

FRIDAY, MARCH 1ST, 2024



Dearly Beloved,

Isn't this a gorgeous graphic?! This Sunday is Covenant Renewal Sunday, the annual service when we renew our great covenant of love and service and pledge our financial support to sustain our beloved spiritual community and our wok in the world. Our theme is All In! My sermon is called *Generosity*.

Artist in Residence Rodger Clinton Vine opens the service with a prelude on organ, then slides over to make room on the bench for collaborative pianist (and organist!) Hyunju Jung, accompanying the Arlington Street Choir singing *Alleluia* by Gustav Holst. Liz & Joseph Lark-Riley and their son, River, will share a little bit about just what *All In!* means to them. The choir sings *Draw the Circle Wide*, with Bek Zehr (mezzo) soloing, and Director of Music Mark David Buckles (guitar and vocals) and Bek will sing *Give a Little Bit*. Rev. Beth and the whole Covenant Renewal Team will lead our celebration of giving, inviting everyone to pull out their cell phone to pledge (No worries! There are also paper pledge forms!) to a candle lighting ceremony to little gifts to celebrate our generosity (Zoomers, yours will be mailed!). The service closes with all of us singing *With a Little Help from My Friends*. In case it starts bugging you that you can't remember the words to the chorus, here you go:

Oh, I get by with a little help from my friends Mm, I get high with a little help from my friends Mm, I'm gonna try with a little help from my friends! Wonderful news: Our own John O'Connor is ready to be ordained! John has been a member of Arlington Street since 1990, serving our congregation as a greeter, usher, chair of the Worship Team, member of the All Souls Capital Campaign "Kitchen Cabinet," member of the Intern Minister Committee, a summer preacher, and a summer minister for pastoral care. We have been John's sponsoring congregation in his formation for ministry: He graduated from Harvard Divinity School in 2022, completed his hospital chaplaincy rotation at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center (Boston), then served as the intern minister at our congregation in Belmont, Massachusetts (supervised by husband-and-wife team Rev. Chris Jablonski and Rev. Lauren Smith, both of whom came up through Arlington Street!). Now he has returned to Arlington Street to take up the work of serving as our Community Minister for Good Works.

Please save the date for John's ordination: Sunday, April 7th, at 3:00 p.m. ET! *Congratulations, John! Congratulations to us all!*

See you Sunday morning for Covenant Renewal! All In!

Faithfully yours, with love, Kim

Thanks to our beloved partners at Ágora Cultural Architects, my favorite female jazz vocalist, Sissy Castrogiovanni, is in concert at Arlington Street tomorrow evening, Saturday, March 2nd, at 7:00!

And two calendar reminders:

The Interim Minister Search Committee is hosting a hybrid open forum on Sunday, March 17th, at 12:30. Questions, comments, feelings welcome!

and ...

