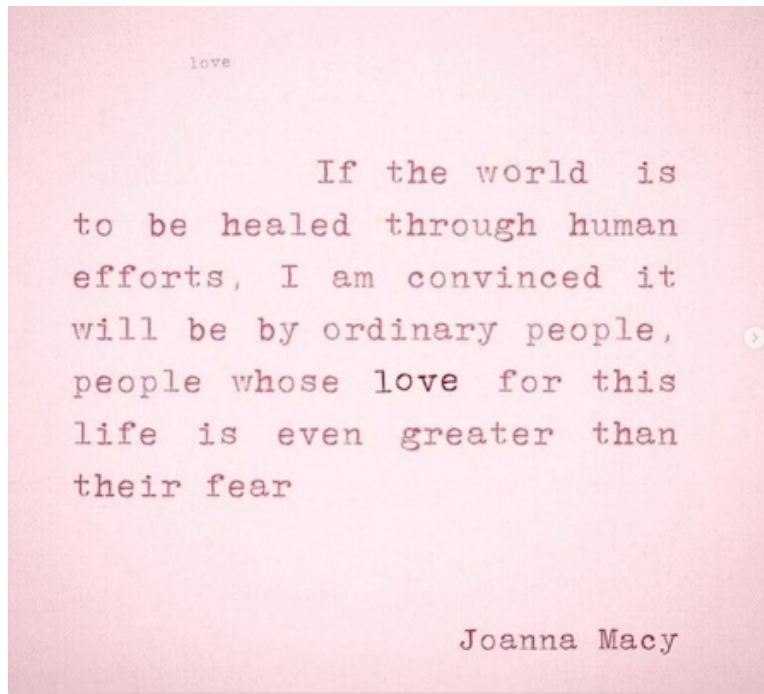




THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 15TH, 2024



Dearly Beloved,

Our governing board, the Prudential Committee, has appointed a five-person Interim Minister Search Committee, made of up Pru members (and one former Pru member). Heartfelt gratitude for their leadership to Alan Kemp, Cathy DeMatto, Connie Scanlon, Sandy Dixon, and Tom Anderson! The committee's charge is to conduct a search for the interim minister who will serve Arlington Street for two years, beginning this coming August. If you have questions for the search committee, please contact our new administrator, Jeff Fogleman, at office@ASCBoston.org. Jeff will forward your email to them. Coming up after the service on March 17th, they will be hosting an open forum. More on that from Sandy Dixon a week from Sunday.

Covenant Renewal Sunday is March 3rd! Covenant Renewal is our annual celebration of renewing our great covenant of love and service and pledging financial gifts to sustain the work of our beloved spiritual community, both at home and in the world. Thanks to Marie O'Brien for Zooming in from Chicago to share her reflection last Sunday. This Sunday, Rebecca Parkhill and Robert Willett will be at the Gleason podium, speaking to this year's theme: *All In!*

And Rev. Erica Rose Long is preaching! Rev. Erica, ordained at Arlington Street and one of our affiliated community ministers, is Senior Staff Chaplain and Clinical Specialist of Spiritual Care at Massachusetts General Hospital. Her sermon is called Courage. She writes, "With all that is happening in our world and our country this winter, it's normal to feel scared and overwhelmed. Together, we can overcome our fears with heart-led, spirit-filled courage."

The service opens with Hyunju Jung (piano) accompanying Hannah Shane-field (soprano) and Bek Zehr (mezzo) in singing *May I Be Filled With Loving Kindness* — the Mett (Lovingkindness) teachings of the Buddha, set to music by Ian W. Riddell.

May I be filled with loving kindness. May I be well.
May you be filled with loving kindness. May you be well.
May you be peaceful, and at ease. May you be whole.

May we be filled with loving kindness. May we be well.
May we be filled with loving kindness. May we be well.
May we be peaceful, and at ease. May we be whole.

Bek and Sam LaGrego (percussion) bring us Sara Bareilles' *Brave*. We'll all sing *Morning Has Broken*, *The Fire of Commitment*, and *Life Calls Us On*. And Mark David Buckles will conduct the Arlington Street Choir in singing Rev. Gretchen Haley and Rev. Jason Shelton's *Still Rising*, which begins,

When you've reached the end
But the fire still is raging
And the way is so unclear
O, love

O, love.... and O, magic! I thought you might like to read the reflection John O'Connor offered from the Gleason podium last Sunday morning. John writes,

"For the past 34 years, Arlington Street has been my spiritual home. In stormy times, it has been a place of shelter. I remember in 1990, standing at this very podium, offering my very first candle. I was shaking with rage. A group of us had just attended an AIDS fundraiser in the South End when we were attacked by a gang, wielding broken bottles and bats, screaming anti-gay slurs. Several ended up in the hospital with serious injuries. And so I, a young lawyer, ended up as a witness in a Federal Hate Crimes trial. And Arlington Street was my support.

"Arlington Street has also been a community of joy and celebration. I never expected I'd be a bride in a traditional church wedding . . . well, sort of traditional!

"And Arlington Street has been a community of learning, where I have been challenged to become the best possible version of myself. Whoever would have thought that the angry young lawyer who came up to this pulpit 34 years ago would later decide to go to Divinity School to study for the ministry?

"For those of you new to Arlington Street, stick around . . . There's magic in this place."

Amen to that!

Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim

At a recent Tea with the Ministers (every Wednesday at 4:00 in the Arlington Street Zoom room — please join us!), the conversation prompt was, "If you were going to make a playlist to pump yourself up, what songs would be on it?" This l-o-n-g list is a little wonky — I copied and pasted it from the Zoom chat — but I thought you might like to see our answers! In no particular

order....

Bill Conti: Gonna Fly Now (Theme from Rocky)

Rolling Stones: Street Fighting Man, Gimme Shelter, Salt of the Earth

Four Tops: Reach Out! (I'll be There...)

The Supremes: You Keep Me Hangin' On, Eye of the Tiger

The Kinks (and others): Mr. Bojangles

Joni Mitchell: Woodstock, Carey Get out your Cane

Leonard Cohen: Suzanne

Neil Young: Needle and the Damage Done, 'Til the Morning Comes

Crosby, Stills, Nash and Young: Suite Judy Blue Eyes, Teach Your Children

The Band: When You Awake, Old Rocking Chair, Take a Load off Annie

Lou Reed: Street Hassle, Sweet Jane, Heroin

Phil Collins: In the Air Tonight, Shakin' the Tree

Bob Dylan: Tonight I'll be Staying Here with You, Positively Fourth Street,
Shelter from the Storm

Steppenwolf: The Pusher

Led Zeppelin: Stairway to Heaven

Joan Baez: Ring Them Bells, Love is Just a Four Letter Word

Prince: Purple Rain, Kiss, Let's Go Crazy, The Most Beautiful Girl
in the World

Cat Stevens: Peace Train, Father and Son, Can't Keep It In,
Hard Headed Woman

Carol King: You Make Me Feel

The Beatles: Give Me Love, Here Comes the Sun, In My Life, Hey Jude,
Sgt. Pepper's Lonely Hearts Club Band, While My Guitar Gently Weeps, I
Want to Hold Your Hand, Lucy in the Sky with Diamonds, Yellow Submarine

Queen: Bohemian Rhapsody, We are the Champions, Radio Ga Ga,
Killer Queen

Bon Jovi: It's My Life

Script: Super Heroes

Chicago: Saturday in the Park, You're the Inspiration

The Bee Gees: You Should Be Dancing, Burnin' Burnin', More Than a Woman

Gloria Gaynor: I Will Survive

Laura Branigan: Gloria

Judy Collins: Song for Judith

Michael Jackson: Man in the Mirror

Michael Jackson and Lionel Richie: We Are the World

Cris Williamson: Shooting Star

Katy Perry: Firework

Eurythmics: Sisters Are Doing It For Themselves, Sweet Dreams

Annie Lennox: Walking on Broken Glass

James Taylor: How Sweet It Is

Geri Halliwell: It's Raining Men

Jason Marz: I'm Yours

Sara Bareilles: Love Song

Billy Joel: The Longest Time

Talking Heads: Burning Down the House, Same as it Ever Was, Pull Me Up,
Nothing But Flowers

Whitney Houston: I Will Always Love You

Paul Simon and Simon & Garfunkel: The Boxer, The 59th Street Bridge
Song, Cloudy, Bridge Over Troubled Water, Diamonds on the Soles of
Her Shoes

Ariana Grande: Breathing
Cher: Believe, Dancing Queen, Mama Mia
David Bowie: I Know When to Go Out, Let's Dance
Blondie: Heart of Glass
Ella Fitzgerald and Louis Armstrong: Let's Call the Whole Thing Off
Reba McEntire: I'm a Survivor
Robbie Williams: Angels
Harry Belafonte: Day-O (Banana Boat Song)
Aretha Franklin: Respect
Barbra Streisand: People
Neil Diamond: Sweet Caroline
Carole King: Natural Woman
Stevie Wonder: Isn't She Beautiful, I Called to Say I Love You
Bette Midler: I'm Beautiful
Tom Petty: Refugee
The Supremes: Baby Love, Where Did Our Love Go, Stop In the Name of Love
Diana Ross: Ain't No Mountain High Enough, Reach Out, Remember Me
Pet Shop Boys: Being Boring, It's a Sin, New York City Boys, Somewhere
Sylvester: Do You Want to Funk with Me
Sia: Chandelier, Alive
Dusty Springfield: You Don't Have to Say You Love Me, In Private
Otis Redding: I've Been Loving You Too Long, Can't Turn You Loose
Otis Redding and Carla Thomas: Tramp
Janis Joplin: Piece of My Heart
Indigo Girls: Power of Two, Galileo
Alicia Keys: Girl On Fire
Linda Ronstadt (cover): Tumbling Dice
Lee Ann Womack: I Hope You Dance
Cyndi Lauper: True Colors, Girls Just Wanna Have Fun
Billy Joel: It's Still Rock and Roll to Me, Uptown Girl, Piano Man
Tina Turner: What's Love Got To Do With It?
Leonard Cohen: Alleluia
Jennifer Holliday: And I Am Telling You I'm Not Going
Beach Boys, Wouldn't it Be Nice
Dionne Warwick: What the World Needs Now
Martina McBride: Independence Day
Wynonna Judd: Is it Over Yet, Love Can Build a Bridge
Loretta Lynne: You Ain't Women Enough to Take My Man
Patsy Cline: Crazy
Roberta Flack: Killing Me Softly, G*d Don't Like Ugly
Elton John: Rocket Man, Crocodile Rock, Don't Go Breaking My Heart,
I'm Still Standing
The Eels: Fresh Feeling
Jane Oliver: Some Enchanted Evening
George Gershwin: Rhapsody in Blue
John Legend: All of Me
George Michael: Jesus to A Child
ZZ Top: La Grange
Shirley Bassey: Goldfinger
Trisha Yearwood: The Song Remembers When
Mylie Cyrus - Flowers
Melissa Etheridge: I'm The Only One
The Go-Gos: Head Over Heals

The Killers: Mr. Brightside, Shadowplay
Jacque Brel: Carousel
Harold Arlen: Somewhere Over the Rainbow
Herman's Hermits: Henry the Eighth
Donna Summer: Last Dance
Bobby Darrin: Mack the Knife
The B-52s: Love Shack
Blood, Sweat, & Tears: Symphony for the Devil
Julie Andrews: The Sound of Music

and something — or just about everything — by ...

Judy Garland
Donovan
The Carpenters
Stephen Sondheim
Adele
George Harrison
Bronski Beat
The White Stripes
Frank Sinatra
A Chorus Line
The Temptations
Laura Nyro
Elvis Presley
George Michael

What did we miss?!

