

FRIDAY, JUNE 2<sup>ND</sup>, 2023



*James McMurtry (a straight, cisgender male) wore a dress at his Nashville show ... because the state of Tennessee has made drag shows illegal*

Dearly Beloved,

For Mothers Day, Director of Music Mark David Buckles had originally programmed the Arlington Street Church Choir, accompanied by Hyunju Jung, to sing the fifth movement of Brahms' *A German Requiem*. But that morning, a record-breaking three of our professional section leaders woke up sick, and the Brahms had to be postponed. This Sunday, it's Take 2!

A reminder of the background on this piece: On February 2, 1865, Johannes Brahms received an urgent telegram from his brother, Fritz: "If you want to see our mother once again, come immediately." Their mother, Christiane Brahms, had had a stroke. Brahms hastened to her from Vienna, but she had already died by the time he arrived in Hamburg.

The loss affected the composer profoundly, and almost immediately he began work on the requiem. The soprano solo, sung by our own Hannah Shanefield, has a maternal character that Brahms surely associated with his own mother. She sings "You now have sorrow, but I will see you again," to which the chorus replies, "Thee I will comfort as one whom a mother comforts." The choir will be singing in memory of our beloved Harriett Bogue, who died last month at the age of 93.

The choir will also sing Benjamin Britten's *Sanctus* (from *Missa Brevis* in D), with Hyunju Jung on organ; Mark David and Julie Metcalf (fiddle) will sing and play some tunes (with Rev. Joanna Lubkin joining them on Tim O'Brien's *Little Lamb Little Lamb*), and we'll all sing *I Know this Rose will Open, My Life Flows On in Endless Song*, and *Lean On Me*. My sermon is called *Post-Traumatic Growth*.

Following the service, Gaby & George Whitehouse host another in-person brunch at Precinct Kitchen; at 5:30 p.m. (ET) on Monday, June 5th, Rev. Dr. Kelly Murphy Mason, our Community Minister for Spiritual Direction, is in the Arlington Street Zoom room, teaching *Welcoming What's Unwelcomed: Welcoming Prayer as Spiritual Practice*; and at 7:00 p.m. (ET) on Thursday, June 8th, Trisha Zembruski, who leads Arlington Street Writes, gives a poetry reading at Menino Arts Center in Hyde Park.

You'll hear more about this next week, but please be sure our pre-Pride parade celebration is in your calendar: 10:00 a.m. (ET) on Saturday, June 10th! Jodi Pickle reflects on her transition (while teaching high school); our own Wanda DeGalaxy sings *Bathrooms are for Every Body*; Rev. Fred Small sings his new, inclusive version of *Everything Possible*; and the Mark David Buckles band is in the house! *All are welcome!*

The last week in the "regular" church year is always a feast! Let's tuck in and enjoy!

*Faithfully yours, with love,  
Kim*

