

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>, 2023



Dearly Beloved,

*Covenant Renewal season is here!* Once a year, we renew our great covenant of love and service and make pledges of financial gifts to support our spiritual community and our work in the world. This Sunday, our beloved videographer, Rich Abreu, steps out from behind the camera to share a reflection on this year's Covenant Renewal theme, #ASCNation. In the coming weeks, you'll be hearing from more Arlington Street members about the ways our hybrid congregation has made us a #CommunityWithoutBorders. Covenant Renewal Sunday is March 5th!

Sunday's service opens with Judy Collins' *Open the Door*. In honor of Burt Bacharach, who died this week at 94, we'll sing *What the World Needs Now Is Love*, as well as Sarah Dan Jones' *Meditation on Breathing* ("When I breathe in, I breathe in love; when I breathe out, I breathe out love"), and the African American hymn, *There Is More Love Somewhere*.

As we hold the people of Turkey and Syria in our hearts in the wake of Monday's devastating earthquake, the Arlington Street Church Choir sings *Adinu*, a chant-like, contemplative song based on a poem on the nature of love by Sufi mystic, poet, and philosopher Ibn 'Arabi. He says, "I believe in the religion of love." The choral arrangement is by conductor, ethnomusicologist, human rights activist, and professor of music at Boston University André de Quadros and Shireen Abu Khadaer, a Palestinian Jordanian artist, composer, and educator now living in Canada.

My sermon is called *Presence*. As we were putting together the service, Director of Music Mark David Buckles played and sang me a little of Benj Pasek and Justin Paul's *You Will Be Found* from Dear Evan Hansen. Get ready for Mark David and Bek Zehr on vocals, Hyunju Jung on piano, Julie Metcalf on violin, and Sam LaGrego on cajon:

There's a place where we don't have to feel unknown  
And every time that you call out  
You're a little less alone  
If you only say the word  
From across the silence your voice is heard

You will be found  
You will be found  
You will be found  
You will be found

Happy Valentine's Day, my Valentines!

*Faithfully yours, with love,  
Kim*

p.s. Our Transformation Team for Racial Justice has been working on an application for Arlington Street to participate in *Among*, the next phase of Beloved Conversations, a Unitarian Universalist program for people seeking to embody racial justice as a spiritual practice. *Among* is focused on the institutional, systemic, anti-racist change needed in our congregations to embody the Beloved Community.

Following the service on Sunday, the Transformation Team invites all of us to a drop-in session where we'll reflect on the areas of congregational life on which we want to focus on as we move in the direction of anti-racism and liberation. Questions? Email [Transformation@ASCBoston.org](mailto:Transformation@ASCBoston.org).

This will be a hybrid meeting. The Transformation Team is gathering both in the Perkins room (downstairs in the meeting house) and on Zoom. Note that if you're in a breakout room for virtual coffee hour after the service, you'll need to leave the Arlington Street Zoom room to [join this Zoom room](#), which will open at 12:30. *All are welcome!*



tessa 🍓  
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Prepping my dad to meet my non-binary friend I cannot breathe at his response

Also- don't forget, Naomi is not a girl!! They are non-binary. And if it's easier they would probably prefer you accidentally call them a boy than a girl lol

Ok can I just call them hey buddy