



TUESDAY, OCTOBER 12TH, 2021



Please Pre-Register to Attend In-Person Sunday Services [HERE!](#)

Dear Ones,

Astonishing news: After 19 months, this Sunday, October 17th, we can return to the Arlington Street sanctuary. For the first time in history, our Sunday morning service will be hybrid.

Every. Single. Feeling!

Please read this message carefully, so you can know what to expect if you're planning to attend the service in person this Sunday. This is hardly my style, but to be COVID-safe, we're going to abide by a lot of RULES.

First and foremost, please understand that, **to be in the sanctuary in person, you must be fully vaccinated against COVID-19.** Before you come inside, **you will be required to present your vaccination card or a photo of your card at the great doors.** If you are unable to be vaccinated for any reason, or if you forget your vax card, please meet us in the [Zoom room!](#)

The other things you'll want to **bring with you** are

The order of service. Please print one out for yourself (preferred) or plan to follow along on your device; we're trying to reduce every potentially high-transmission interaction we can. We'll have copies on hand for guests. All the song lyrics will be in the order of service; there will be no hymnals in the sanctuary.

A wireless device (tablet or smart phone), in order to participate in the Zoom room chat while attending the service in person.

A set of earphones, if you'd like to attend virtual coffee-free coffee hour following the service.

In addition, the doors and windows will be open for ventilation. Please be sure to **bundle up** for the (outside/inside) weather!

The doors will open at 10:30. **Please plan to come to church a little early!**

When you arrive at the corner of Arlington and Boylston Streets, before you get into line to be checked in at the Great Doors, please put on your mask. Everyone who doesn't have a speaking or singing part in the service will be required to wear a mask at all times.

Queen Cheryl is leading up a team who will check people in and be sure we have everyone's contact information for contact tracing. To streamline this process, **please preregister for in-person worship [here](#)**. If you fill out this very simple form (just once), you will be in the FastPass lane at the Great Doors; each Sunday, Queen Cheryl or one of her team will simply check off your name. If you haven't pre-registered, please get into the regular line and you'll be checked in as quickly as possible.

You'll find that the first few pews are ribboned-off, to keep you physically-distanced from the singers on the chancel. In addition, every other pew is ribboned-off. Please find an open pew and, when the pew is full — meaning you're there alone or with your pod — close the pew door. A sign taped on the outside says, This Pew Is Full. Let's all take care to respect these signs.

For any of you desiring to be "device-free" in the sanctuary; we'll designate an area for that.

Not only will we remain masked while we're inside, but **congregational singing remains off-limits**. Undaunted, let's make a joyful hum!

There will be **no passing of the collection plates**. We'll continue to make our financial gifts via text-to-give. If you prefer to write a check, you can hand that to me any time before or after the service. *Thank you!*

Following the service, the Tech Team will open breakout rooms. For those of you in the sanctuary, please spread out, being sure you're at least 10 feet away from anyone else, so you're not interfering with your neighbor, and be sure to put on your earphones.

Rev. Beth and I will be very, very happy to greet you out on the Arlington Street sidewalk. We'll be there until after the breakout rooms close.

Those of us who choose to gather in person are entering into a covenant with one another. If, in the past two weeks, you have tested positive for COVID-19; been exposed to a confirmed case of COVID-19; or experienced nasal congestion or a cough (not related to allergies), muscle aches, fever, shortness of breath, diarrhea, or a sudden loss of taste or smell, please join the service in the Zoom room rather than risking endangering anyone by entering the sanctuary while unknowingly infected.

The probability that I haven't forgotten something — even something very important — is statistical zero. I ask for your forgiveness in advance, as well as your patience going forward. Throughout the pandemic, my single greatest fear has been that I would unknowingly transmit the virus. I will say, again, that I would vastly prefer begin too cautious to living with the regret that we were not cautious enough. And I'll leave you now with this Sunday's sermon title:

We have not come this far to come only this far!

*Faithfully yours, with love,
Kim*

THIS PEW IS FULL!

