

One: To release the prisoner,
Many: To rebuild the nations,
One: To bring peace among all,
Many: To make music in the heart. --by Howard Thurman

*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

ANTHEM *Personent Hodie* John Rutter, *arr.*

The anthem, sung in Latin, is translated thus:

Let resound today the voices of children, joyfully praising he who is born to us,
given by most high God, and conceived in a virgin’s womb.

He was born into the world, wrapped in swaddling clothes,
and laid in a manger in a stable for animals — the master of the heavens.
The Prince of Hell has lost his spoils.

Three Magi came, they were bearing gifts and sought the little one,
following a star to worship him, and offer him gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

Let all the junior clerics and also the choristers sing like angels:
“You have come to the world; I pour out praises to you.
Therefore, glory to God in the highest!”

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12 Stuart McCalley
Stuart (Stu) McCalley (with his spouse, Sue) recently moved to Boston from Connecticut, where Stu worked as a physician specializing in pulmonary disease and sleep. They both love cross-country skiing and sailing and have been amateur actors. Stu participates in the Wednesday Men’s Group.

*HYMN 148

What Child Is This

GREENSLEEVES

During the hymn children are invited to leave for choir and care.

STORY TELLER

Larry Bowers

Lawrence R. Bowers (Larry) is a forty-five year member of Old South Church. Across the decades he has served in nearly every capacity, on most boards and committees, including a long and memorable stint as the leader of our Youth Group who introduced the group to the game, *Dungeons and Dragons*. Currently, Larry serves on the Tell the Story Task Force of the 350th Anniversary Committee, as a member of the Operations Committee, and he participates in the Weekly Men's Lunch Group. From 2002 through 2005, Larry chaired the Senior Minister Search Committee which called Nancy Taylor to serve as the 20th senior minister. During Festival Worship on Sundays Larry can be found among the denizens of pew 99.

*HYMN 128

In the Bleak Midwinter

CRANHAM

*CALL TO PRAYER

Shawn M. Fiedler

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 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

PRAYER RESPONSE

Star in the East

William Walker

Hail the blest morn, see the great Mediator,
Down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger;
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning;
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Amo Ngoepe

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Walk in the Light

André J. Thomas, *arr.*

*We'll walk in the light, beautiful light, come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night, Jesus, the light of the world.*

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ, the everlasting Lord!
Jesus, the light of the world. (*refrain*)

Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Jesus, the light of the world. (*refrain*)

*DOXOLOGY

REGENT SQUARE

**All creation, join in praising God Creator, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ the newborn king!**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 164

Arise, Your Light Is Come

FESTAL SONG

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE Improvisation upon PERSONENT HODIE Richard Cummins



Join us for **Refreshments & Fellowship**
in the Gordon Chapel following the Postlude.

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

The flowers this morning are given in memory of their son Benjamin
by Linda and James Crawford.



WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins please ask an Usher.
The Chapel has full audio of the service if you need to stretch your legs.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES

Our hearing loop works directly with devices equipped with a "T-Coil." The sound is best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles. The loop does not work in the upper galleries. If you would like to borrow a device paired with our system, please ask an usher.

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). For more information check <https://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit> or see the front desk.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OLD SOUTH

Check out the church website at www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of events, and the general website www.oldsouth.org for more on the history and other information about this storied ship of faith!

CCLI #2802138

OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister* ❖ James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus*
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister* ❖ Shawn M. Fiedler, *Acting Associate Minister*
Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
Amo Ngoepe, *Pastoral Resident*
David Story, *Executive Assistant to the Senior Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*
Martha Schick, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader*
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* ❖ Evan Shu, *Historian*
Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, *Senior Deacons* ❖ Vicki Newman, *Pledge Secretary*

Helen McCrady, *Senior Church Administrator* ❖ Jamie Garuti, *Communications Administrator*
Linda Van Praet, *Accounting & Human Resources* ❖ David Albaugh, *Building Manager*
Allison Albaugh, *Wedding Coordinator* ❖ Emily Ross, *Archivist* ❖ Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Administrative Assistant*
Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, & Shirley Bivins *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.

OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON *Still making history*

The logo features the text 'OLD SOUTH CHURCH in BOSTON' stacked vertically on the left. To the right is a large, stylized '350' where the '0' is a decorative circle with a cross at the top and bottom. Below the '350' is the tagline 'Still making history' in a smaller, italicized font.