



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 30, 2020



Dearly Beloved,

Do you find yourself holding your breath? It feels as if the entire country is holding its breath! Join me now:

*Breathe in. Breathe out.
Breathe in. Breathe out.*

Let's keep finding our breath and remembering to breathe. We have come very far, and we have farther, yet, to go. Every day, I count my blessings that I am able to go with you.

This Sunday, we honor El Día de los Muertos (Day of the Dead) and All Souls Day. Thanks to Jeffrey Hale and Guillermo Martin de Alba for the pulpit decorations! Art Nava, Rev. Beth, Daniel Rosensweig, and Rev. George have created a beautiful ¡Presente! slideshow for us. I encourage you to light a candle and include photos and mementos of ancestors and loved ones who have gone before you in your Hollywood square — a little altar.

The fifth principle of Unitarian Universalism is our covenant “to affirm and promote the right of conscience and the use of the democratic process.” This Sunday, our service opens with Director of Music Mark David Buckles’ setting of that principle, and Tech Team lead Art Nava has a surprise for us! Also playing and singing for us this weekend are Daniel Rosensweig, Hana and Kazuhiro Otori, Julie Metcalf, Tevan Goldberg, and Yulia Yun! Ali Jablonsky is worship coordinating. My sermon is called Spiritual Ancestors.

Also on Sunday, I'll be telling you about a capital campaign to restore the degrading brownstone on the front of the church, to rebuild the Boylston Street stairs,

and to build a beautiful, redesigned ramp at the Arlington Street entrance. Arlington Street people on the Foundation board include Polly Latham, chair and chief visionary; Jon Andersen-Miller, intrepid head of the restoration team; Joe Alen, clerk; Jim Tice, treasurer; and our newest member, Elsa Mosquera of Agora Cultural! Rev. Beth has done some serious (and wildly successful) grant writing, and a crackerjack Capital Campaign Kitchen Cabinet has taken up the work of more fundraising: Al Ingram, Audrea and Sarah Madey (and baby Addie!), John O'Connor, Liz Teixeira (and Puffin and Charlie Bacon!), Philip Roberts, and Sarah Cooleybeck. Later this month, you'll be invited to join us in All Souls: A Capital Campaign for the Renovation of Arlington Street Church!

I know you have voted, or have a plan to vote. It fills me with gratitude that I don't have to remind you to do it! On Wednesday, November 4th, Protect the Results is holding a (masked, physically-distanced) rally at the bandstand on the Boston Common (139 Tremont Street) from 3:30-5:00 p.m. They would like us to pre-register here. At 6:00 that day, the Freedom Fighters Coalition is marching (masked, physically-distanced) from Nubian Square to Copley Square. The message of both these events is to uphold and celebrate democracy: every vote counts!

Members of our congregation in Birmingham sent this along to share this week: *Bending the Arc: The Vote* is a film about the hard-won battle to expand voting rights to all people in Alabama in the 1960s and a call to action for all people to exercise the right to vote in this election. The link to the three minute trailer is [here](#). The entire movie is [here](#). As you watch, you'll want to keep in mind that Rev. Jim Reeb was one of us at Arlington Street. Jim Reeb, ¡presente! To learn more, please visit bendingthearcojustice.com

Please continue to stay safe and be well. Here comes November!

Faithfully Yours, with love always,
Kim

