

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2021



*Boston Gay Men's Chorus*

Dear Ones,

Many of you know my friend Craig Coogan, Executive Director of the Boston Gay Men's Chorus (BGMC). Early on in the pandemic, he was the first one to tell me we weren't going to be back into the sanctuary in "a few weeks" (remember that?). And it was Craig who said, as we sat down for lunch yesterday, "We haven't seen each other since Christmas Eve of 2019." My eyes filled with tears.

There's a lot of the "old normal" that I'm happy for us to find ways to release. And there are a few losses that hit me like something solid and heavy — high on my list is crowding into the pews in the sanctuary and singing our hearts out. We continue to do an astonishing job of adapting and transforming ways to be together. I am so proud of us. And I'm grateful for the reminder of the grief that is mixed in with courage and resilience. Grief: the broken place where the light comes through, keeping our hearts open and tender.

The BGMC plans to re-gather on February 22nd for the first time in all but two years to begin rehearsal for shows at Boston's Symphony Hall on June 25th and 26th (save the dates!). I love their faithfulness and the implicit promise that, slowly but surely, we will reassemble our lives — as Chilean poet and statesman Pablo Neruda wrote, "we will rise and suffer, we will feel, we will rejoice."

This Sunday, pianist Cheng Cheng plays a prelude and postlude of pieces spanning four centuries. Home from his honeymoon, Daniel Rosensweig joins vocal soloists Andrew Stack, Angela Yam, and Natalia St Jean to sing David Glasgow's *Here Together* and John David's *The New Day*. Andrew and Cheng Cheng sing and play Weinstein and Bolcom's *Blue*. Director of Music Mark David Buckles (guitar) and Julie Metcalf (violin) sing Sally Rogers' *Love Will Guide Us*, Mary Grigolia's *I Know This Rose Will Open*, and Sister Hazel's *Change Your Mind*. Our worship coordinator is Darrell Waters. My sermon is called *Free Your Mind*.

*Faithfully yours, with love,  
Kim*



One of our architects hitches a ride to take a look at our steeple.  
So many thanks to our Restoration Chair, [Jon Andersen-Miller](#)