

December 9, 2018
Second Sunday of Advent
11:00 AM

*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?*

GATHER

PRELUDE Selections by the Winona School, Sydney Australia

*HYMN 101 **Comfort, Comfort, O My People** PSALM 42

*CALL TO WORSHIP David Clark, Elise Person, and Jasper Clark

One: I dream of a world that is free of captive people, of oppression, that healing may be for all.

Many: I dream of bringing good tidings of change. Change that is real and concrete, that our neighbors might know some hope.

One: I dream of binding up the broken hearted, those whose spirits linger in the borderlands of destruction.

Many: I dream of opening prison doors, and of freeing hearts tightly bound by prejudice, fear and hate.

One: In this season of waiting and dreams and visions and angel visitations, we light the candle of peace, may this small flame bring light to the world.

* Indicates all who are able may stand

*LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE: Peace.

*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

Nancy S. Taylor

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:59-67

Donald A. Wells

ANTHEM

Benedictus in C

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel: for he hath visited, and redeemed his people;
And hath raised up a mighty salvation for us: in the house of his servant David;
As he spake by the mouth of his holy Prophets: which have been since the world began;
That we should be saved from our enemies: and from the hands of all that hate us;
To perform the mercy promised to our forefathers: and to remember his holy covenant;
To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather Abraham: that he would give us;
That we being delivered out of the hands of our enemies: might serve him without fear;
In holiness and righteousness before him: all the days of our life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the Prophet of the Highest:
for thou shalt go before the face of the Lord to prepare his ways;
To give knowledge of salvation unto his people: for the remission of their sins;
Through the tender mercy of our God: whereby the day-spring from on high hath visited us;
To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the shadow of death:
and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

During the Anthem, children may leave for choir or care.

SERMON

Peace

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 426

O God, Whose Steadfast Love

RHOSYMEDRE

*CALL TO PRAYER

June R. Cooper

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

Many: Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.

One: Let us pray. *You may be seated*

PASTORAL PRAYER AND SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

*In thanksgiving to God and giving witness to generous hearts,
our financial gifts support ministries of mercy, justice, and beauty.*

OFFERTORY

Tell Out, My Soul
(*Mary's Magnificat*)

David Hurd

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of our God!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice,
tender to me the promise of her word;
in God my Savior shall my heart rejoice.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's name!
Make known her might, the deeds her arm has done;
Her mercy sure, from age to age the same;

God's holy Name— the Lord, the Mighty One.

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of God's might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.

Tell out, my soul, the glories of God's word!
Firm is her promise and her mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of our God
to children's children and forever more.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Nancy S. Taylor

*HYMN 110

Now Bless the God of Israel

FOREST GREEN

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDECTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE: Selections by the Winona School, Sydney Australia



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

David Clark, Elise Person, and Jasper Clark, today's Advent Candle lighters,
are active members of Old South Church.

Today's flowers are given by Old South's Weekday Receptionist, Corey Spence,
in honor of all the volunteers that keep the Front Desk running smoothly.



Notes on Today's Music

from MITCHELL CRAWFORD

In anthems from the Anglican tradition, the Festival Choir this morning presents two of the most significant of the biblical **canticles**: those of **Zechariah** and **Mary**. Derived from the Latin word *canticum* (meaning “song”), the canticles of the bible are quite literally the moments wherein an individual abandons conventional dialogue and breaks forth into melody — as if to highlight the significance of the text, and in marked contrast to the conventional dialogue we otherwise encounter. While the Advent canticles we sing this morning are found in the New Testament, many are to be found in the books of the Old Testament, including those of the Prophet **Isaiah** (Isaiah 12:1-6), **Hezekiah** (Isaiah 38:10-20), **Hannah** (1 Samuel 2:1-10) and **Miriam**, the wife of Moses, (Exodus 15:20-21) — whom, it should be observed, the Bible proclaims a prophet as well.

Composer **Sir Charles Villiers Stanford** (1852–1924) wrote his Morning, Communion and Evening Service in C major, Op 115, in 1909. Contained within is music for the entire Anglican office, including a *Te Deum* and *Jubilate* (Morning) the movements of the Mass (Communion), a *Magnificat* and *Nunc dimittis* (Evening), and the *Benedictus*, which we hear this morning. Stanford breaks up the text into sections which are treated in a variety of ways; thus the graceful opening, in triple time, gives way to a relaxed central section in a duple meter. The energetic, concluding *Gloria Patri*, on the other hand, invokes material from elsewhere in the service.

Tell Out, My Soul, the paraphrase of Mary's Magnificat by **David Hurd** (b. 1950), captures the essence of the composer's style and harmonic language, which is influenced by the 20th century Anglican school (and especially **Herbert Howells**). Hurd is one of the most significant composers of American church music alive. For 28 years, he was Professor of Sacred Music and Director of Chapel Music at General Theological Seminary in Manhattan. He currently serves as Director of Music for The Church of Saint Mary the Virgin in Times Square.

This Morning in Brief:

We welcome choristers from the **Wenona School**, an independent day and boarding school for girls in Sydney, Australia. We are most appreciative for all they add to worship today.

First Night Concerts

FIRST NIGHT Boston 2019

King of Instruments Concert

Monday, December 31st, 2:30-3:30pm in the Sanctuary

Experience the "Sensurround" magnificence of Old South Church's mighty 1921 E.M. Skinner pipe organ — affectionately dubbed the “Copley Philharmonic Organ.” In repertoire designed to showcase its myriad colors, Minister of Music Mitchell Crawford offers a diverse program the whole family is sure to enjoy. Featuring works of Hampton, Mendelssohn, Johann Strauss. *Free and open to the public.*

Pipes and Pops Concerts

Monday, December 31st, 6:30-7:30pm and 8-9pm in the Sanctuary

The best of Boston’s brass and percussion artists join Minister of Music Mitchell Crawford in a supersonic program, presenting fun and engaging arrangements of popular classics, as well as a seasonal sing of “Auld Lang Sayn.” *Free and open to the public.*

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.

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 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

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| Sunday, December 9 | 9:00 am | FIRST Worship, <i>Christmas Pageant</i> |
| | 9:45 am | Old South Café in Gordon Chapel |
| | 10:00 am | HEALING Worship |
| | 10:00 am | Lectionary Bible Study |
| | 10:00 am | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:00 am | Church School |
| | 10:00 am | Community Hour |
| | | A Child is Born: |
| | | Welcoming the Christ Child at Home |
| | 11:00 am | FESTIVAL Worship, <i>John M. Edgerton preaching</i> |
| | 12:15 pm | Fellowship Hour |
| | 12:30 pm | Connections Lunch |
| | 12:30 pm | 350th Faith in Action Task Force |
| | 12:30 pm | Gospel Choir Rehearsal |
| | 1:30 pm | O.W.L. Program |
| Monday, December 10 | 9:00 am | Treasurer's Meeting |
| | 6:00 pm | Theological Book Group |
| Tuesday, December 11 | 5:30 pm | Membership Committee |
| | 6:00 pm | Old South Ringers Rehearsal |
| | 7:00 pm | Church Council |
| Wednesday, December 12 | 12:00 pm | Men's Lunch Hour Small Group |
| | 6:00 pm | Young Adult Small Group – "The Beatitudes" |
| | 6:45 pm | Young Adult Small Group |
| Thursday, December 13 | 12:00 pm | Women's Lunch Hour Small Group |
| | 5:00 pm | Gospel Choir Rehearsal |
| | 6:00 pm | JAZZ Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i> |
| | 6:30 pm | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 7:00 pm | "Through the Bible" Study |

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| | 7:00 pm | Young Adult Book Group – “The Sin of Certainty” |
| | 7:00 pm | Young Adult Open Small Group |
| | 8:00 pm | Women’s Christianity and Civic Life Small Group |
| Friday, December 14 | 5:30 pm | RSVP Meeting |
| | 6:00 pm | Parent’s Night Out |
| Sunday, December 16 | 9:00 am | FIRST Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i> |
| | 9:45 am | Old South Café in Gordon Chapel |
| | 10:00 am | Lectionary Bible Study |
| | 10:00 am | Choir Rehearsal |
| | 10:00 am | Church School |
| | 10:00 am | Community Hour A Child is Born: Inviting Children into Worship |
| | 11:00 am | FESTIVAL Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i> |
| | 12:15 pm | Fellowship Hour |
| | 12:30 pm | Christmas Potluck |
| | 1:30 pm | O.W.L. Program |

OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON MINISTERS, OFFICERS, AND STAFF

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*
John M. Edgerton, *Associate Minister*
James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus*
Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & 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*
Martha Schick, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader* ❖ Betsy Wooster, *Seminarian*
Carolyn Davis, *Director, Old South Preschool*
George Sargeant, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster*
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Willie Sordillo, *Director, Jazz Worship Music*
Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers* ❖ Amy Budka, *Children's Music Leader*

Deb Washington, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer*
Randy Billings, *Chair, Board of Trustees*
Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, *Senior Deacons* ❖ Vicki Newman, *Pledge Secretary*

Helen McCrady, *Sr Church Administrator* ❖ Jamie Garuti, *Communications Administrator*
Linda Van Praet, *Accounting & Human Resources* ❖ David Albaugh, *Building Manager*
Allison Albaugh, *Wedding Coordinator* ❖ Emily Ross, *Archivist*
Rebecca Bowler & Lena Rojas, *Administrative Assistants*
Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Oppong Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, & Carrie Swayne-Gerrish, *Receptionists*

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.

HOLIDAY SEASON

CHRISTMAS FLOWERS

Today is the last day to contribute \$20 for the display of poinsettias on the chancel. If you'd like to donate, please fill out the card inside your bulletin.

ADVENT COMMUNITY HOUR: A CHILD IS BORN

December 9, 16 and 23 at 10am in Mary Norton Hall

This Advent we'll explore welcoming the Christ child at home, as a family, and as a church. On Dec. 9, we'll discuss how as a church we invite children into worship through Communion and Baptism. On Dec. 16, we'll grapple with the mystery of Christmas and how to support our youth as they explore their own faith. On Dec. 23, we'll discuss ways to grow into the wonder of Christmas throughout the year.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

Sunday, December 9th at 9am in Gordon Chapel

Prepare yourself for a re-telling of the ancient story Boston-style, with humor, truth, and wonder, written and performed by the children of Old South.

CAROLS & POTLUCK LUNCHEON

Sunday, December 16th at 12pm in Mary Norton Hall

Eat, sing, be merry! Celebrate the season and sing carols together over a lunch you help to provide. An all-church event at 12pm in Mary Norton Hall.

YOUNG ADULT HOLIDAY PARTY

Thursday, Dec. 20 at 7 p.m. at Old South

Calling all 20- and 30-somethings! Join us after Jazz Worship for a chill night of baked goods and hot cocoa to say farewell before Christmas. Please bring a baked good to share and mark any allergens.

LONGEST NIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE

Friday, December 21 at 12pm at Church on the Hill, 140 Bowdoin St., Boston

A memorial service for those who died on Boston's streets this past year will be held on Dec. 21st. Church members in the wider community are invited to come and remember our unhoused neighbors.

CHRISTMAS EVE USHERS NEEDED

Old South is preparing to welcome the world into our church on Christmas Eve. This is a very special night for us, as we welcome members, visiting families and others to worship and celebrate the birth of Christ. Ralph Watson, head usher for the evening, is looking for ushers for all three services to create a warm and welcoming evening. If you are interested and willing to usher at one or more of the 5pm, 8pm or 11pm services please email ralphwatson258@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

BLUE CHRISTMAS JAZZ WORSHIP

Thursday, December 20th at 6pm

While we're bombarded with words lauding the wonders of the season, many people find the holidays anything but joyful. Blue Christmas provides an opportunity to step away and let go into music and readings that acknowledge your feelings without trying to talk you out of them. Even if you love the holidays, you may find comfort in this special service.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

5pm Candlelight Family Service: Children are invited to participate in an impromptu Christmas Pageant, with simple costumes provided. We sing carols to tell the Christmas story together. Childcare provided.

8pm Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols: An elegant telling of the Christmas story in carols and readings with music for choir and organ, culminating in the singing of "Silent Night" in our candle-lit sanctuary. Childcare provided.

11pm Candlelight Communion: A warmly traditional service with festive carol singing, sermon, and communion in our garland-bedecked chapel. We greet the birth of Christ by singing "Silent Night" outdoors by candlelight just after midnight.

STEWARDSHIP IS ALMOST HERE

Our annual Stewardship campaign to fuel 2019 ministries of mercy, justice, and beauty begins in January! We join the Three Kings in presenting our gifts to Jesus in the season of Epiphany. We'll also hear inspiring reflections by Old South's own members about why they support our church.

FAITH INTO ACTION

COAT BOSTON

Please bring donated coats to coffee hour on Dec. 9th

OSC is collecting warm winter coats for our partner, City Mission Society, to distribute to Boston school children. Coats must be new. Please include your name and phone number, so we know who to thank. If you don't have time to shop, money can also be donated at www.citymissionboston.org/give.

PRAYER VIGIL AT THE ICE DETENTION CENTER

Sunday, December 23rd at 3pm at 20 Bradston St., Boston

Join us as we come together as a visible symbol to our siblings in detention to show them that they are not forgotten. To learn more or RSVP, email marie.f.hurd@gmail.com.

COMMUNITY LIFE

CONNECTIONS LUNCH

Sunday, December 9th at 12:30pm in the Guild Room, 4th floor

Interested in church membership, or just want to know more about us? Connections Lunch invites you to explore Christianity, the United Church of Christ, our rich history and offerings. RSVP to Nancy Taylor at nst@oldsouth.org.

YOUNG ADULT TRIVIA NIGHT

Tuesday, December 18th, 6pm at The Friendly Toast, 35 Stanhope St., Boston

It's the last Old South Young Adult trivia of the year! If you haven't come to trivia with us before, it's a great way to get to know your fellow 20 to 30-something Old Southerners and eat some awesome food. Please RSVP to Martha@oldsouth.org. As always, pals/significant others are welcome.

QUEER CANDLEPIN BOWLING

Sunday, Dec. 16 at 7 pm at Flatbread Brighton

Calling all LGBTQIA+ Old Southerners! Join us for a fun evening of candlepin bowling, pizza, and bonding. Old South will buy the pizza, you pay for bowling and beverages. Please RSVP to Martha@oldsouth.org.

HOLIDAY CONCERTS AT OLD SOUTH

BOSTON CAMERATA: A MEDIEVAL CHRISTMAS

Join The Boston Camerata on Dec. 9th at 3pm or 5pm at Old South Church for Puer Natus Est, an intimate candlelit glimpse of Christmas spirituality from Medieval France, Italy, and England. Tickets: <https://bostoncamerata.org/performances/boston-series/>

APOLLO CLUB OF BOSTON HOLIDAY CONCERT

The Apollo Club of Boston is the second-oldest continuously-active men's singing group in the US. Join them for a concert on Tues., Dec. 11th at 8pm. Free admission.

CHORUS PRO MUSICA CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS

Join Chorus Pro Musica on Friday, Dec. 14th at 8pm. The candlelit evening features holiday classics, new works, and plenty of opportunities for the audience to sing along. Tickets at choruspromusica.org/concert/candlelight-Christmas-at-old-south

BOSTON CHORAL ENSEMBLE HOLIDAY CONCERT

Get into the holiday spirit with Boston Choral Ensemble on Sat., Dec. 15th at 3pm. Concert includes carols for choir & audience. Visit bostonchoral.org/engage/masterworks-holiday

BOSTON CHILDREN'S THEATER CONCERT

Join Boston Children's Theater for their Annual Holiday Concert on Dec. 16th at 4pm. Featuring 60 talented singers across three choirs, they'll sing holiday music, pop music from the 70s & 80s, and original compositions. Tickets at bostonchildrenstheatre.org

BACK BAY CHORALE: A BOSTON CHRISTMAS

Thursday, Dec. 20th at 7:30pm and Saturday, December 22nd at 4pm

Scott Allen Jarrett conducts this beloved concert. Join the singing carols in an evening celebrating the joy, mystery, and glory of the holidays. Tickets at bbcoston.org

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.
