Lane, Assistant Organist  
Edwin Neimann, Pianist  
Cheryl Barth, Assistant Pianist  
Sam Miller, Videographer  
Phil McChesney, Handbell Director  
Kurt Litzenberger, Set/Sound & Lighting

### Support Ministries Leaders

Rev. BK Hipsher, DMin, Virtual Minister  
Rev. Kurt Krieger, Seasonal Members Chaplain  
Rev. Marian Cavagnaro, Hospice Chaplain  
Rev. Ren Bell, Hospice Chaplain  
Rev. Lynda Pantoja, Interfaith Spirituality  
Rev. Margarita Rodriguez, Minister of Spiritual Companionship  
Rev. Nancy Davis, DD, A Course in Miracles  
Deacon Ed Huckemeyer, DD, Diaconal Minister of Pastoral Care  
Deacon Jean Johnson, Community Chaplain  
Deacon Lydya Chapman, Women's Ministries  
Deacon Michael Karban, Diaconal Minister of the Chancel  
Deacon Sue Gallagher, EdD, Teaching Associate  
Peggy Brereton, Usher Team Leader  
Trevor Stewart, Bookkeeper

### Consultant

Rev. Elder Don Eastman, Systems & Leadership

### Officers of Sunshine Cathedral Board of Directors

Mary Federation, Chair; Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins, Vice-Chair; Melody Fiore, Treasurer, Allan Dewes, Secretary  
BOD@sunshinecathedral.net

### Chair of Sunshine Cathedral Foundation

Phil McChesney  
Info@SunFound.net

### Sunshine Cathedral Online Schedule

**Sunday**  
**Sunshine Cathedral Facebook Live**  
**10:30AM/ET - Sunday Worship**

**Monday - Saturday:**  
**Sunshine Cathedral Facebook Live**  
**Noon/ET - Midday Prayers**

**Monday**  
**Sunshine Cathedral Facebook Live**  
**6PM/ET - 6:30PM/ET - Christians & Cocktails**

### Monthly Collection Programs

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday - Loaves & Fishes: Food Collection

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday - Clothing Collection  
(For BG Hospital & Homeless)

**Due to limited storage space, please bring items on designated Sundays only.**

Sunshine Cathedral is not liable for any vehicle incident, including acts of nature, while attending any events.

## Sunshine Cathedral

Two Sunday morning services  
9:00AM & 10:30AM (LIVE BROADCAST)  
Sunday 5:00PM in *Second Life*

1480 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315  
954.462.2004

[www.sunshinecathedral.org](http://www.sunshinecathedral.org)