



FRIDAY, MAY 16TH, 2020



A café in Germany provides customers with physical-distancing assistance



His Holiness the Dalai Lama talking to a worldwide audience during his virtual teaching from his residence in Dharamsala, HP, India on May 16, 2020. Photo by Ben Tenzin Jamphel

Dearly Beloved,

It's Covenant Renewal Sunday! Please plan to join Rev. Beth, Mark David, and me (my sermon is called "I Got You"), as well as all four Arlington Street Choir section leaders - Ann-Marie, Daniel, Hana, and Tevan; guest musicians Julie Metcalf and Kazuhiro Omori; and our collaborative pianist, Yulia Yun! There's all kinds of beautiful music in store (the prelude begins at 10:45!) and the first-ever *Pandemic Pledging: Covenant Renewal* by "Reverse Telethon!"

Did you know that early every Sunday morning, Rev. George Whitehouse climbs into the steeple to ring our bells? Looking out across the Public Garden, I can see the few people who are out walking dogs or getting some morning air look up in wonder ... and smile. We can only imagine how uplifting it is for those who are in their homes, from Comm. Ave. to Beacon Hill, to be assured by that joyful sound. Thanks to Rev. George for his ministry of the bells!

And speaking of the church.... Our security company called our administrator, Jeffrey Bouchard, in the middle of the night on Tuesday to tell him that someone had thrown a brick at the John the Baptist Tiffany stained glass window. All thanks to Polly Latham, who led us in renovating the windows and shielding them with protective coverings that proved a priceless investment: the window survived unscathed. If you know your Bible, you'll love this: Tim O'Rourke quipped, "John the Baptist has faced much worse!"

Jeffrey alerted the Boston Police Department and, at first light, Jon Andersen-Miller, chair of our building restoration team, headed downtown to assess the exterior damage. He reports that the perpetrator heaved the brick (probably taken from the Public Garden) more than 12 times. The BPD almost certainly has video footage, and will pursue the case as soon as possible. So many thanks to Jon, who worked with Jeffrey to get Boston Board to come cover the window. They are

also in touch with Roberto Rosa, principal at Serpentino Glass, who restored the windows and will see that a replacement covering is installed as soon as possible. Photos are below.

I want to be sure you know about this wonderful, one-hour multimedia livecast tonight (Saturday) at 8:00: President Obama will be addressing the high school graduates of 2020, with a cast of additional luminaries: Lady Gaga, LeBron James, Malala Yousafzai, the Jonas Brothers, Yara Shahidi, Bad Bunny, Lena Waithe, Pharrell Williams, Megan Rapinoe, H.E.R., and Ben Platt. To watch “Graduate Together: America Honors the High School Class of 2020,” go to ABC, CBS, FOX, NBC, Facebook, YouTube, or TikTok. You can find more information [here](#). Enjoy!

And as always, go to the home page at ASCBoston.org for all the latest and greatest! I’ll see you in our Zoom room in the morning!

*Faithfully yours, with love always,
Kim*

Our own Rev. Erica Rose Long, an affiliated community minister at Arlington Street and a chaplain at Massachusetts General Hospital, was featured in [this beautiful piece](#) in the most recent Harvard Divinity School newsletter. Rev. Erica, we are SO PROUD of you!

