

*Sunshine Cathedral*  
*The Largest Progressive Queer Church in the World*

HOLIDAY MIRACLES

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE  
CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE  
FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMASTIDE

*Walt Lawrence & Stephen Lewis Center for Worship and the Arts*  
*Fort Lauderdale, Florida*  
*December 2021*

*Welcome!*

*By Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins, Senior Minister*

We live in a new world and we are still adapting to it. Multiple vaccinations and boosters, entertainment venues opening and closing and reopening and reclosing, masks required, recommended, strongly recommended...things change very quickly these days.

Let us be grateful for our resilience, our humor, our talents, our wisdom, our loving hearts, and our faith in Life's ultimate goodness. These gifts have sustained us and will continue to do so as the future unfolds day by day.

The 1964 Claymation film Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, showed us a group of survivors who were able find the strengths of their unique gifts to face the difficulties of life and help other lives experience hope and joy.



Rudolph had a nose that glowed. No one else had such a nose, but his oddity was actually his gift, and when Santa needed a light to help see through a dense fog, Rudolph was the savior. His nose had been thought to be queer, but his queerness, his difference, was exactly what the world needed during a foggy time.

The Winter Warlock thought his best days were behind him. His magic wasn't as impressive as it once was, and yet, it was some leftover magic corn that enabled reindeer to fly. Just because you've slowed down a bit doesn't mean you can't help others soar!

But the character that may inspire me the most from that old movie is Hermey the Elf. Hermey was from a long line of toymakers, but his calling was to be a dentist. He was willing to leave tradition, expectations, and connections to study a medical science and become a healer. What courage! What determination! What a blessing to people who might need a dentist. Remember, the abominable snowman ("Bumble") wasn't abominable at all after he received a life and attitude altering dental procedure!

Hermey showed us in 1964 how to make a difference and the lesson is still relevant:

1. Don't let others define you.
  - a. Hermey's community didn't support his dream of being a dentist, but he refused to abandon his dream.
  - b. Others thought they could define Hermey, but Hermey insisted that he was the authority on what he was meant to be and how he ought to live his life, and Hermey found friends who supported him for who he knew himself to be.
2. Be willing to help.
  - a. Hermey's dream to live his best, authentic, dentistry life wasn't selfish. He wanted to be his best so that he could offer his best in order to help others be their best.
  - b. Even while he was still learning and growing, Hermey did whatever he could to help others.



Times are changing fast and difficulties come and go, but we know who we are and we know we have gifts to share. As we live our authentic lives and share our hope, compassion, and goodwill with others, we will navigate the winding roads of life, and we'll have joy along the way.

Happy Holidays, dear friends, and may we all have a Blessed New Year.

# *Thank you 2021 Christmas Angels*

## *Host Angels*

*Phil Cordell - In Memory of my amazing and loving parents.*

*Charles Fields*

## *Archangels*

*Phillip & Sara Burns*

*Richard Childs & Raul Diaz - In Memory of our loved ones who aren't with us.*

*Mr & Mrs Robert Hickey*

*John Kent - In Honor of Rev Dr Anne Atwell and the Food Sharing Ministry.*

*Stephen Lewis - In Memory of my dear, sweet Husband, Walt Lawrence. I Miss you.*

*Mark Messinger & Scott Schwab - In Memory of Juna Faye & Letty Lee.*

*Mark Nogal - In Honor of my chosen family at Sunshine Cathedral.*

*Rev Dr Durrell Watkins & Rev Dr Robert Griffin - In Honor of our Global Fellowship & Local Congregation.*

## *Angels*

*Larry Gammons - In Memory of Walt Lawrence.*

*John Lloyd & Andrew Cheng*

*Peter Oberdorf - In Honor of the Sunshine Cathedral Music Ministry.*

*Dick Schwarz & Tom Massey*

*Rev Kevin Tisdol and Michael Mitchell - In Honor of the ministries of The Sunshine Cathedral.*

## *Cherubim*

*Rev Dr Anne Atwell and Amy Walker - In Honor and memory of family and friends.*

*Rev Ty Bradley - In Memory of Robert R. Leidner*

*Gary Grieve & Patrick McGeachen*

*Dennis and Tito McWilliams-Ramos*

*Brad Sterl & Tedd Davis - In Memory of our Angel Mothers Liz & Matilda.*

*Ralph Stivali - In Memory of Albert LaMorges.*

*Cathy Tullo & Karen Dougherty - In Memory of Frank Tullo and Dorothy and Bill Dougherty.*

## *Seraphim*

*Margie and Edie Baker-Jud - In Memory of Mom & Dad Baker, Opi Jud and Cathy Baker & Peanut.*

*Rick Brown - In Memory of Nan and Aunt Kate and Mom & Dad.*

*William Bryan & Juan Martinez - In Memory of our parents, Sam Fata, and Luis Perez.*

*Joel Carr - In Honor of my husband Allan.*

*Ron Couture & Bob Easton*

*Marc Dickerman*

*Allan Dewes & Austin Lee - In Honor of Celebrating Sunshine Cathedral's 50th Anniversary.*

*Dr Steven Evans*

*Mary & Tom Fedoration*

*Brian Flanagan & Cory Hagopian*

*Melody Fiore - In Honor of Sunshine Cathedral.*

*Deacon Ed Huckemeyer - In Memory of Uherec.*

*Rick Killoran - In Memory of my husband, Dave Keller.*

*Michael Manning & Andre Caetano - In Honor of our fabulous Ministry Team.*

*Phil McChesney & Joel Scinto - In Memory of our parents and siblings.*

*Bill & Darlene McMillian - In Honor of the Worship Team at Sunshine Cathedral.*

*Keith Muller & Stephen Plescia - In Memory of all who have died due to COVID-19.*

*Bernie Sliwinski - In Memory of Camille.*

*Michael Spatz - In Memory of my Aunt and Grandmother.*

*Bob Woodman - In Memory of Thomas Stanley Ainsworth.*

*Merry Christmas  
&  
Happy New Year  
from the Sunshine Cathedral Staff*

# Christmas Eve

## Service of Gathering

**Welcome**

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

Ms Linda Edin, Chair  
Sunshine Cathedral Board of Directors

Ms Cathy Tullo, Treasurer  
Sunshine Cathedral Board of Directors

**Introit**

*Mary, Woman of the Promise*

*Mary, woman of the promise; vessel of your people's dreams; through your open, willing spirit waters of God's goodness streamed.*

*Mary, song of holy wisdom sung before the world began;  
faithful to the Word within you, as you bore God's wondrous plan.*

*Mary, morning star of justice; mirror of the Radiant Light;  
in the shadows of life's journey, be a beacon for our sight.*

*Mary, model of compassion; wounded by your offspring's pain; when our hearts are torn by sorrow, teach us how to love again.*

*Mary, woman of the gospel; humble home for treasured seed; help us to be true disciples, bearing fruit in word and deed.*

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

### **A New Thought Christmas**

by Rev. David Alexander

The Christmas Season is a magical and special time for millions of people world-wide. We each have our unique version of storied memories of lights, food, music, sacred ritual and festive gatherings of friends and family. All seemingly gathered around a central birth narrative. Yet, this narrative too has its versions and unique interpretations through time.

Not even the Gospel writers themselves all agree on the particulars of the story. Further, many of the narrative elements seem to be borrowed from other, more ancient stories and traditions. Through it all something still calls to us, something mysterious and mystical, something profound yet simple enough for a child to comprehend. It calls to us to overcome fears and doubts, to keep watch over our thoughts and follow the illumined star of our intuition to the manger of our heart. The season calls to us to awaken and give birth to a higher ideal of ourselves and of humanity. It calls us to remember the Light Within and to share it with our world.

### **A Christmas Wish**

by Anonymous

I wish this Christmas to be fulfilled with love, trust and peace, from which we can find the real sense of Christmas and become better people.

### **Meditation For Christmas Eve**

by Paramahansa Yogananda

Lift your eyes and concentrate within. Behold the astral star of divine wisdom and let the wise thoughts in you follow that telescopic star to behold the Christ everywhere.

In that land of everlasting Christmas, of festive, omnipresent Christ Consciousness, you will find Jesus, Krishna, the saints of all religions, the great guru-preceptors waiting to give you a divine floral reception and everlasting happiness.

Prepare for the coming of baby Christ by decorating an inner Christmas tree. Around that sacred tree lay gifts of calmness, forgiveness, nobility, service, kindness, spiritual understanding, and devotion, each one wrapped in a golden covering of goodwill and bound with a silver cord of your pure sincerity.

May the Lord, on the Christmas morn of your spiritual awakening, unwrap the gorgeous presents of your heart offerings, sealed with tears of your joy...

Enjoy this festivity, the birth of Christ, in your mind and soul and in every living atom. By daily meditation you will prepare the cradle of your consciousness to hold the infinite baby Christ. Every day will become a true Christmas of divine communion.

### **Christmas Candle**

by Eva K. Logue

A Christmas candle is a lovely thing; It makes no noise at all, But softly gives itself away; While quite unselfish, it grows small.

### **Paradox**

by G.K. Chesterton

Christmas is built upon a beautiful and intentional paradox; that the birth of the homeless should be celebrated in every home.

### **A Christmas Reflection**

by Bart Ehrman (New Testament scholar)

One of the things I haven't lost... is my love of Christmas... I now know that the story of Jesus' birth in the Gospel of Matthew is very different from the story in the Gospel of Luke, that their accounts are not simply differently nuanced, but factually at odds...But they are beautiful stories. Angelic visitors, heavenly inspired dreams, miraculous works...There are shepherds and wise men and wicked kings and murdering soldiers and near escapes; tragedy and salvation.

The stories live on, with or without my faith in them as history. And the meaning of the stories continues to touch me. This is a season of giving...It is a season of brightness, of music, of reflection, a season of winter and snow and Christmas trees with lights to be observed with rapt contemplation.

### **Christmas Eve Thoughts**

by The Capuchin Franciscans of Ireland

Irish tradition says that the Holy Family still travel throughout the world this night seeking shelter...

Is there room for them at your inn?  
at my inn?

Can you see them pass by? Joseph lost in thought...

Mary tired and heavy with child...

Can you see their eyes looking out at you from the eyes of

the homeless, the poor,  
the excluded, the refugee, the immigrant, the elderly, the child,

the lonely,  
the victim of war,

the abused,

the hungry,

the persecuted,

the one you have already judged, the one I have already judged...

If you would recognise them

then slow down,

let your hands unclench,

simply breathe,

and light a candle

of welcome

in the window of your soul...

As the old poem put it...

'Often, often, often goes the Christ in the stranger's guise'...

### *Adeste Fideles*

*Adeste fideles, laeti triumphantes;  
venite, venite in Bethlehem.  
Natum videte Regem angelorum.*

*Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,  
venite adoremus, dominum.*

*O come, all you faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come now, O come now to Bethlehem.  
Come and behold the ruler of all angels.*

*Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,  
venite adoremus, dominum.*

*Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation, sing, all you messengers of heavenly love: "Glory to God, all glory in the highest!"*

*Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,  
venite adoremus, dominum.*

### **Christ Candle Lighting**

#### **Sunshine Cathedral 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 night our faith becomes sight.

*Let us rejoice and be glad in it!*





ABOUT THE SACRAMENT OF HOSPITALITY  
(HOLY COMMUNION)

We ritualistically share unleavened bread and non-alcoholic grape juice to symbolize our unity with our Source and with one another. The Table is open. Regardless of belief or religious affiliation, everyone is welcome to participate in the symbolic Feast.

THE SACRAMENT OF BELONGING (BAPTISM)

We consider anyone "baptized" who chooses to be a part of the Sunshine Cathedral community. Everyone who calls Sunshine Cathedral their spiritual home is immersed in our love and we know that all people are immersed in the presence of God. If someone wants to ritualistically celebrate that Truth for himself/herself or for his/her child, we are happy to perform the ritual of water baptism, but no such ritual is required to be a full member of our faith community.

WHAT YOU'LL HEAR AT SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL

~ We teach the omnipresence of God and the sacred value of all people.

~ We affirm that peace and social justice are spiritual goals.

~ We have found that optimism, gratitude, and generosity are spiritual tools that enrich and empower one's life.

~ We encourage prayer, positive thinking, and faithful worship.

~ We present a social gospel; that is, we find in the teachings of Jesus a call to affirm the dignity of all people, to be mindful of those who have been marginalized in society, to model inclusivity, and to care for the most vulnerable among us - this gospel call to justice for all includes an intentional affirmation and celebration of the LGBTQ+ community.

PRAYERS & AFFIRMATIONS  
USED AT SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL

May peace prevail on earth! (Masahisa Goi)

This is the day our God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! (Psalm 118)

There is Good for me and I ought to have it!  
(Emma Curtis Hopkins)

I am God's miracle and not God's mistake.  
(Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins)

There's not a spot where God is not.  
(New Thought aphorism)

Day by day, in every way, I am getting better and better. (Emile Coue)

All shall be well, all shall be well, and all manner of things shall be well. (Julian of Norwich)

THE SAMARITAN INSTITUTE  
AT SUNSHINE CATHEDRAL

TSI is the religious education arm of Sunshine Cathedral. TSI is approved by the State of Florida to grant religious degrees and is approved by the Divine Science Federation International as a New Thought ministerial training school. TSI also trains Sunshine Cathedral prayer chaplains and deacons. Courses are offered on campus and via self-paced home study courses. Course fees are very low and the personal enrichment that comes from theological study is very high! Contact Rev. Kevin Tidol at [Kevin@SunshineCathedral.org](mailto:Kevin@SunshineCathedral.org) for more information.

## Service of Proclamation

The Wisdom of Gwen Matthews  
Rev Dr Anne Atwell

[In] December...we welcome in the gift of reflection. We turn toward our holiday celebrations and search for common threads of meaning.

We begin with Yule, the winter solstice, and we are invited to explore duality, cycles, and seasons...Yule reminds us that we all partake in the miracle of renewal.

Hanukkah, the festival of lights, commemorates a time of miracles when the faith of the Jewish people sustained them to reclaim their holy temple and keep the light of the menorah burning for eight days.

Christmas, the celebration of Jesus' humble birth in a manger, offers us to revisit the miracle of birth and the desire to find saviors to heal the scars of humanity.

Here, in our church, you are just as much a holiday miracle as the turning of the earth, as persistence and dedication to a faith, as the creation of each new life. We see the love you give to others, the space you create to hold one another's joys and sorrows, and the generosity and spirit you entrust to this community.

You are the holiday miracle. This community is one of miracle-makers.

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

*Thanks be to God.*

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

Carol

*Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming*

*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming from tender stem has sprung! Of Jesse's lineage coming as saints of old have sung. It came a floweret bright, amid the cold of winter, Then half spent was the night.*

## The Gospel according to Luke (2.7-14, 16, 20)

Rev Lynda Pantoja (7pm) - Español  
Rev Margarita Rodriguez (9pm) - Español  
Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

And [Mary] brought forth her firstborn son, and wrapped him in swaddling clothes, and laid him in a manger; because there was no room for them in the inn. And there were in the same country shepherds abiding in the field, keeping watch over their flock by night. And, lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them: and they were sore afraid. And the angel said unto them, Fear not: for, behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord. And this shall be a sign unto you; Ye shall find the babe wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger. And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God, and saying, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward [all people]. And [the shepherds] came with haste, and found Mary, and Joseph, and the babe lying in a manger. And the shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things that they had heard and seen, as it was told unto them.

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

### Song of Response

*Our Hope and Expectation, O Jesus, now appear!  
Arise, thou Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere!  
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord to see  
The day of earth's redemption, that brings us unto thee.*

***Please be seated.***

### The Anthem

*O Holy Night*  
By John S Dwight and Adolphe Adam  
Performed By Sara Burns

### Homily

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins  
*Holiday Miracles*

### Invitation to Prayer

# Join the Cathedral at Easter!



### **Ash Wednesday Service**

March 2<sup>nd</sup> - 7PM

**GOOD FRIDAY  
MUSICAL SERVICE**  
APRIL 15<sup>th</sup> - 7PM

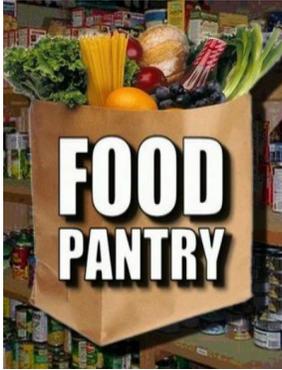
**EASTER SUNDAY  
Worship Services**  
April 17<sup>th</sup>  
9:00AM and 10:30AM



**Sunshine Cathedral Food Pantry  
is open**

Every Wednesday from  
11AM – 1PM 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.

**Prayer Chorus**

*Once in Royal David's City*

*Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for a bed.  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

*Jesus is our childhood's pattern, daily like us lived and  
grew,  
Jesus, little, weak, and helpless, tears and smiles and  
comfort knew.  
Jesus felt the pain of sadness, and the joyous lift of  
gladness.*

**Pastoral Prayer & Affirmations**

**Sign of Peace**

*Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child*

*Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.  
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild:  
New life, new hope the child will bring.  
Listen to the angels sing,  
"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring.*

*Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.  
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild:  
New life, new hope the child will bring.  
Listen to the angels sing,  
"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring.*



# Service of Sacraments

## Sacrament of Sharing

Rev Kevin Tisdol

### 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

#### *In Silent Night*

Mitchell B. Southall

Performed by Cynthia and Nelson Hall

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

### Doxology

*Angels, from the Realms of Glory*

*Angels from the realms of glory,  
wing your flight o'er all the earth.*

*As you sing creation's story,  
now proclaim Messiah's birth.*

*Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship now, give thanks and sing.*

*Shepherds, in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
God with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light.*

*Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship now, give thanks and sing.*

NEW YORK SUN 1987

DEAR EDITOR: ... IS THERE A SANTA CLAUS?  
~ VIRGINIA O'HANLON

VIRGINIA,

...ALL MINDS, VIRGINIA, WHETHER THEY BE [ADULTS'] OR CHILDREN'S, ARE LITTLE. IN THIS GREAT UNIVERSE OF OURS [WE ARE] A MERE INSECT, AN ANT, IN [OUR] INTELLECT, AS COMPARED WITH THE BOUNDLESS WORLD ABOUT [US], AS MEASURED BY THE INTELLIGENCE CAPABLE OF GRASPING THE WHOLE OF TRUTH AND KNOWLEDGE.

YES, VIRGINIA, THERE IS A SANTA CLAUS. HE EXISTS AS CERTAINLY AS LOVE AND GENEROSITY AND DEVOTION EXIST, AND YOU KNOW THAT THEY ABOUND AND GIVE TO YOUR LIFE ITS HIGHEST BEAUTY AND JOY. ALAS! HOW DREARY WOULD BE THE WORLD IF THERE WERE NO SANTA CLAUS. IT WOULD BE AS DREARY AS IF THERE WERE NO VIRGINIAS. THERE WOULD BE NO CHILDLIKE FAITH THEN, NO POETRY, NO ROMANCE TO MAKE TOLERABLE THIS EXISTENCE. WE SHOULD HAVE NO ENJOYMENT, EXCEPT IN SENSE AND SIGHT. THE ETERNAL LIGHT WITH WHICH CHILDHOOD FILLS THE WORLD WOULD BE EXTINGUISHED.

NOT BELIEVE IN SANTA CLAUS! YOU MIGHT AS WELL NOT BELIEVE IN FAIRIES! YOU MIGHT GET YOUR [PARENTS] TO HIRE [PEOPLE] TO WATCH IN ALL THE CHIMNEYS ON CHRISTMAS EVE TO CATCH SANTA CLAUS, BUT EVEN IF THEY DID NOT SEE SANTA CLAUS COMING DOWN, WHAT WOULD THAT PROVE? NOBODY SEES SANTA CLAUS, BUT THAT IS NO SIGN THAT THERE IS NO SANTA CLAUS. THE MOST REAL THINGS IN THE WORLD ARE THOSE THAT NEITHER CHILDREN NOR [ADULTS] CAN SEE. DID YOU EVER SEE FAIRIES DANCING ON THE LAWN? OF COURSE NOT, BUT THAT'S NO PROOF THAT THEY ARE NOT THERE. NOBODY CAN CONCEIVE OR IMAGINE ALL THE WONDERS THERE ARE UNSEEN AND UNSEEABLE IN THE WORLD.

YOU MAY TEAR APART THE BABY'S RATTLE AND SEE WHAT MAKES THE NOISE INSIDE, BUT THERE IS A VEIL COVERING THE UNSEEN WORLD WHICH NOT THE STRONGEST [PERSON], NOR EVEN THE UNITED STRENGTH OF ALL THE STRONGEST [PEOPLE] THAT EVER LIVED, COULD TEAR APART. ONLY FAITH, FANCY, POETRY, LOVE, ROMANCE, CAN PUSH ASIDE THAT CURTAIN AND VIEW AND PICTURE THE SUPERNAL BEAUTY AND GLORY BEYOND. IS IT ALL REAL? AH, VIRGINIA, IN ALL THIS WORLD THERE IS NOTHING ELSE REAL AND ABIDING.

NO SANTA CLAUS! THANK GOD! HE LIVES, AND HE LIVES FOREVER. A THOUSAND YEARS FROM NOW, VIRGINIA, NAY, TEN TIMES TEN THOUSAND YEARS FROM NOW, HE WILL CONTINUE TO MAKE GLAD THE HEART OF CHILDHOOD.



# Happy Holidays

Our Fund Foundation supports  
The Sunshine Cathedral



## ACHIEVE YOUR PHILANTHROPIC GOALS WITH OUR FUND FOUNDATION

In the model of community foundations across the country, Our Fund strengthens community organizations and their leaders, mobilizes donors and funders, inspires giving, and actively secures South Florida's LGBTQ community's future for generations to come.

### FUNDING AREAS

Youth      HIV/AIDS  
Seniors      Social Justice  
LBT Women      Arts & Culture  
Transgender



To learn more about how you can support Our Fund's mission to support agencies advancing LGBTQ causes in South Florida, visit us at [www.Our-Fund.org](http://www.Our-Fund.org) or call us at (954) 565-1090

## Sacrament of Hospitality

### Eucharistic Intentions

Rev Lynda Pantoja (7pm)  
Rev Margarita Rodriguez (9pm)

### We Remember

Paul Grant	12/19/1989	Joseph Novotny	12/22/1994
William DeBar	12/19/1994	Bruce Edgerly	12/23/1993
Chad Blackwell	12/19/1996	Clara Scinto	12/23/2010
Jay Tramontozzi	12/19/1996	Wes Brooks	12/24/2003
Richard Drews	12/19/1996	Chuck George	12/24/2004
Herbert Hackney	12/19/1998	Ray Dillinger	12/25/1995

### Chorus

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry.*

*Eat this bread, drink this cup, trust in me and you will not thirst.*

### Intercessions

Rev Lynda Pantoja (7pm)  
Rev Margarita Rodriguez (9pm)

One: For the Sunshine Cathedral Global Fellowship and local congregation, for all who are on our prayer list, for our loved ones, for world and community leaders, and for our own needs, let us pray:

*Loving Creator, we remember  
the wisdom and love, Peace  
and integrity of your blessed anointed one –  
our Lord Jesus Christ Who taught of your love for us and  
also the whole world*

*For the sake of your infinite goodness please smile upon  
us and on the whole world. (x3)*

*Holy God, holy mighty One, holy immortal One  
Give blessings to us and to the whole world. (x2)*

One: 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 a glory, forever. Amen.*

**Please be seated.**

## **The Lord's Supper**

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

## **Invitation to Communion**

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

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

**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **Communion Carols**

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.  
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was  
meant to be.*

*With God our creator, neighbors all are we; let us  
walk with each other in perfect harmony.*

*Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.*

*With ev'ry step I take let this be my solemn vow,  
To take each moment and live each moment in peace  
eternally -*

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*



## **The Truth of Myths**

by Rev. Dawn Hutchings

Don't ever make the mistake of thinking that myths are not true. Myths have the power to communicate truth. A myth is only untrue when it is presented as a fact. Myths are so much more than just mere facts because myths have the power to tell us the truth about the deepest mysteries of life. Myths are metaphors about the very stuff of life and they have the power to help us to understand what it means to be human...

According to [mythologist Joseph] Campbell, myths derive their power to communicate truth because they are really stories about the things that go on inside of us; in here, right now...

The difficulties with myths occur when we get hung up on believing in them as facts. When we refuse to look beyond the metaphors to see the truth to which they point. It's kinda like standing in front of a painting. We don't stand there and ask is this painting true or false? Did this scene really happen? These kinds of questions miss the whole point of the artist's work. We need to approach myths in the same way as we approach art. Does this painting touch me? Does this music move me? Does this movie inspire me? How does this work of art change the way I think about life? Great myths like great art move us, touch us, and transform us in the deepest realms of our being.

...In the stories of Jesus' birth, we learn that this Mystery we call God is intimately involved with the stuff of life. In the stories of the child born in Bethlehem, we learn that our God is born among us and dwells among us. Over and over again, within the myth of Jesus' birth we see people struggling with both the horrors and the joys of this life, and over and over again the message comes clearly and profoundly to us, the message that we long for, in a few simple but oh so powerful words: "Do not be afraid."

...With his life Jesus personified the Love of God and so, when the people came to tell of this amazing life, they remembered him in the way that their neighbours always remembered exceptional lives and they cast a star in the sky, described an incredible union between the human and the divine, and a birthing filled with challenges, and set the whole thing to music sung by a celestial choir.

...The stories of Christmas are not about miracles. The stories of Christmas are not concerned with facts or reason. The story of Christmas is about the LOVE that is God interacting with human life to create in human life wholeness, the ability to live fully, the capacity to love extravagantly, the courage to be everything that we are capable of being. The story of Jesus birth points us toward the truth that lies in the power of LOVE to enable us to live and love and to be.

...The story is so powerful, so true that our various holiday rituals move us beyond ourselves to the heart of the story where we too can awaken to the reality of our God who is Love. By embodying the LOVE of God, Jesus of Nazareth changed the world. The stories of the birth of Jesus remind us that we too are called to embody this LOVE that is God.

...Do not be afraid, for the MYSTERY that we call God is with you now and always.

*Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright,  
Round yon virgin mother and child.  
Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace; sleep in heavenly peace.*

*Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,  
glories stream from heaven afar,  
heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ the savior is born; Christ the savior is born.*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**                      Rev Kevin Tisdol

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

**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

*Joy to the World*

*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!  
Let earth her praises bring,  
let every heart prepare Christ room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven, and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!  
Let all their songs employ;  
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains  
repeat the sounding joy, repeat the sounding joy,  
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*Christ fills the world with truth and grace,  
and makes the nations prove  
the glories of God's righteousness,  
and wonders of God's love, and wonders of God love,  
and wonders, wonders of God's love.*

**Dismissal**

Our worship has ended. Let our service begin.  
*Thanks be to God.*

**Postlude**    Barbara Ramcharitar

# Merry Christmas





# WANT TO SUPPORT AN OLDER LGBTQ+ PERSON?

**Introducing the South Florida Friendly Visitor Program!**

Sunshine Cathedral is excited to partner with SAGE, the world's largest and oldest organization dedicated to improving the lives of LGBTQ+ elders. Our Friendly Visitor Program matches volunteers with LGBTQ+ people age 60+ in the Fort Lauderdale area for ongoing social support through weekly visits. Volunteers will receive training and ongoing assistance in their valuable work.

**To receive more information about becoming a client or volunteer of the program, email [SoFloFriendlyVisitors@sageusa.org](mailto:SoFloFriendlyVisitors@sageusa.org).**



The Friendly Visitor Program is made possible by generous support from the Our Fund Foundation.



Multi-Media • Events • Television Network

Proudly support's Sunshine Cathedral and wishes you and your loved ones a very

**Merry Christmas & Prosperous New Year.**



Our Christmas gift to you this holiday: Adding Sunshine Cathedral to over 55+ million televisions in the US via

**Roku TV**



THE FAYWHAT SHOW

**#THATGIRL**

THE L FROM LGBTQ+ WEEKLY MORNING TALK SHOW



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WITH AL FERGUSON

**THE WORLD'S FIRST AND ONLY LIVE DAILY LGBTQ+ EVENING NEWS SHOW**



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*The* **KITTY** *meow* SHOW  
*with Kitty Moon*

**RU-ISM #64:**  
**"WHEN THE GOING GETS TOUGH, THE TOUGH REINVENT."**

IT'S **HAPPENING OUT**  
**THE WORLD'S MOST POPULAR LIVE LGBTQ+ TALK SHOW**



## Sunshine Cathedral 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital "Make-Over" Campaign

Dear Friend,

October 2021 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year of the Sunshine Cathedral! In commemoration of this milestone and looking to the future and another 50 or more years of service to our community, the Sunshine Cathedral Foundation Board of Governors, in cooperation with the Sunshine Cathedral Board, has launched the **Sunshine Cathedral 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Capital "Make-Over" Campaign** to invest in and upgrade many areas of our infrastructure to enable our programs and ministry for years to come.

"Infrastructure" has become the newest buzz-word. Without a strong and well-maintained infrastructure, many programs or activities that we've taken for granted will become more difficult and costly to run and, in a worst case scenario, will cease to function or operate altogether. It is the same with our programs, ministry, and mission at the Sunshine Cathedral – both on our campus at "Cathedral Square" and in our virtual space through our global outreach that touches tens of thousands from literally around the world weekly.

That is why I am asking you to consider a gift (above-and-beyond your normal giving) to this vital capital campaign. It can be a one-time gift or a recurring gift (either for a year or over all three years of the campaign). You can select the giving level best-suited for you.

Won't you consider adding your support to this meaningful campaign? Project goals are listed on the next page, but include upgrades to the Courtyard and a world-class multi-building/multi-story mural project; renovation of the adjacent bathroom to a gender-neutral, ADA-compliant restroom; air-conditioning enhancements and upgrades; expanding our food-sharing ministry capacity and capability; continued improvements to our virtual ministry and programming, to name only a few. You can contribute by completing and returning a pledge card (with or without your check) or by simply giving on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/50yrMake-Over> or by clicking the QR-Code below.

We are indeed fortunate, through the benevolence of friends like you – either regular contributors such as our Ambassadors; faithful benefactors and grantors through estate gifts as members of our Pillars Society; and through unexpected blessings where someone has felt moved to give back a representative portion of what the Sunshine Cathedral has meant or done for them – either in small or large, but always greatly-appreciated ways! Thank you for considering this request and for your gift of love so that we may continue to be a beacon of light and love to our local and global community.

Blessings to you and in gratitude,

Chair, Sunshine Cathedral Foundation  
Board of Governors



Sunshine Cathedral Foundation  
1480 SW 9<sup>th</sup> Ave.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315-1375  
Phone: 954-462-2004  
Federal Tax I.D. #31-1655484  
[info@sunfound.net](mailto:info@sunfound.net)

# The Sunshine Cathedral 50th Anniversary Capital Make-Over Campaign!



It's Time To Have A Little "Work" Done!

**Goal: \$330K\***

- Outdoor Restrooms Renovation \$25K  
(Gender Neutral/ADA-access)
  - Courtyard & Parking Lot Renewal \$60K
  - Container Storage for Cathedral \$27K  
Ministries (Food Sharing, etc.)
  - AC Upgrades (Walt Lawrence/  
Stephen Lewis Center for Worship& the  
Arts; Peter Cinelli/Michael LiPuma Admin  
Building) \$55K
  - Window Upgrade (Cinelli/LiPuma \$25K  
Admin Building)
  - Graham/Fasana Chapel Renovation \$50K  
(Future Event Space)
  - Virtual Ministry Production Space \$58K
- \*Includes 10% Tithe to Cathedral,  
Foundation, & Reserves

## **Brought to you by the Sunshine Cathedral Foundation Board of Governors**

To donate, visit on-line at <https://tinyurl.com/50yrMake-Over>, email [info@sunfound.net](mailto:info@sunfound.net), or contact Rev. Dr. Robert Griffin or any member of the Foundation Board: Chair, Phil McChesney; Vice-Chair, Keith Muller; Treasurer, Tom Fedoration; Secretary, Santiago Madrinan; Bob Decamillo; Brian Flanagan; Cory Hagopian; Chuck Lane; Gary Lane; Rozen Patterson; Kewan Smith; Rev. Dr. Durrell Watkins. Watch for more information and exciting "Make-Over" updates!

## **Thank you Front Runners! Over \$80K Pledged/Paid**

Rev Dr Anne Atwell & Amy Walker  
Richard Brown  
Peter B Cinelli, MD  
Phil Cordell  
Marc Dickerman  
Linda Edin & Lydy Chapman  
Richard Higgins & Terrell Graham  
Deacon Ed Huckemeyer  
Charlie LoPiccolo

Mark Nogal  
Philip Ramsey  
Rev Margarita Rodriguez & Rev Lynda Pantoja  
Phil McChesney & Joel Scinto  
Richard Schwarz & Tom Massey  
Ralph Stivali  
Cathy Tullo & Karen Dougherty  
Rev Dr Durrell Watkins & Rev Dr Robert Griffin

# Sunshine Cathedral Mural Project

## Meet the Team

### Andrew Tan

I often share with people that I have one foot rooted in the East while the other planted in the West. In a sense, I'm a bridge.

Growing up in Malaysia gave me a unique perspective on design and an appreciation for cultural diversity and artisanal crafts. At the age of 18, I moved to the U.S. where I received my college education. My experience in architecture school helped sharpen my design expertise and expanded my design repertoire. A large part of my career development has taken place in the fields of architectural design, graphic design, and branding.

As part of my community engagement activities, I have also honed my design skills in special event planning for various non-profit organizations.

At its source, my creativity springs from my ever-evolving perspective amassed from cultures and sights all over the world through my multi-cultural upbringing as well as the joys of travel. Much of my design language tends to convey that global and diverse influence.

I now live in South Florida. The amazing culture and visual context of the area have continued to enrich my perspective and continually inspire me to be creative.



# Sunshine Cathedral Mural Project

## Meet the Team

### Trey Opp

Topp Artist  
Artist & Designer  
[www.ToppArtist.com](http://www.ToppArtist.com)

Hello, my name is Trey Opp. My professional career as an artist began at the age of 19 when I moved from my hometown of Mandan, North Dakota to Fort Lauderdale, Florida.

Though I began to consider myself an artist at 19, my true artistic journey began years before, during my childhood. My greatest influences were my family. I remember vividly when I first saw the very detailed landscapes that my grandma painted on old saw blades. Her work sparked my curiosity and opened my young eyes to the wonders of painting. My mom recognized my interest immediately and got me acquainted with our local art scene. With her encouragement, that initial spark ignited into a burning desire to express my creativity through painting. It was then, I realized that I have the drive to make art. It is innate, it is a part of me.



I'm self-taught. My ongoing study and education are rooted in practical experience. I learn through trial and error; I experiment with different techniques and mediums. I've learned to see failure as opportunity for growth. My mentors are the works of other artists. Collectively, they have inspired me to cultivate my imagination, create visual narrative, and transform my ideas into art form.

I'm a mixed-media artist, working predominantly with acrylic paint, charcoal, and resin. My commitment to my work is this: I want to inspire people to see beyond the surface of the canvas and feel the excitement when they discover unexpected elements embedded in the work. I want them to be immersed in a world of intricate details. Through vibrant colors and metallic pigments, I love to invoke the optimism I see about the world.

In 2015, I showcased my pop-art collection in conjunction with the Art Basel Miami exhibition. In 2020, I was commissioned by the American Queen Steamboat Company to create a series of portraits titled "Ladies of Our Generations". This series is now part the permanent art collection onboard the American Countess Riverboat. A large portion of my work is in private and commercial commissions. I excel in commissioned work because I can creatively incorporate a client's needs within my work while still expressing my true self artistically.

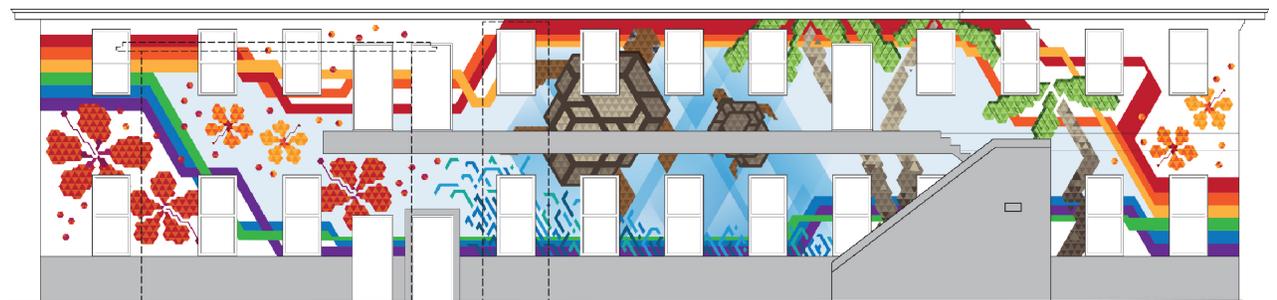
Trey Opp  
ToppArtist, Artist/Owner



C3  
COURTYARD FACADE 3 - GRAVES BUILDING



C1  
COURTYARD FACADE 1 - COLUMBARIUM  
AND MEMORIAL CHAPEL



C2  
COURTYARD FACADE 2 - ROBERT S. GRAHAM MD. AND PAUL FASANA CHAPEL

**Sunshine Cathedral Center for the Performing Arts Presents In Concert**  
**Saturday, February 26, 2022 7:00 PM**  
**Tickets at [SunshineCathedral.org](http://SunshineCathedral.org)**

Joana Gonzalez is a Hispanic young artist. Her innate attraction to music was evident from an early age when, despite her scant experience of classical music, she plead for several years to be enrolled in piano lessons—a petition which was ultimately granted when Joana was nine years old.

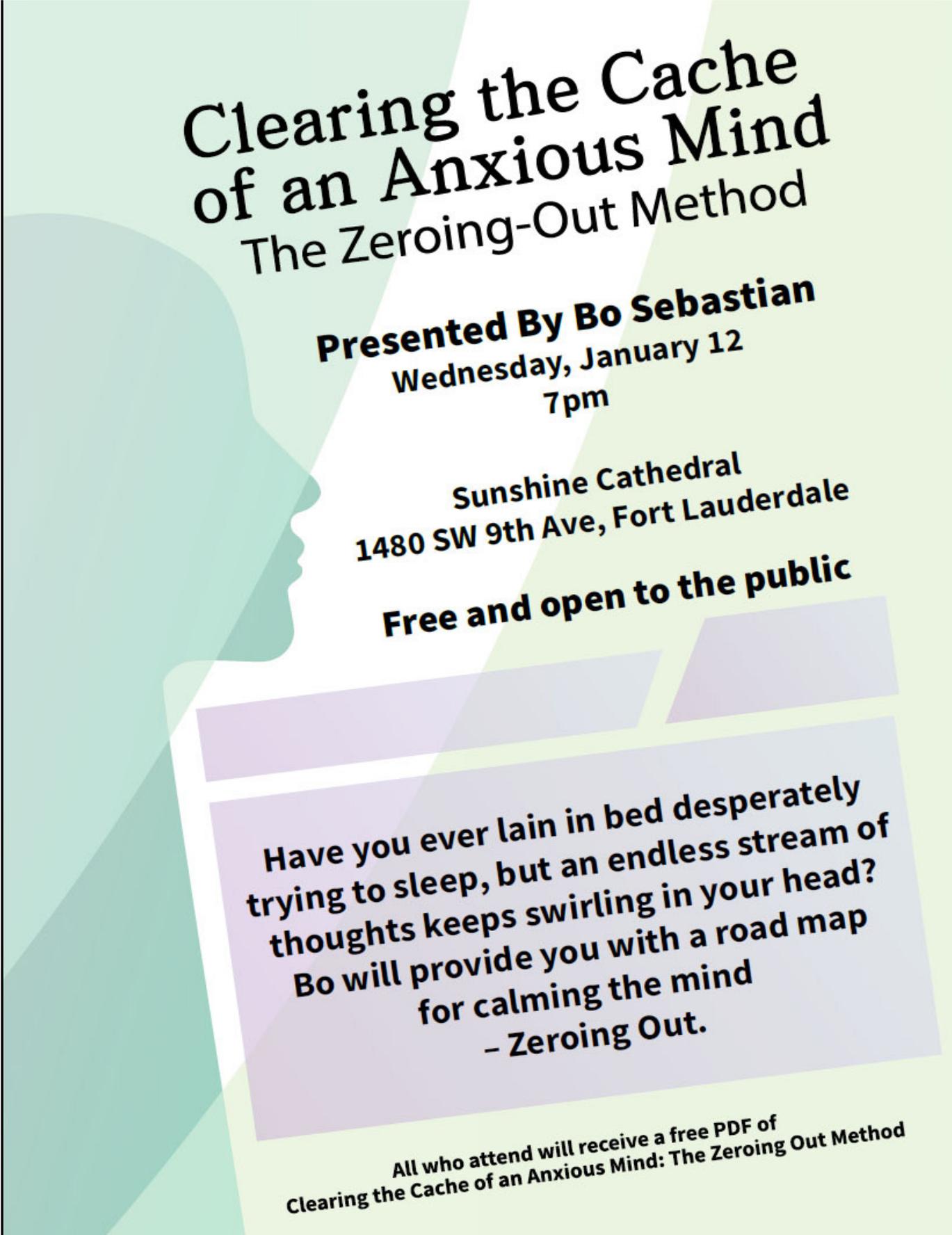
Joana’s talents received widespread recognition in the latter years of her high school career after nearly a decade of hard work and failure. She was awarded prizes in multiple competitions, most notable among them, the American Protege International Piano Competition and the New World

Symphony Concerto Competition. She subsequently received numerous invitations to perform as a soloist, all of which she accepted eagerly. Most notable among these were her debut performance at Weill Recital Hall in Carnegie Hall and her performance of Saint-Saëns’s Second Piano Concerto with the New World Symphony.

In 2014, Joana was awarded a full scholarship to pursue her Bachelor’s Degree in Piano Performance at the Frost School of Music under renown pianist, Santiago Rodriguez. It was in these years that, by way of much exploration, Joana began to discover her unique identity as an artist. As a result, she garnered a new enthusiasm from audience members, academics, and organizers across the United States and abroad.

Joana went on to study with Alexandre Moutouzkine at the Manhattan School of Music with a full scholarship. In 2021, she graduated with a master’s degree in Piano Performance. Since then, Joana has begun work on numerous projects and maintained an active performance schedule. She currently studies with Asiya Korepanova.





# Clearing the Cache of an Anxious Mind

## The Zeroing-Out Method

**Presented By Bo Sebastian**  
Wednesday, January 12  
7pm

Sunshine Cathedral  
1480 SW 9th Ave, Fort Lauderdale

**Free and open to the public**

Have you ever lain in bed desperately trying to sleep, but an endless stream of thoughts keeps swirling in your head? Bo will provide you with a road map for calming the mind  
- Zeroing Out.

All who attend will receive a free PDF of  
Clearing the Cache of an Anxious Mind: The Zeroing Out Method

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# Christmas Day Service

ONLINE ONLY

## **Service of Gathering**

### **Welcome**

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins, Senior Minister  
Rev Dr Robert Griffin, Executive Minister

***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!*

### **Call to Worship**

This is the day our God has made.  
*Let us rejoice and be glad in it!*

## **Service of Praise**

### **Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

*Hark! The herald angels sing, 'glory to the Christ-child bring;  
peace on earth and mercy mild, God and humans reconciled!'  
Joyful, all you saints arise, join the triumph of the skies;  
with the angel host proclaim, 'Christ is born in Bethlehem!'  
Hark! The herald angels sing, 'Glory to the Christ-child bring!'*

### **O Little Town of Bethlehem**

*O little town of Bethlehem now still we see you lie!  
Above your deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;  
yet in your dark streets shines forth the everlasting light,  
the hopes and fears of all the years are met in you tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,  
while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.  
O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!  
And praises sing and voices ring with peace to all on earth.*

***Please be seated.***

***A Christmas Poem*** (by Kay Hoffman)  
Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

The gifts I'd leave beneath your tree,  
Aren't those that you can touch or see,  
No toys meant just for pointless play,  
But gifts to bless you every day.  
The gift of friendship warm and true,  
Is one that I would leave for you.  
Good health and happiness and cheer  
To keep you smiling through the year.  
The gift of peace that comes from God,  
With prayer to guide each path you trod.  
And when your heart has lost its song  
The gift of hope to cheer you on.  
These are the gifts I'd leave for you.

***Sunshine Cathedral Handbell Choir***

***Service of Proclamation***

**A reading from the Gospel of Matthew 1.18-21**  
Rev Dr Robert Griffin

The birth of Jesus took place like this. His mother, Mary, was engaged to be married to Joseph. Before they came to the marriage bed, Joseph discovered she was pregnant...Joseph, chagrined but noble, determined to take care of things quietly so Mary would not be disgraced.

While he was trying to figure a way out, he had a dream. God's angel spoke in the dream: "Joseph, son of David, don't hesitate to get married. Mary's pregnancy is Spirit-conceived...She will bring a son to birth, and when she does, you, Joseph, will name him Jesus—'God saves'..."

**Sung Response**

*Come, O long expected Jesus,  
born to set all people free;  
from our fears and pain release us;  
grant us your true liberty.*

### **A reading from the Gospel of Luke 2.1-7**

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

Caesar Augustus ordered a census to be taken throughout the Empire...Everyone had to travel to his own ancestral hometown to be accounted for. So Joseph went from the Galilean town of Nazareth up to Bethlehem in Judah, David's town, for the census. As a descendant of David, he had to go there. He went with Mary, his fiancée, who was pregnant.

While they were there, the time came for her to give birth. She gave birth to a son, her first-born. She wrapped him in a blanket and laid him in a manger, because there was no room in the inn.

#### **Sung Response**

*Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,  
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the sky looked down where he lay,  
the little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.*

### **A reading from the Gospel of Luke 2.8-12**

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

There were shepherds camping [nearby]. They had set night watches over their sheep. Suddenly, God's angel stood among them and God's glory blazed around them. They were terrified. The angel said, "Don't be afraid. I'm here to announce a great and joyful event that is meant for everybody, worldwide: A Savior has just been born in David's town, a Savior who is Messiah and [Lord]. This is what you're to look for: a baby wrapped in a blanket and lying in a manger."

#### **Sung Response**

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;  
'Peace on the earth, good will to all,  
great news of joy we bring.'  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

### **A reading from the Gospel of Luke 2.16-18**

Rev Dr Robert Griffin

The shepherds left, running, and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby lying in the manger. Seeing was believing. They told everyone they met what the angels had said about this child. All who heard the shepherders were impressed.

#### **Sung Response**

*Shepherds in the fields abiding,  
watching o'er your flocks by night,  
Hope with us is now residing,  
yonder shines the infant light.  
Come and worship, come and worship,  
worship now, give thanks and sing.*

## Reflections

Rev Kevin Tisdol, Minister of Education

Rev Dr Anne Atwell, Minister of Connections

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

### **Song of Response**

*Jesus, Jesus, O What a Wonderful Child*

*Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful child.*

*Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild;*

*New life, new hope the child will bring.*

*Listen to the angels sing: "Glory, glory, glory" let the heavens ring!*

*Jesus, Jesus, O what a wonderful child.*

*Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild;*

*New life, new hope the child will bring.*

*Listen to the angels sing: "Glory, glory, glory" let the heavens ring!*

***Please be seated.***

## ***Service of Sacraments***

### **Sacrament of Sharing (Tithes & Offerings)**

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

## Offering Music

*Mary, Did you Know?*

By Mark Lowry and Buddy Greene

Performed By Sara Burns

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

## Doxology

*Adeste fideles, laeti triumphantes;*

*venite, venite in Bethlehem.*

*Natum videte Regem angelorum.*

*Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,*

*venite adoremus, dominum.*

*Sing choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
sing, all you messengers of heavenly love:*

*'glory to God, all glory in the highest.'*

*Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,*

*venite adoremus, dominum.*

One: Children of God, let us pray for the needs of the whole world – for peace on earth and goodwill among all people; for unity and concord within this parish and for blessings to flow into our community, our nation, and the whole world.

And because this of all things would rejoice the heart of Jesus, let us remember the poor and challenged, the cold, the hungry, and the oppressed; the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and the unloved, the aged and the little children, and those who seek spiritual peace, comfort, strength or guidance.

Lastly, let us remember before God all those who rejoice with us, but upon another shore, and in a greater light (+), that multitude which no one can number, who are held forever in the love of God.

We humbly offer these prayers using the words of Jesus which we now sing:

**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.*

**Carol***I Heard the Bells on Christmas Day*

*I heard the bells on Christmas Day their old familiar carols play,  
and wild and sweet the words repeat of peace on earth, goodwill to all.*

*I thought how, as the day had come, the belfries of all Christendom  
had rolled along th'unbroken song of peace on earth, goodwill to all.*

*And in despair I bowed my head: 'there is no peace on earth' I said,  
'for hate is strong and mocks the song of peace on earth goodwill to all.'*

*Then pealed the bells more loud and deep: 'God is not dead, nor does God sleep;  
the wrongs shall fail, the right prevail, with peace on earth, goodwill to all.'*

*Till, ringing, singing on its way, the world revolved from day to day,  
a voice, a chime, a chant sublime of peace on earth, goodwill to all.*

**Benediction**

Rev Dr Durrell Watkins

## Final Song

### *Joy to the World*

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come;  
let earth its praises bring; let every heart prepare Christ room,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Christ fills the world with truth and grace,  
and. Makes the nations prove  
the glories of God's righteousness  
and wonders of God's love,  
and wonders of God's love,  
and wonders, wonders of God's love.*

## Commission

Our worship has ended. Let our service begin!  
*Thanks be to God!*

## Postlude

Barbara Ramcharitar





*Outlandish*  
at Sunshine Cathedral Center for the  
Performing Arts presents

**Miss Richfield 1981 in her all-new show,  
“40 Years on the Throne”.**

SATURDAY, JANUARY 15, 2022 AT 8:00 PM  
Tickets Available at SunshineCathedral.org

*Outlandish*  
at Sunshine Cathedral Center for the  
Performing Arts presents

**VARLA JEAN MERMAN’S LITTLE PRICK**

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2022 8:00 PM  
Tickets Available at SunshineCathedral.org



*Outlandish*  
at Sunshine Cathedral Center for the  
Performing Arts presents

Miss Coco Peru  
**BITTER BOTHERED & BEYOND**

SATURDAY, APRIL 9, 2022 8:00 PM  
Tickets Available at SunshineCathedral.org



*Merry Christmas & Happy Holidays  
from the  
Gay Men's Chorus of South Florida*



***Travel Planning Time***  
*Happening OUT Travel & Sunshine Cathedral*  
*April 19 - May 2, 2022: ITALY*

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*Welcome Home To Your . . .*



*Your Local & Global Queer Church Community for All*

*A Positive Worship Experience*

*Today's Theme*

*Drawn to God's House*

*First Sunday of Christmastide*

*December 26<sup>th</sup> 2021*

## **Service of Gathering**

**Welcome**  
Rev Dr Robert Griffin

**Announcements** Rev Dr Anne Atwell

**Please rise as you are able.**

**Introit** O Little Town of Bethlehem

*O little town of Bethlehem now still we see you lie! Above your deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by; yet in your dark streets shines forth the everlasting light, the hopes and fears of all the years are met in you tonight.*

*For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above, while mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.*

*O morning starts, together proclaim the holy birth! And praises sing and voices ring with peace to all on earth. light the candle of joy.*

### **Sunshine Cathedral 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** Angels We Have Heard on High

*Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains. And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strain.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Shepherds why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong? Say what may the tidings be, which inspire your heavenly song.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*Come to Bethlehem and see. Christ whose birth the angels sing; come adore on bended kneed, Joy, our world now entering.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

*See the babe in manger laid whom the choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph, lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.*

*Gloria in excelsis Deo, gloria in excelsis Deo.*

**Opening Prayer** Rev Dr Anne Atwell

*One: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your holy Spirit that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy names.*

## **Sung Response**

*Amen. Amen. Amen, Amen.  
Amen. Amen. Amen, Amen.*

**Please be seated.**

## **Service of Proclamation**

**A Reading from the letter to the Colossians (3.12-14)**

Rev Kevin Tisdol

As God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience.

Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you...

Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony.

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

*Thanks be to God.*

**Please rise as you are able.**

**A Reading from Luke's Gospel (2.41-52)**

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

Now every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover.

And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival.

When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it.

Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.

When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him.

After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions.

And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers.

When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety."

He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in [God's] house?"

But they did not understand what he said to them.

Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

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

*Thanks be to God.*

## Song of Response

*Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child*

*Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.  
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild:  
New life, new hope the child will bring.  
Listen to the angels sing, "Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring.*

*Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.  
Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild:  
New life, new hope the child will bring.  
Listen to the angels sing, "Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring.*

**Please be seated.**

## The Anthem

*Hallelujah*  
By John Stephens and Tobias Gad  
Performed By Sara Burns

## Homily

Rev Dr Robert Griffin  
*Drawn to God's House*

## Invitation to Prayer

**Please rise as you are able.**

## Prayer Chorus

*It Came Upon the Midnight Clear*

*It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,  
from angels bending near the earth to touch their harps of gold;*

*'Peace on the earth, good will to all, great news of joy we bring.'  
The world in solemn stillness lay to hear the angels sing.*

## Pastoral Prayer and Affirmations

### Sign of Peace

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

*Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be, with God our creator, family all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally, let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me.*

## Service of Sacraments

### Sacrament of Sharing (Tithes & Offerings)

Rev Kevin Tisdol

### Stewardship Thought

Stewardship Thought: "It is in giving that we receive."  
St. Francis of Assisi

### 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

**Greensleeves Variations**  
Arranged By L Fluery and Dewey Owens  
Performed By David Suarez

**Rise as you are able.**

### Doxology

*Old Hundred*

*Praise God the Good we all may share;  
praise God the Beauty everywhere.*

*Praise God the Hope of Good to be;  
praise God the Truth that makes us free.  
Amen.*



**Sacrament of Hospitality  
Eucharistic Intentions**

Rev Renwick Bell

**We Remember**

Jeff Adams	12/27/1986	Wayne Bennett	12/29/2014
Valariee Morris	12/28/1994	Paul Bass	12/30/2014
Kurt Depetris	12/28/1998	Ben Cacciamani	12/31/2003
George Lane	12/28/2005	Dominic Desantis	12/31/2019
Norman McLean	12/28/2008	Bob Morse	01/01/1988
Fernando Herrea	12/29/1991	Ted Oates	01/01/2002
Bob Astbury	12/29/1996	Bob Horton	01/01/2020
Arnold Thomas	12/29/1998		

**Rainbow Candle Lit Today**

In Memory and Honor of all  
Sunshine Cathedral Members and Friends  
Affected or Infected by COVID-19

by  
The Sunshine Cathedral Staff

**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**

**Words of Remembrance**

Rev Dr Anne Atwell

One: On the night of his arrest Jesus shared a meal with his friends and family of choice. After supper, he took a piece of bread, broke it, and offered it to those at table. Sharing together made them one body. Jesus said, "When you do this, remember me."

One: He then took a cup of wine and shared it with the others. Sharing reminded them that they were bound together in a covenant of love. Jesus again said, "When you do this, remember me."

**Intercessions**

Rev Renwick Bell

One: For the Sunshine Cathedral Global Fellowship and local congregation, for all who are on our prayer list, for our loved ones, for world and community leaders, and for our own needs, let us pray:

*Prayer of Divine Mercy*

*Loving Creator, we remember the wisdom and love,  
Peace and integrity of your blessed anointed one –  
our Lord Jesus Christ  
Who taught of your love for us and also the whole world*

*For the sake of your infinite goodness please smile upon  
us and on the whole world.*

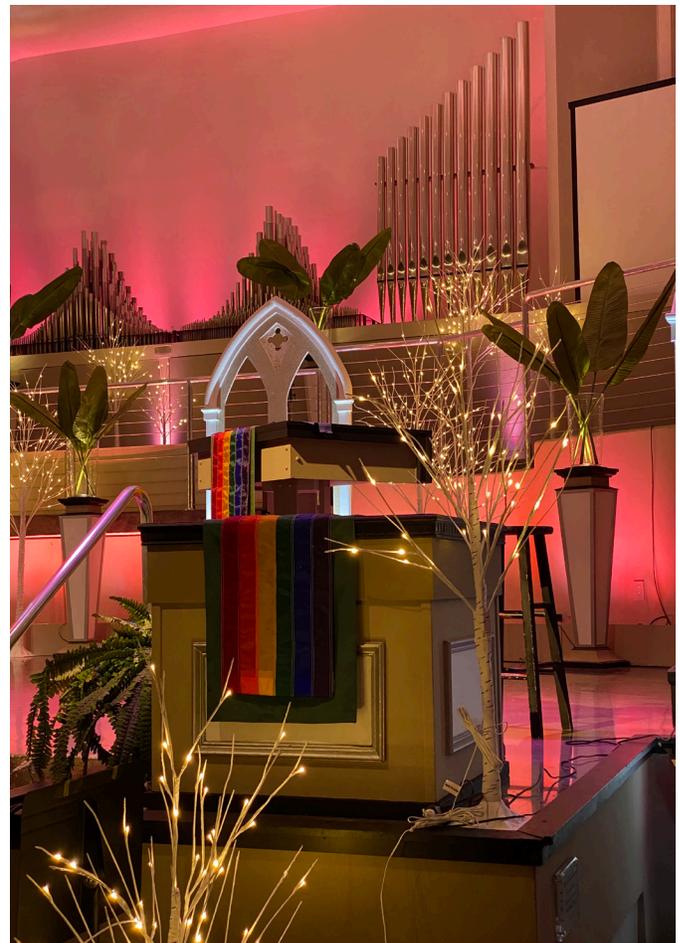
*For the sake of your infinite goodness please smile upon  
us and on the whole world.*

*For the sake of your infinite goodness please smile upon  
us and on the whole world.*

*Holy God, holy mighty One, holy immortal One Give  
blessings to us and to the whole world.  
Holy God, holy mighty One, holy immortal One Give  
blessings to us and to the whole world.*

One: 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:



**Chorus**

*Adeste fideles, laeti triumphantes;  
venite, venite in Bethlehem.  
Natum videte Regem angelorum.  
Venite adoremus, venite adoremus,  
venite adoremus, dominum.*

**Invitation to Communion** Rev Kevin Tisdol

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

**Communion is Shared**

**Communion Song** *Joy to the World*

*Joy to the world! The Lord is come; let earth its praises  
bring; let every heart prepare Christ room,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature  
sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Christ fills the world with truth and grace, and. Makes the  
nations proves the glories of God's righteousness  
and wonders of God's love, and wonders of God's love,  
and wonders, wonders of God's love.*

**Prayer of Thanksgiving** Rev Dr Robert Griffin

**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

**SILENT HELPERS PRAYER MINISTRY**

**Centering Thought**

"Whatever lives, lives within, and unto the omnipresent  
God..." Malinda Cramer

**LET US PRAY FOR ALL WHO ARE ON OUR PRAYER  
LIST AND FOR ALL WHO ARE ON OUR HEARTS:**

Cecilia; Ruby & John; JW; JH; "The Center" in AP; all  
who are living with HIV; SD & KW; Laurie; Joey; Attard  
family; M. Boyse; R.; Daniel C.; Lafave; Georganna;  
Juliet; Anita; Sarah; Dale; MLF; Lewis family; Jackie DLS  
(of blessed memory); our pet companions; Suzanne G.;  
Terry; Michael; Maureen's daughter; Kelli M.; Andrew,  
Dani & family; Peggy G.; Bill P.; Jamie; Montes; Daniel;  
George (of blessed memory); Dani & Andrew & fam-  
ily; Pat, Sherry; Cody; Steve; "Self"; Jamie; tornado  
survivors; Leslie & Diane; Sheila; DCP; Tara & Sam;  
Sadie & Sloan; Mari Ann; Julie C.; TS; Laurie; Maureen;  
Barbara; Stephen; Kathy; Craig; Nancy; Lynne; Carolyn;  
Rev. Kathy; Mary; Michael & Pam; Danny; Jim & Susan;  
Greta P.; Ken (of blessed memory); James; Pete & fam-  
ily; Corrine's mom; DW; Shawna; all who have been  
burdened by the pandemic; those in nursing care and  
assisted living facilities; LGBTQ+ communities; Troy &  
Phillip; Don; Global Justice Institute; DSFI; the ministries  
of Sunshine Cathedral; members & friends of Sunshine  
Cathedral; all who are part of the Sunshine Cathedral  
Global Fellowship

**~Prayer~**

God is the Fount of All Blessings.  
I declare that needs are being met.

God is the Source of Life and Health.  
I affirm that healing is taking place now.

God is Perfect Peace.  
In God's name, I speak peace to every heart and situ-  
ation.

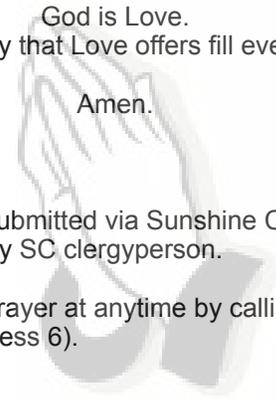
God is Love.  
May the joy that Love offers fill every life.

Amen.

**REMEMBER:**

Prayers can be submitted via Sunshine Cathedral.org  
or by emailing any SC clergyperson.

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





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 Fort Lauderdale, Florida 33315  
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