



FRIDAY, DECEMBER 10<sup>TH</sup>, 2021



Dark of winter, soft and still, your quiet calm surrounds me  
Let my thoughts go where they will; ease my mind profoundly  
And then my soul will sing a song, a blessed song of love eternal  
Gentle darkness, soft and still, bring your quiet to me

Darkness, soothe my weary eyes, that I may see more clearly  
When my heart with sorrow cries, comfort and caress me  
And then my soul may hear a voice, a still, small voice of love eternal  
Darkness, when my fears arise, let your peace flow through me

Dear Ones,

This song — a prayer, really — was penned by my friend of blessed memory, Shelley Jackson Denham. Our soloists will sing it as a quartet on Sunday morning; tonight, it is a balm, as I join the great company of the bereaved in mourning our former Director of Music and Executive Producer of the Boston Gay Men’s Chorus, Bill Casey. Bill was exuberant, hilarious, wildly creative, and deeply kind. A memorial celebration of his life will be held at Arlington Street next month. A great light has gone out. Please join me in prayers for his husband, Reuben Reynolds, and for all who mourn him.

\*

We were thrilled and filled with pride when Celebrity Series of Boston chose to partner with Ágora, the Latinx arts hub at Arlington Street. Announced by WBUR as one of [five things to do this weekend](#), trumpeter Jason Palmer and his quintet play holiday favorites in a free concert at the church this afternoon at 3:00! RSVP [here](#)!

If you’re downtown today, be sure to visit Rev. Beth, Queen Santa, and Elf Barbara, who will be distributing Christmas Eve candles and holiday cheer in front of the church, starting at 1:00! If you can’t get there today or tomorrow between 1:00 and 3:00, they’ll be

there again next Sunday, December 19th, starting at 1:30, when we hope as many of you as possible will join us (in person or on Zoom) as Mark David leads us in the Annual Carol Sing ... outdoors from the front steps on Arlington Street!

This Sunday morning, we'll sing the Advent hymns *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* and *People, Look East*. The anthem is Catherine Dalton's *From the State of Emptiness*. Cheng Cheng plays a selection of carols on both piano and organ. My sermon is called *Breathe*. And Director of Music Mark David Buckles and Julie Metcalf will lead us in *Meditation on Breathing*:

Breathe In, Breathe Out  
When I breathe in, I breathe in peace  
When I breathe out, I breathe out love

*Faithfully yours, with love,  
Kim*

