

May 6, 2018
Confirmation
Sunday
11:00am

Warning! To enter into the life of this people of God
Is to encounter God's soul-challenging, life-changing, radicalizing love.
Will you join us? Do you dare?

WE GATHER

PRELUDES

Solfeggio
Nicholas Black, piano

C.P.E. Bach

Minuet
Miranda McInturff, flute

Christoph Gluck

Allegro
Graciela Berman Reinhardt, flute
Mirabelle Berman Reinhardt, trumpet

W. A. Mozart

*HYMN 386

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

** Indicates all who are able may stand*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Nicholas Black and Ryan Chitty

One: We are Thomas—searching, doubting, and unsure.

All: We are the Church.

One: We are Peter—not yet who we hoped to be.

All: We are the Church.

One: We are Mary—quiet, faithful, and constant.

All: We are the Church.

One: We are Martha—serving, working, and striving.

All: We are the Church.

One: We are Paul—healed, forgiving, and changed.

All: We are the Church.

One: We are James and John and Joanna, Luke and Lydia—friends of the poor, fighters for justice, followers of Jesus.

All: We are the Church.

*A SIGN OF OUR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

We invite you to greet those around you,
Wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

WORDS OF WELCOME

Yulu Charest and Audrey Jurma-Kraft

WE LISTEN

ANTHEM

Take My Life and Let It Be

Erik K. Gustafson

*Take my life and let it be consecrated, God to Thee.
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love.
Take my feet, and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.
Take my voice, and let me sing always, only, for my God.
Take my lips, and let them be filled with messages from Thee.
Take my silver and my gold; not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use every power as Thou shalt choose.
Take my will, and make it Thine; it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is Thine own; it shall be Thy royal throne.
Take my love, and I will pour at Thy feet its treasure store.
Take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for Thee. Amen.*

—Frances R. Havergal, alt.

SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-29

Graciela and Mirabelle
Berman Reinhardt

*HYMN

The Risen Christ

Toulon



1. The ris - en Christ, who walks on wound - ed feet from gar - den
2. The ris - en Christ, who stands with wound - ed side, breathes out his
3. The ris - en Christ, who breaks with wound - ed hand the bread for
4. May we, Christ's bod - y, walk and serve and stand with those op -



tomb through dark - en'd cit - y street, un - locks the door of
Spir - it on them to a - bide, whose faith still wa - vers,
those who fail to un - der - stand, re - veals him - self, de -
pressed in this and ev - 'ry land, till all are blessed and



grief, de - spair, and fear, and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
who dare not be - lieve; new grace, new strength, new pur - pose they re - ceive.
spite their lin - g'ring tears, en - flames their hearts, then quick - ly dis - ap - pears.
can a bless - ing be, re - stored in Christ to true hu - man - i - ty.

SERMON

Anthony T. Livolsi

*HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

Daniel L. Schutte



1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo - ple cry. All who dwell in
2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo - ple's pain. I have wept for
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame. I will set a



dark and sin My hand will save. I, who made the stars of night,
love of them. They turn a - way. I will break their hearts of stone,
feast for them. My hand will save. Fi - nest bread I will pro - vide



I will make their dark - ness bright. Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I
Give them hearts from love a - lone. I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I
Till their hearts be sa - tis - fied. I will give my life to them. Whom shall I



send? _____
send? _____ Here I am, Lord, _____ Is it I, Lord? _____ I have heard You
send? _____



call - ing in the night. _____ I will go, Lord, _____ if You



lead me. _____ I will hold Your peo - ple in my heart.

THE RITE OF CONFIRMATION

**Mirabelle Berman Reinhardt
Nicholas David Black
Emily Yulu Charest
Jovani Xavier Colon
Asher Tobi Jaeckel**

INTRODUCTION

Kate Nintcheu

BAPTISMS

Anthony T. Livolsi

LITANY OF INTENT

One: These before us have been led by the Spirit to affirm their baptism and enter into covenantal relationship with Christ and the members of the Christian Church.

All: They are here, as we are here, to endeavor to love God with all our heart, all our soul, all our mind, and to love our neighbor as ourselves. God help us.

One: Mirabelle, Nicky, Yulu, Jovani, and Asher, we rejoice in your pilgrimage of faith which has brought you to this time and place.

All: You have grown up in our midst. Today we give God thanks for the Christians you are becoming, and we celebrate your presence in this household of faith.

One: Do you desire to affirm the Christian faith into which you were baptized?

Confirmands: I do

One: Members and friends of Old South Church: Will you support these sisters and brothers in Christ, uphold them and encourage them in faith, and keep them in your prayers?

All: We will!

One: Mirabelle, Nicky, Yulu, Jovani, and Asher, we then welcome you as partners in the common life of this church. And we rise, in body and in spirit, to share with you our covenant of mission:

***All: I do now in the presence of God and before this assembly give myself to the One whom Jesus called "Abba, Father" as the God in whose love I am grounded and whose realm I serve; to Jesus Christ, God incarnate, to whom I surrender and who rules my life; and to God the Holy Spirit as the one who**

sustains, recreates, and guides me. I will share in God's everlasting covenant by loving and living responsibly in communion with this one God. And I do furthermore engage to walk with my brothers and sisters in the wider church and Old South Church secure in God's grace, prepared in gratitude to live by the promise and serve in the hope of the Gospel. Amen.

*PRAYER FOR THE CONFIRMANDS AND LAYING ON OF HANDS

Nancy S. Taylor

*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE



1. God, when I came in - to this life, you called me by my name; To-
 2. With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as mem - ber of your cast, I



day I come, com - mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
 take my place with all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.

God When I Came Into This Life

Land of Rest

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ellie Goodfield and Asher Jaeckel

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Up Above My Head

Myron Butler

*Up above my head, I hear music in the air.
 Up above my head, there's a melody so bright and fair
 I can hear when I'm all alone,
 even in those times when I feel all hope is gone.
 Up above my head, I hear joy bells ringing.
 Up above my head, I hear angels singing.
 There must be a God somewhere.*

*I hear music in the air, I hear music everywhere.
 There must be a God somewhere.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Jovani Colon

*HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

This Joy

**This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.**

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine...

Shine, shine, shine, I'm gonna let it shine...

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine...

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Amos Batalden

POSTLUDE

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

John Behnke



Our processional banner bearers are Amos Batalden and Jovani Colon.
Our recessional banner bearers are Nicholas Black and Miranda McInturff.

Close-Up, a 20-minute tour of the Sanctuary,
begins following worship at the front of the Sanctuary.
Led by docent Liz Morgan.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON

Each of the students confirmed today receives a basket of symbolic gifts from nearly every committee of the church. Below is a list of these thoughtful, inspiring, and sweet gifts. Thank you Old South Church!

- Comma lapel pin and a devotional from the Board of Ministers & Deacons. God is still speaking! May you never place a period where God has placed a comma.
- From the Trustees, a "Giving Key" made by and proceeds benefiting people transitioning from homelessness. The Giving Keys are engraved with the word "FUTURE", because you are our future, God's future.
- A five year journal and a devotional from Christian Formation. We encourage you to continue growing in mind, body and spirit. May you find joy in reflecting along your journey of faith.
- Growing herbs and a T-shirt from the Service and Outreach Committee. These gifts suggest the importance of being involved and making a difference by helping others (and the value of nurturing and taking care of all living things so they thrive and grow from season to season.)
- Congregational Care & Support Committee knows what a simple note of thanks, congratulations, comfort, or support can mean. We hope this gift of blessing will start you in a practice of written correspondence you will enjoy your whole life.
- The (G)RACE Speaks Committee gives you the gift of a biography about our patron saint, Phillis Wheatley, and a bookmark so that you may remember to have a voice of your own, keep calm & pray!
- A box of legos is the gift of the Leadership Committee. We encourage you to be part of thoughtful creative building in this community of faith and in any new faith communities where you may be in the future.
- The Membership Committee gives you a framed print of the original members of Old South Church with your name at the bottom. Today you join this formidable legacy of Christian leaders.
- The Music Committee is giving a message in a bottle to the 2018 confirmands. The message is: Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world - Martin Luther. Our treasure is the gift of music, created and/or performed by musicians from your Old South Church family.
- A mini tool-kit from the Operations Committee. It takes tools and strategy, people and heart to keep an open door.
- A luggage tag from the Planned Giving Committee to remind you that the love of God, manifested in Old South as a legacy of our forebears, will support you (and accompany you) wherever you are on life's wonderful journey
- An Old South cube from the Stewardship Committee. We give you a bit of our past on which you will help build our future.
- A MESSAGE RE:MIX Bible from Kate & the Pastors, because we always want you to be reading the Bible in new ways - and this version is like nothing you have seen before.

Celebrating High School Seniors Sumner and Joe!

We celebrate with our Old South graduating high school students who have blessed our community with their talents, friendships, and intelligence throughout their childhoods. We send them forward into adulthood with love, prayers, best wishes, and gifts. Each senior will receive a custom knit Old South Church blanket and a new Bible.

Sumner Gubisch, son of Laurie Stickels and Andy Gubisch, is graduating from Lexington High School and has plans to study astronomy and physics at the University of Massachusetts Amherst in the fall. In church school, Sumner could often be found working with the stage lights and technical parts of the Christmas Pageant. He has served as an usher and in other hospitality roles as a youth group member.

Joe Ragan, son of Betsy and Bill Ragan, is graduating from Boston University Academy and has plans to study chemistry and continue his studies in music at Union College in Schenectady, NY. Joe was a regular at church school throughout his childhood and into youth group. More recently he has shared his musical talents with Festival Worship through playing his cello and serving as page-turner for George Sargent. You also might be familiar with his grandfather, Rev. James W. Crawford, Senior Pastor emeritus.

Thank you Carrie Swayne-Gerrish!

Today we are also celebrating the 2-year Youth Group ministry of Carrie Swayne-Gerrish. She came to us while still working towards her M.Div at Boston University and then agreed to stay through this year serving as the head pied piper, cheerleader, cajoler, and sometimes wrangler of our students in Youth Group. Carrie approached the job as a self-proclaimed "church nerd" and through charisma and persistence helped the group to engage in matters of the heart, head, and Bible. This year Carrie also taught our Confirmation Class and spear-headed our first-ever mentoring program for this class. Carrie moves on from us to seek (as soon as she receives final approval) full-time ministry and ordination as well as meeting the impending demands as a parent of twins who arrive this summer! Thank you for your ministry with us - and best wishes as you continue your spiritual leadership journey!

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Welcome to Old South Church in Boston. We are a progressive Christian church first gathered in 1669. The Church played a significant role in early American history. Today, Old South Church continues to outfit itself for mission and ministry in the 21st century as a thriving urban church in the heart of Boston. Join us immediately following worship for fellowship and refreshments in the Gordon Chapel.

The flowers today are given by Tessa Barrett in celebration of the many Old Southerners graduating this semester, especially Brittany Spurlin, Rebecca Semik, and Tessa finishing their graduate programs on May 18th, and Carrie Fowle and Emma Brewer-Wallin finishing their undergraduates later this summer.

If you need to stretch your legs during worship the Gordon Chapel has full audio of the Sanctuary service throughout.

Name tags facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know. For LARGE print bulletins or hearing assistance devices ask an Usher.

HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES

Old South has installed a *Hearing Loop* in the Sanctuary, the latest technology in hearing assisted devices.

1. If you have a hearing aid: the loop works directly for those whose hearing aids have a "T-Coil."
2. If you are hard of hearing but don't use an aid: ask for one of the devices that is paired with the loop.

Note: The sound will be best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles. The loop does NOT work in the upper galleries.

GARAGE PARKING VALIDATIONS

We have arrangements for discounted parking with two nearby garages for Old South Church worship or church business (excluding weddings and concerts):

1. Park at the **Garage@100 Clarendon** (behind Back Bay Station), have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and *you* pay the discounted rate of \$7 for up to 3 hours. Old South bears no cost.
2. Park at the **Prudential Garage** for up to 5 hours on Saturday or Sunday, have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and the Prudential Garage will bill *Old South* (costing us \$15k - \$20k per year).

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 6	9:00 am	FIRST Worship, <i>Anthony T. Livolsi preaching</i>
	9:00 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	Old South Café in Gordon Chapel
	10:00 am	Community Hour, <i>Jazz Spirituality with Willie Sordillo</i>
	10:00 am	Church School and Childcare
	10:00 am	Festival Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Lectionary Bible Study
	11:00 am	FESTIVAL Worship, <i>Youth and Confirmation Sunday</i>
	11:15 am	Children's Music
	12:15 pm	Fellowship Hour in Gordon Chapel
	12:30 pm	Mount Vernon Annual Meeting
	Monday, May 7	6:00 pm
7:00 pm		Christian Service and Outreach Committee
7:30 pm		Spiritual Classics
Tuesday, May 8	5:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal
	5:30 pm	Membership Committee
	7:00 pm	Church Council
Wednesday, May 9	12:00 pm	Men's Lunch Hour Small Group
	6:15 pm	Young Adult Book Group, <i>'The Meaning of Jesus'</i>
	6:30 pm	Young Adult Group, <i>'Strengthening Our Marriages'</i>
Thursday, May 10	12:00 pm	Women's Lunch Hour Small Group
	6:00 pm	JAZZ Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i>
	6:30 pm	Festival Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Young Adult Book Group, <i>'Mere Christianity'</i>
	7:00 pm	Young Women's Small Group, <i>'Learning to Walk in the Dark'</i>
	7:00 pm	'Through the Bible' Study, <i>The Book of Judges</i>
Friday, May 11	6:00 pm	Parents Night Out

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON
MINISTERS, OFFICERS AND STAFF**

Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister
John M. Edgerton, Associate Minister ❖ Anthony T. Livolsi, Associate Minister
James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus
Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children and Family Ministries
Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence ❖ June R. Cooper, Theologian in the City
Calvin Genzel, Wedding Outreach Minister ❖ Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister
Carrie Swayne-Gerrish, Youth Leader ❖ Rebecca Bowler, Seminarian Intern
Carolyn Davis, Director, Old South Preschool ❖ Emma Brewer-Wallin, Ministry Intern
George Sargeant, Associate Organist and Choirmaster
Willie Sordillo, Jazz Worship Music Director
Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers ❖ Amy Budka, Children's Music Leader
Tim Harbold, Director, Gospel & Festival Choirs
Deb Washington, Moderator ❖ Rob Gabler, Clerk ❖ Bill Bulkeley, Treasurer
Randy Billings, Chair, Board of Trustees ❖ Emily Click, Historian
Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, Senior Deacons ❖ Vicki Newman, Pledge Secretary
Helen McCrady, Senior Church Administrator ❖ Jamie Garuti, Communications
Linda Van Praet, Accounting & Human Resources ❖ David Albaugh, Building Manager
Allison Albaugh, Wedding Coordinator
Elias Perez, Senior Sexton ❖ Ozo Nwodo and Oppong Serebour, Sextons
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, and Lena Rojas Receptionists
www.oldsouth.org ❖ CCLI License #2802138

A NOTE ON THE INCLUSIVE DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S GRACE

Old South Church in Boston, in the name of its host, Jesus Christ, and in the spirit of Christ's invitation carved into the stone of this church's portico, "Behold I Set Before You an Open Door," welcomes all who seek to know God.

Following the One who we believe is Sovereign and Savior, we affirm that each individual is a child of God, and recognize that we are called to be like one body with many members, seeking with others of every race, ethnicity, creed, class, age, gender, marital status, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity, and gender expression to journey together toward the promised realm of God.

We invite everyone to join in the common life and mission of our reconciling community through participation and leadership in this congregation, and by fully sharing in the worship, rites and sacraments of this church.

As we all move forward with the work of this church, we commit ourselves to making justice and inclusivity a reality in this congregation and in the world. On the threshold of Christ's open door, we rely upon the healing, unconditional nature of God's love and grace to be our help and guide.

PHILLIS WHEATLEY SUNDAY

On May 13th, Old South Church will hold our annual celebration of the first published African American poetess, Poet Laureate of the American Revolution, who opened doors for persons of color and enslaved persons with pen and ink, with poetry and letters, with wit and fortitude.

10:30 am Procession to the Boston Women's Memorial on Comm Ave.

11:00 am Boston Globe's Adrian Walker will receive the *Open Door* award

12:15 pm Procession to the Boston Women's Memorial on Comm Ave.

Adrian Walker is the Boston Globe's Metro Columnist and member of the Spotlight Team that produced the highly acclaimed series, *Boston. Racism. Image. Reality.*

FAITH INTO ACTION

MOTHER'S DAY WALK FOR PEACE

Sunday, May 13th, walk from Fields Corner to City Hall

The Parkland shooting has raised the visibility of gun violence and unleashed a wave of activism. But the problem of gun violence in Boston is not new, with shootings and murders that do not grab headlines nationally. Since 1996, the Louis D. Brown Peace Institute has been supporting the families of murder victims and working to build more peaceful communities here in Boston. Old South has a fundraising goal of \$2,000 for this year's Walk for Peace. Contact team captain Hillary Mull for more information at hillaryjmull@gmail.com.

AIDS WALK BOSTON

On June 3rd, Old South Church will participate in **AIDS Walk Boston & 5k Run** continuing our long tradition as the Walk's oldest standing church team. Email William Wei at williamweimian@gmail.com to join the team.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

PARENTS' NIGHT OUT

Friday, May 11th, 6-10pm

Ready for a night on the town? Plan a date night during PNO! We're getting larger, so RSVPs are needed by Monday, May 7th to be guaranteed a spot. For more information and to register, visit oldsouth.org/parents-night-out.

COMMUNITY LIFE

PHOTOGRAPHERS NEEDED

Are you handy with a camera? Love capturing special moments on film? We need you! Whether photography is your hobby or your profession, we'd love for you to join our list of volunteer photographers. Then when we have a special service or event coming up, we'll ask if you're available to help out. If you'd like to be added to the list, please email Jamie Garuti at Jamie@oldsouth.org.

DIRECTORIES AVAILABLE FOR MEMBERS

Still need a church directory? It's not too late! Old South members can stop by the reception desk to pick one up anytime we're open.

GREENING OLD SOUTH: BRING YOUR OWN MUG

With environmental crises worsening every day, Old Southerners are putting their heads together to come up with ways that we can be a greener community. We're starting with easy steps that everyone can take, and encouraging folks to bring reusable travel mugs to Community Hour and Fellowship Hour to reduce waste. To get more involved in making Old South more environmentally friendly, email Emma Brewer-Wallin at ebrewerw@gmail.com.

ADULT EDUCATION

CONNECTIONS LUNCH

Interested in church membership? Connections Lunch invites you to explore Christianity, the United Church of Christ, our rich history and offerings, and to consider your own place at Old South Church. We will gather next Sunday, May 13th at 12:30pm. RSVP to Anthony Livolsi at anthony@oldsouth.org.

SUNDAYS *at 10:00 am between First and Festival Worship*

CLIMATE CHURCH, CLIMATE WORLD BOOK GROUP

Sundays at 12:30, May 27 - June 17

Join in the conversation about our faith response to climate change while reading Jim Antal's new book. Margaret Bush will facilitate. Contact Emma Brewer-Wallin (ebrewerw@gmail.com) with questions or to sign up.

TODAY'S 10AM COMMUNITY HOUR

Jazz and Spirituality: An Improvisational Conversation

What do Christian faith and jazz improvisation have in common? What makes a piece of music "spiritual"? Does approaching worship with a jazz sensibility change more than the mood? We'll explore these questions as we listen to and talk about great jazz recordings by master musicians. Led by Jazz Worship Music Director Willie Sordillo.

LECTIONARY BIBLE STUDY

Engage the preached scripture text for the week in depth and enjoy lively discussion facilitated by our Boston University School of Theology Seminarian Rebecca Bowler.

WEEKDAYS

'FUN-AND-NOT-SCARY, AT-A-SNAIL'S-PACE READ THROUGH OF THE WHOLE BIBLE' STUDY: *Thursdays at 7pm*. Journey through the Book of Judges with us. Reading the Bible chapter by chapter, book by book opens us up to new allusions, parallels, and rich insights. To join in, email Rev. Anthony Livolsi at anthony@oldsouth.org.

MINISTER OF MUSIC TRANSITIONS

TIM HARBOLD

Our extraordinary Interim Choir Director Tim Harbold will turn over the baton following Festival Worship on Pentecost Sunday, May 20th. We will celebrate Tim and thank him for his amazing leadership as a musician, administrator, budget watcher, colleague, choral conductor, music chooser, worship leader, overseer of the Choral Fellows, and more. Thank you, Tim, and bless you for the gift that you are to our life together.

MITCHELL CRAWFORD

Our new Minister of Music, Mitchell Crawford, is currently *en route* to Boston. Having packed up and departed Texas, he is presently staying with his mother in Virginia and is scheduled to arrive in Boston sometime Tuesday, May 8th. Mitchell begins officially on Monday, May 21st, but you might catch sight of him here and there before then.

BOSTON HANDBELL FESTIVAL

Tuesday, May 15th, 8pm at Old South Church

The Boston Handbell Festival brings together local community handbell ensembles - the Back Bay Ringers, Merrimack Valley Ringers, New England Ringers, and Old South Ringers – and an invited guest choir, for an evening of massed and solo ringing in Old South's sanctuary. The concert is free and open to the public.

NOTICES 1) Worship services and events at Old South Church are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify an usher. 2) Please do not leave bags unattended in the building, including in the Sanctuary, for any length of time.

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON

(617) 536 - 1970 OldSouth.org

