

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21, 2021



Chucks & Pearls for Inauguration Day



Dearly Beloved,

I am writing to you very late on Inauguration Day. I've been up since very early ... but I don't want this day to end. Langston Hughes speaks to us across 85 years — these opening lines of *Let America Be America Again*:

Let America be America again.
Let it be the dream it used to be.

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This Sunday, Yulia Yun (piano) opens the service with Bonjovi Verdejo's arrangement of the American Folk Song *Bright Morning Stars*; Shigeo Ida's arrangement of Yiruma's *Hope*; and Dolly Parton's *Light of a Clear Blue Morning*.

Rev. Joanna Lubkin lights the chalice with *We Hold Hope Close* by Rev. Theresa Inés Soto.

Ann-Marie Iacoviello (soprano) sings the traditional African American *Yonder Come Day* and Karisha Longaker's *We Shall Be Known*.

Patrick Cooleybeck is our worship coordinator and Barbara Seidl reads Alberto Ríos' [**A House Called Tomorrow**](#) ("The bad do not win—not finally, / No matter how loud they are.").

Special guest musician (and Rev. Jo's best friend!) Zo Tobi leads us in *Blessed Unrest*.

Oh I am waking up to find my world
Between the dying and being reborn....

Fill my days with blessed unrest
And my nights with dreams of justice
Make me a vessel for the turning of the tide

And Rev. Jo preaches *A House Called Tomorrow*. She writes, “As we begin this new chapter in the American story, what is ours to do to keep building the world as it could be? We’ll let Alberto Rios’s poem inspire us to see what’s next for us, for our vision, and for our democracy.”

To close the service, Daniel Rosensweig (tenor) leads us in Jason Shelton’s *The Fire of Commitment*.

When the fire of commitment sets our mind and soul ablaze
When our hunger and our passion meet to call us on our way
When we live with deep assurance of the flame that burns within
Then our promise finds fulfillment and our future can begin

It feels like a New Year all over again!

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Two notes:

* As always, please go to [ASCBoston.org](https://www.ascboston.org) to find all the gatherings in the Zoom room this week!

* At the top of the pandemic, many of you sent a photo of yourself to Rev. Beth and me for us to tape up in the pews to keep us company on Sunday mornings. If you haven’t done that, please do! They’ll get to us via office@ASCBoston.org. Thank you!

Let’s sing this together, loudly, on Sunday morning:

We shall be known by the company we keep
By the ones who circle round to tend these fires
We shall be known by the ones who sow and reap
The seeds of change, alive from deep within the earth
It is time now, it is time now that we thrive
It is time we lead ourselves into the well
It is time now, and what a time to be alive
In this Great Turning, we shall learn to lead in love
In this Great Turning, we shall learn to lead in love

*Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim*

p.s. Here is a message from someone many of us know and love. I’ll keep her anonymous for now; if you or someone you know might be able to help, please let me know, and I’ll connect you! Thank you!

Dear Beloved Community members,

My husband and I have been trying to have a child since we got married in 2019. Unfortunately, we have not been successful, and I am not a candidate for IVF. At this point, my doctors have suggested that we undergo egg donor IVF. We’re excited about this possibility to realize our dream of becoming parents and raising a child.

We’re looking for an egg donor who is between the ages of 23-32. The donor must be willing and available to go through a time-consuming and sometimes uncomfortable medical

process. The donor would be generously financially compensated for their extraordinary gift of time and effort. If you or someone you know might consider this or if you might be willing to talk with my husband and me about donating, please contact Rev. Kim at office@ASCBoston.org. Thank you!



An African American WWII veteran was sitting on a bus in uniform when he was forced to stand to give his seat to a 13-year-old white boy. What a difference a day can make! His son, Senator Rev. Raphael Warnock, was just sworn in as Georgia's first African American senator, along with Georgia's first Jewish senator, along with California's first Latinx senator ... by the first African American, Asian American, female VPOTUS who herself was sworn in by the first Latinx supreme court justice ... as the senate welcomes its first Jewish majority leader.



January 19th COVID-19 Memorial