

FRIDAY, MAY 29TH, 2020



Elementary school students wearing wings to maintain physical distancing in Taiyuan in China's northern Shanxi province

Dearly Beloved,

As I write, Minneapolis is on fire, burning with the rage of injustice. Across the century, Langston Hughes calls to us, implores us to commit ourselves to exorcising the evil of racism. This is "I Look at the World" (1930).

I look at the world
From awakening eyes in a black face –
And this is what I see:
This fenced-off narrow space
Assigned to me.

I look then at the silly walls
Through dark eyes in a dark face –
And this is what I know:
That all these walls oppression builds
Will have to go!

I look at my own body
With eyes no longer blind-
And I see that my own hands can make
The world that's in my mind.
Then let us hurry, comrades,
The road to find.

For George Floyd and Brionna Taylor: *¡Presente!*

This Sunday..

Director of Music Mark David Buckles will be joined by Arlington Street's soprano Ann-Marie Iacoviello ("Sanctuary"); tenor Daniel Rosensweig (Paul Simon's "Quiet"), baritone Tevan Goldberg (Van Morrison's "Enlightenment"), soprano Hana Omori accompanied by her father, pianist Kazuhiro Omori (Oscar Hammerstein's "You'll Never Walk Alone" from Carousel), and pianist Yulia Yun (Franz Schubert, Béla Bartok, and Infrasonic Music)! Mark David will be leading us in hymns and songs and singing Sister Hazel's "Change Your Mind." Hala Hazar and Sandy Dixon will be providing remote technical support; Art Nava (sound board), Rich Abreu (camera), and Kem Morehead (computer) will join Rev. Beth and me to live-stream from the sanctuary. My sermon is called Not Knowing - a reflection on the spiritual practice of Zen Buddhism's Don't Know Mind.

I've been thinking ...

On the other side of the pandemic, what will we have learned? One lesson is the power - and the importance - of virtual programming. As I mentioned last week, my goal is that we become as completely hybrid as possible - gathering both in person and on Zoom - with a few offerings remaining completely virtual. If you are serving on an Arlington Street team, initiative, or committee, I hope you'll join me in thoughtful reflection about this. Some of it's an easy leap - a laptop set up where, for example, the Finance, Membership, and Prudential (Board) committees meet and where the Transformation Team for Racial Justice, The Wednesdays Literary Salon, and the Arlington Street Meditation Center gather. But what will the Greeters team look like - both at the Great Doors and in our Zoom room? How about coffee hour? Those joining in virtually can't usher or make sandwiches, but what can we do on Zoom that we've never been able to do before? I'd love to hear your most creative ideas!

Thank you!

A very special thanks to Arlington Street members who have stepped up to continue some of our weekday programming over the summer: Judah Leblang (Arlington Street Writes!); Sharon Gentges and Queen Cheryl (Arlington Street Meditation Center); and Philip Roberts and Darrell Waters (Poems to Go On). Rev. Beth and I will continue to host the weekly Ministers (Iced!) Tea. Some of the meeting times will change, but the opportunity to be held in the extraordinary kindness of this beloved spiritual community will be sustained.

Closed Captioning

We're still waiting for the Unitarian Universalist Association (who administers our Zoom room) to fully integrate closed captioning for all our gatherings, but they just sent us a "workaround" that will do the trick until they finish. If you'd like closed captioning on your device,

I've pasted in directions below. I promise it will be less clunky soon!

Thank you, again and again, for your devotion and your generosity. Together, we are making something so beautiful and so precious.

*Faithfully yours, with love always,
Kim*

p.s. This week's Tea Time prompt: an article of clothing you just can't part with, and why! Bonus points if you wear it to tea! We have a special guest singing a special song: Ann-Marie Iacoviello singing Mary Chapin Carpenter's [This Shirt!](#) Rev. Beth and I will meet you (wearing blue sweatshirts) in the Arlington Street Zoom room on Wednesday at 4:00! xo!

p.p.s. Tech Team member Hala Hazar invites us to join her at a virtual Pride event on June 22nd - 26th! It's time now to pre-register. Hala writes, "Even if you're not a techie, the speakers are amazing. and it's free. Go here: <https://lesbianswhotech.org/virtualpride-summit/>

How To: Closed Captioning on Zoom

In your web browser, go to [Otter.ai](https://otter.ai) and click in the blue box that says "Sign Up" for a free account.

Click on the button that says "Otter app" (top right hand corner). Confirm your email address (it will send you to your email to verify that it's you). Click "Go there now."

Leave up the Otter.ai window.

Start Zooming to church. Don't wear your headphones; make sure the sound is coming out of your computer's speaker.

Put the Zoom window next to the Otter.ai window.

In the Otter window, touch "Record."

Voilà! Closed captioning for what's being said will magically appear.

(continued)



Physical distancing in Delores Park, San Francisco

