

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 4, 2020



Dearly beloved,

Did your Zoom get wonky last Sunday? It turns out lots of people attending services everywhere experienced it, too. It may be on Zoom's end, but here's something we can all do: Update Zoom! Our Tech Team is suggesting these six steps:

1. Go to [ASCBoston.org](https://www.ascboston.org)
2. Click through the Zoom link that takes you to our Sunday morning service
3. In the top left-hand corner of the screen, you'll see zoom.us
4. Click there. A drop-down menu will appear
5. The fifth item down is "Check for Updates"
6. Follow the instructions that appear. Say yes to everything!

Follow the instructions that appear. Say Yes to everything!

And if you're using an iPad, try this:

1. When things go sideways, touch the screen, and "Switch to speaker view" will appear;
2. Select "Switch to speaker view."

It makes as much sense to me as circling three times before you lie down, but let's hope that does the trick! *Thank you, Tech Team!*



Astonishingly, it's December! Thanks to designer Robert Holley and to Elf Jefe, Kevin Tyrrell, and his assistants — Darrell Waters, John O'Connor, Michael Fisher, and Philip Roberts — our high pulpit is decorated for Christmas! *It looks beautiful!*

Worship highlights this Sunday morning: Darrell Waters lights the Advent wreath; Ann-Marie Iacoviello (soprano) sings Kate Wolf's *Give Yourself to Love*; Daniel Rosensweig (tenor) sings Craig Carnelia's *Flight*; and Director of Music Mark David Buckles and Julie Metcalf (violin) sing Bob Franke's *Say Yes*, the song that inspired my sermon: Say Yes. Yulia Yun closes the service on organ playing Bob Marley's *One Love*.

Looking forward to the holiday season at Arlington Street: YES, there will be Christmas Eve Candle Light services — one at 7:00 and one at 9:00! We're lifting elements of the Family Service, traditionally at 5:00, and migrating them into the two later services. It's going to be beautiful — I promise!

Here's something magical: Queen Santa and her elves will be handing out Arlington Street Christmas Eve candles at the Great Doors of the church! Please check ASCBoston.org for dates and times. Obviously, you don't need a special candle to bring the magic of our candle light services, but Santa would very much love to see you! If you have neighbors who might like to participate on Christmas Eve but can't get to the church, please be sure to pick up candles for them. Thanks to Rev. Beth for masterminding, Darrell Waters for decorating the stairs, Rich Abreu for creating a selfie station, and Queen Cheryl for saying yes!

Another of our cherished traditions is the Christmas Carol Sing. This year, we're partnering with Sanctuary Boston! On Wednesday, December 14th, Director of Music Mark David Buckles will lead our fourteenth annual Carols and Light.

And the Friday Night Supper Program is excited to hear that, although we won't be decorating a Mitten Tree this month, we will be doing a "Warm Hands, Warm Hearts" mittens and gloves, socks, and hats drive next month, in January, when FNSP will also be our Share the Plate recipient. Special thanks to Arlington Street FNSP board members Art Nava and Patrice Keegan!



The New York Times' David Leonhardt invited his readers to send him six words describing what made them thankful in 2020. He received more than 10,000 responses. Here are some of my favorites:

The crinkling eye above the mask.

Never been social; now I'm good.

Wasn't too late to say sorry.

Postponed wedding, having a baby instead.

It's just a cold, not COVID.

Healthcare workers. Healthcare workers. Healthcare workers.

And my very favorite:

Ambulance took him. He came home.

As we enter this season of giving, let's remember to give thanks.

Faithfully yours, with love,

Kim

