



FRIDAY, APRIL 3RD, 2020



Dearlly Beloved,

This past Sunday, we passed another technological milestone in the production of our live-streamed worship service: Rev. Beth and I were in Arlington Street's high pulpit; Mark David Buckles brought us gorgeous music from his home studio outside Boston; and soprano Hana Omori sang Sanctuary for our candles of sorrow and joy ... from her family home in Ōsaka, Japan! Once again, thanks to Director of Music Mark David Buckles and Art Nava, Hala Hazar, Kem Morehead, Rich Abreu, and Sandy Dixon - our fabulous Tech Team - for pulling it off!

Thank you to everyone who's sent in a photo of yourself to office@ASCBoston.org. Please keep them coming - they are a delight! Over these past weeks, we've been joined in worship by several deeply loved members who have moved away (special shout out to the Templetons and the Hubbards!); it's wonderful to see your beautiful faces back in the sanctuary! And welcome to the entire little Vermont congregation that is so glad to be among a larger fold in these difficult days. Your photos are all taped up in the same pew, so you can continue to worship together!

I am so grateful to Margaret, Gaby, and George, who have been in touch with our elders, and to Claire and Barb, who offered to help one of our elders get to his dialysis appointments. Kem & I have made some "ring and run" deliveries, and I know many of you are doing the same. We are doing an awesome job of caring for one another!

Thank you, too, to everyone who's been showing up to various gatherings during the week. This past week's Pet Parade was a special treat! Many thanks to our featured furry companions and to all who came to hear their stories and to admire them!

This Sunday morning at 11:00, we'll gather for worship on Zoom. Director of Music Mark David Buckles will be joined by tenor Daniel Rosensweig and soprano Hana Omori, accompanied by her father, Kazuhiro Omori, on guitar! Come sing

Emma's Revolution's *Swimming to the Other Side* and Holly Near's *I Am Willing!*
Rev. Beth will join me in the pulpit; my sermon is called *This Grief*.

Following the service, our Zoom host will unmute everyone. If you'd like to stay for a virtual coffee hour - this happened spontaneously last Sunday! - please do! BYOC (or whatever!).

Highlights of this Coming Week (see above for details)

Mondays at 4:00, we'll gather for *Poems to Go On* in celebration of National Poetry Month.

Wednesdays at 4:00 is *Tea Time* with your ministers. BYOT!

This Wednesday at 5:15, thanks to our friends at Ágora Cultural Architects, come enjoy a Mini-Concert with Chilean saxophonist Patricia Zárata Pérez!

Thursdays at 1:00, *Arlington Street Writes!* Join Rev. Kim for the spiritual practice of writing.

As always, please remember that social distancing doesn't have to mean feelings of isolation and loneliness. We are all in this together!

Faithfully yours, with love always,
Kim

For you. xo!

The Thing Is ~ Ellen Bass

to love life, to love it even
when you have no stomach for it
and everything you've held dear
crumbles like burnt paper in your hands,
your throat filled with the silt of it.
When grief sits with you, its tropical heat
thickening the air, heavy as water
more fit for gills than lungs;
when grief weights you like your own flesh
only more of it, an obesity of grief,
you think, How can a body withstand this?
Then you hold life like a face
between your palms, a plain face,
no charming smile, no violet eyes,
and you say, yes, I will take you
I will love you, again.

~ from *Poetry of Presence: An Anthology of Mindfulness Poems* (Grayson Books, 2017)