

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10TH, 2022



Margaret Femia (L) and Martha Favre (R)

Dearly Beloved,

Here's a story of the magic of Zoom, one of the shiniest silver linings of the pandemic: Margaret Femia Zooms in to Arlington Street from southern New Hampshire; Martha Favre from western Massachusetts. They've become friends in our Zoom room at Poems to Go On (we gather every Monday at 4:00; all are welcome!). When Margaret learned that Martha's brother was hospitalized for heart surgery in her neck of the woods, she headed over to keep Martha company ... and met her in person for the first time! I am reminded of Pablo Neruda's beautiful words from his poem, *With Her*:

So let our difficult time
stand up to infinity
with four hands and four eyes.

This Sunday, we kindle the Advent wreath for Joy and sing the Advent hymns *People, Look East* and *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*. Mark David Buckles conducts the Arlington Street Church Choir in singing Felix Mendelssohn's *Behold a Star from Jacob Shining*.

Break forth, O light!
We, our joyful hearts uplifting
With thanksgiving,
Hail the brightness of thy rising.

Joe Della Penna (piano and vocals), Arlington Street's Jazz Artist in Residence, is bringing Bob Thiele and George David Weiss' *What a Wonderful World* (you can listen to Louis Armstrong sing it [here](#)). My sermon is called the *Light's Bounty on Familiar Things*. Mark David (guitar and vocals) and Julie Metcalf (violin) close the service with Mustard's Retreat's *Simple Faith* (see below).

Calling all elves! For those of you who will be there in person, Elf Jefe will be circulating a sign-up sheet for Christmas Eve ushers. Two weeks and counting...!

On Sunday at 2:00, Irish poet Pádraig Ó Tuama offers an hour of poetry and conversation through The Rowe Center, a Unitarian Universalist camp and conference center. And at 4:00, it's Cooking with Jenny — our own Jenny Hoefler, Zooming in from Maryland — in the first-ever Great Arlington Street Baking Show! We'll be learning how to make coconut curry. On Wednesday, there's a Messiah Sing; on Thursday, if you're new to Arlington Street, Rev. Beth and I warmly invite you to join us for A Gathering of New Friends. Please go to ASCBoston.org for Zoom links and to see everything that's happening in this busy month!

Ours is a simple faith
Life is a short embrace
Heaven is in this place
Every day

Hope is the ground we till
Make each day what you will
Thankful for dreams fulfilled
Every day.

*Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim*

