



FRIDAY, APRIL 7TH, 2023



Dearly beloved,

A joyous update from our own Dr. Alan Kemp and Dr. Richard Marshall, who have served tirelessly on Arlington Street's COVID Response Team: The sanctuary is now mask-optional! You can read their latest update [here](#). Masks will continue to be available from the ushers and physical distancing will be encouraged in the balcony. Rest assured that we will do everything we can to continue to keep the most vulnerable among us safe!

This Sunday, we celebrate Easter! For starters, Director of Music Mark David Buckles has arranged our three big Easter hymns for orchestra ... and yes, there will be an orchestra!

Mark David will conduct the Arlington Street Church Choir and ten-piece orchestra (!) in 36-year-old American composer Jake Runestad's *Into the Light*. This five-movement cantata features the wisdom of Frederick Douglass, Helen Keller, Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and Rabindranath Tagore, among other luminaries.

Jazz Artist in Residence Joe della Penna will sing and play Irving Berlin's Easter Parade! My sermon is called *Practice Resurrection*. And we'll close with one of our favorite Easter traditions. In the 1700s, Methodist minister Charles Wesley wrote *Jesus Christ is Risen Today*. In the following century, Unitarian minister Samuel Longfellow commandeered the same tune and rewrote the words: *Lo, The Earth Awakes Again*. The choice of which words to sing is yours —

Death in vain forbids him rise
Christ has opened paradise

or

Change, then, mourning into praise
And, for dirges, anthems raise

As with our celebration of many of the big Christian holidays, it can be fun to go for tradition, or, alternatively, to sing in affirmation of what we deeply believe. Whatever you choose to sing, we'll all end up together at Alleluia!

Alleluia!



Tech Team lead Art Nava was at a Unitarian Universalist conference in Chicago this week and met up for dinner with Worship Team member Marie O'Brien, who Zooms in from Chicago each Sunday. Wonderful!

Get your tickets to Nuns'n'Fun, coming up at 7:00 on Saturday night, April 29th! An opportunity for our entire beloved community to be together in the Zoom room, the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence will host an evening of bingo, raffles, and laughter! Registration for this heaven-sent fundraiser for Arlington Street and our work in the world is at <https://nunsnfun.eventbrite.com>. All in!



p.s. Beloved Conversations is a program for people seeking to embody racial justice as a spiritual practice. The program's second phase, called *Among*, is focused on the institutional, systemic anti-racist change needed in our congregations. During the 2022-23 church year, our Transformation Team for Racial Justice has been completing the application for Arlington Street to participate in *Among*, which will begin in the fall of 2023. Please share your thoughts and ideas to help the Transformation Team complete the application by taking this [short survey](#).

p.p.s. A week from Sunday, April 16th, our own Jenny Hoefler reprises her wildly popular Vegan Cooking with Jenny, [Zooming](#) into our kitchens from hers (in Maryland!). What's for dinner? Gnocchi and pesto with spinach and tomato! For more information and the ingredient list, please go to ASCBoston.org