



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9TH, 2024



Dearly Beloved,

This Sunday, we'll welcome special guests — an ensemble from Coro Allegro, Boston's LGBTQ+ (and allies) classical chorus! In celebration of Black History Month, they'll be singing Thomas A. Dorsey's *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* and Harry Thacker Burleigh's arrangement of *Were You There?* from their upcoming concert (more information below). Our deepest thanks to Arlington Street member and Coro singer Hala Hazar for making this possible. What a great joy to deepen our connection with Coro!

Also on Sunday morning, we welcome John O'Connor to the Gleason podium, standing in as Worship Coordinator while our Executive Minister, Rev. Beth Robbins, recovers from COVID. Mark David Buckles, our Director of Music — just recovered from COVID — will be back among us, singing and leading. My sermon is called *Giving Grace ...* and as of today, I don't have COVID!

How fabulous was Sue Reamer last Sunday, introducing us to Covenant Renewal season?! 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. This Sunday, Marie O'Brien Zooms in from Chicago to add her voice to this year's theme: *All In!* Covenant Renewal Sunday is March 3rd!

The sparkly, shiny Spring Gala is on May 4th, and our planning team is soliciting live and silent auction items! If you can help round up or donate theater or concert tickets, tickets to sporting events, gift certificates to restaurants or spas, lessons, or other great things, please reply to this note or write to me at office@ASCBoston.org. Thank you!

Finally, Happy Valentine's Day! This is for you — from E.E. Cummings, and from me:

i carry your heart (i carry it in my heart)

Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim

Three upcoming concerts! Read on....

Hi all,

Bek Zehr here!

I'd like to personally invite all of you to an upcoming performance of mine.

I'm in a vocal ensemble called Lilith Ensemble, Artistic Director Laura Nevitt. The group is in our second year of performing, so you may not have heard of us yet! As an ensemble we “empower women & GNC (gender non-conforming) musicians by rebelling against societal expectations of traditional gender roles.”

Our next concert is coming up on Feb 17th & 18th, titled “Love & Lust.” We will feature works by Sarah Quartel, Libby Larsen, Laura Nevitt, Brittney Benton, and Saunder Choi.

Here are the performances dates and locations:

Saturday Feb. 17th @ 8pm at St. Peter's Episcopal in Cambridge
Sunday Feb. 18th @ 6pm at Hunnewell Chapel Arlington Street Church
General admission with a suggested \$20 donation.

If you would like to continue to support our mission and our music, you can donate to our [gofundme page here](#).

Instagram: @lilithvocalensemble

I hope to see my Arlington Street Church family there!

and ...

For Black History Month, [Coro Allegro](#), Boston's LGBTQ+ and allied classical chorus, invites the Arlington Street community to our upcoming concert next Sunday afternoon, February 18th, at the Roxbury Community College Media Center at 3:00. [IDENTITY: I Believe](#). The program featuring works by trailblazing Black composers including Margaret Bonds, William Grant Still and Harry T. Burleigh, performed in concert with acclaimed Black LGBTQ+ and allied guest artists. Coro Allegro is honored to be joined by Grammy Nominee Reginald Mobley, countertenor, and to present him with the [15th Annual Daniel Pinkham Award](#) for his advocacy for arts equity and the LGBTQ+ community. We are also thrilled to welcome back Philip Lima,

baritone; and David Freeman Coleman, piano; and to introduce our audience to ground-breaking trans soprano Breanna Sinclairé, named a hero by OUT magazine.

Arlington Street members and friends will receive \$5 off regular A, B, or C tickets with the code ASCFAMILY at checkout when purchasing tickets at corallegro.org. For more information, please go to ASCBoston.org!

