

A blurred background image of a church altar. In the foreground, a silver chalice filled with red wine is visible on the left. To the right, a silver plate holds two golden-brown bread rolls. The background is dark and out of focus, showing hints of a church interior.

World Communion Sunday

October 6th, 2019
Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
Old South Church in Boston

The church has been singing for two thousand years — a span which doesn't even include the tradition inherited from ancient Israel. Generation after generation preserved a received repertory while adding to it new songs expressing contemporary understandings of God, celebrating what God has been and is doing, and challenging the church to live into God's calling. As a result, the church's song has never been a monolith: rather, it has absorbed the styles and sounds of myriad cultures across the centuries, each praising God in a unique way. Today's worship service celebrates this sung inheritance even as it offers glimpses of what is to come.

GATHER

*350th ANNIVERSARY HYMN

Open a Doorway into God

CONSTANTINE

The hymn, commissioned under the auspices of Old South's 350th Anniversary Committee, was written by Mary Louise Bringle, Professor of Philosophy and Religious Studies at Brevard College in North Carolina. An award-winning author of hymn texts, she served as President of The Hymn Society in the US and Canada, and as chair of the Presbyterian Committee on Congregational Song, responsible for creating the hymnal "Glory to God."



1. O - pen wide the eyes of won - der: bound - less gal - ax - ies in space,
2. Stretch out wide the arms of kind - ness: nur - ture sheep from man - y folds.
3. Fling out wide the gates of free - dom, to the suf - fering bring re - lief:
4. God of mer - cy, love, and beau - ty, blaz - ing trails to mark our way,



fin - est flecks of whirl - ing mat - ter span the mag - ni - tude of grace.
Wel - come cres - cent, star, and rain - bow, all whose seek - ing God up - holds.
hearts im - pa - tient for de - liv - erance* call for res - cue from their grief.
still trans - plant - ing, still sus - tain - ing, ‡ you have brought us to this day.



Vaults that up - lift our sights to heav - en; mu - sic that leaves us hushed and awed;
Peo - ples and crea - tures, poor and need - ing, hun - ger for mer - cies spread a - broad.
Till hurt - ful walls of bi - as crum - ble, till hate - ful cag - es stand un - barred,
In ev - ery e - ra, you have sought us, draw - ing your prom - ise in - to view.



arts that en - large our lives with beau - ty o - pen a door - way in - to God.‡
Acts of com - pass - ion toward our neigh - bors o - pen a door - way in - to God.
all those who dare to plead for jus - tice † o - pen a door - way in - to God.
Strength - en our will to meet your fu - ture, o - pen - ing new door - ways in - to you.

‡ "Behold, I have set before thee an open door," — Revelation 3:8, carved into the Old South Church portico.

* "In every human Breast, God has implanted a Principle, which we call Love of Freedom; it is *impatient* of Oppression, and pants for *Deliverance*." — Phillis Wheatley [*emphasis added*]

† An allusion to Whittier's famous phrase, "So long as Boston shall Boston be, and her bay-tides rise and fall, Shall freedom stand in the Old South Church and plead for the rights of all!"

‡ A reference to the Latin motto *Qui transtulit sustinet* (carved into Old South's portico), meaning "The God who transplanted us sustains us still."

* Indicates all who are able may stand.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Delores Dufner, *adapted*)

Amo Ngoepe,
Assistant Minister for Urban Life

One: Summoned by the God who made us,
rich in our diversity,
we gather in the name of Christ Jesus,
richer still in unity.

**Many: Together with our different gifts,
together, in splendid, varied ways,
let us sing a new church into being.**

One: God, the goodness of your creation is manifest;
help us trust your guiding Spirit.

**Many: Help us see the vision promised,
sprung from seeds of what has come before.**

One: At your feet, O Christ,
we lay the hopes of every nation:

**Many: Weave from these a song of peace and justice,
let it sound through time and space!**

One: As we draw together at one table,
shape our circle ever wider:

**Many: So that everyone,
everyone in our city,
our country,
our world,
can eat and be satisfied.**

*A SIGN OF OUR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

WORDS OF WELCOME

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*

WISDOM OF THE SAINTS

SCRIPTURE

2 Thessalonians 2:13-17 — *Wisdom from the past*

Deborah Washington,
Church Moderator

HYMN (*seated — next page*)

Creator of the Stars of Night

Introduced by the Festival Choir — Congregation sings all stanzas

During the hymn, children are invited to leave for care.



1. Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2. You, griev - ing that the an - cient curse
 3. You came the Bride - groom of the bride,
 4. At whose dread name, ma - jes - tic now,
 5. O Christ, whose com - ing is with dread
 6. To God, Cre - a - tor, and the Son



Your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing Light:
 Should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 As drew the world to e - ven - tide,
 All knees must bend, all hearts must bow;
 To judge the liv - ing and the dead,
 And Ho - ly Spir - it, Three in One,



O Christ, Re - deem - er, save us all
 Have found the heal - ing, full of grace,
 The spot - less Vic - tim all di - vine
 All things ce - les - tial You shall own,
 Pre - serve us from the an - cient foe
 Praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



And hear Your ser - vants when they call.
 To cure and save our ru - ined race.
 Pro - ceed - ing from a vir - gin shrine.
 And things ter - res - trial, Lord a - lone.
 While still we dwell on earth be - low.
 From age to age e - ter - nal - ly. A - men.

EXPOSITION

Brian Hehn, *Director of the Center for Congregational Song*

*HYMN (*facing page*)

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

EIN⁷ FESTE BURG

Vs. 1: Festival Choir alone — Congregation sings vs. 2 through 4



1. (*The choir sings verse 1 alone.*)

2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,
3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,
4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth.



were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos - ing,
we will not fear, for God hath willed his truth to tri - umph through us.
The Spir - it and the gifts are ours through him who with us sid - eth.



You ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he. Lord Sa - ba - oth his name,
The Prince of Dark - ness grim, we trem - ble not for him. His rage we can en - dure,
Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so. The bod - y they may kill;



from age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.
for lo, his doom is sure. One lit - tle word shall fell him.
God's truth a - bid - eth still. His king - dom is for - ev - er.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 43:14-21 — *"I'm doing a new thing"*

HYMN (*seated*)

O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

Vs. 1: All — Vs. 2: Alley Side — Vs. 3: Boylston Side — Vv. 4 & 5: All



1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re - deem - er's praise,
2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
3. Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease;
4. He breaks the power of can - celed sin, he sets the pris - oner free;
5. He speaks, and lis - tening to his voice, new life the dead re - ceive;



the glo - ries of my God and King, the tri - umphs of his grace!
to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name.
'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace.
his blood can make the foul - est clean; his blood a - vailed for me.
the mourn - ful, bro - ken hearts re - joice, the hum - ble poor be - lieve.

*HYMN

Standing on the Promises

PROMISES

Vs. 1: All — Vs. 2: Boylston Side — Vs. 3: Alley Side — Vs. 4: All



1. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ my king,
2. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es that can - not fail,
3. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es of Christ the Lord,
4. Stand - ing on the prom - is - es I can - not fall,



through e - ter - nal a - ges let his prais - es ring;
when the howl - ing storms of doubt and fear as - sail,
bound to him e - ter - nal - ly by love's strong cord,
lis - tening ev - ery mo - ment to the Spir - it's call,



glo - ry in the high - est, I will shout and sing,
by the liv - ing Word of God I shall pre - vail,
o - ver - com - ing dai - ly with the Spir - it's sword,
rest - ing in my Sav - ior as my all in all,



stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God. *Stand - ing,*



stand - ing, stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God my Sav - ior;



stand - ing, stand - ing, I'm stand - ing on the prom - is - es of God.

GIFTS OF THE PRESENT

CALL TO THE OFFERING

June R. Cooper,
Theologian in the City

OFFERTORY

“Come Sunday” from *Black, Brown and Beige* (1943)
Zoë Krohne, *soloist*

Duke Ellington

*Lord, dear Lord above, God Almighty, God of love,
Please look down and see my people through.*

I believe that God put sun and moon up in the sky,
I don't mind the gray skies, 'cause they're just clouds passing by. (*refrain*)

Heaven is a goodness time, a brighter light on high.
“Do unto others as you would have them do unto you—” and have a brighter by and by. (*refrain*)

I believe God is now, was then, and always will be.
With God's blessing we can make it through eternity. (*refrain*)

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

(incorporating “*A Communion Prayer about Music and Its Healing Power*” by Nancy Elizabeth Hardy)

INVITATION

Nancy S. Taylor
Shawn M. Fiedler, *Acting Associate Minister*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Ever creating God...we raise our voices in song:

Miren Qué Beuno

Refrain: (*choir and congregation*)



Musical notation for the refrain of "Miren Qué Beuno". The notation is in 2/4 time, starting with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of eight measures: a quarter note G4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note C5, a quarter note Bb4, a quarter note A4, a quarter note G4, and a half note G4. The lyrics are written below the notes.

¡Mi - ren qué bue - no, qué bue - no es!
(O look and won - der: how good it is!)

Leader:

Miren qué bueno es cuando los hermanos están juntos, es como aceite bueno derramado sobre Aarón.

[How good it is when brothers dwell in peace with one another; it is like precious oil when running fresh on Aaron's beard.]

(*refrain*)

Miren qué bueno es cuando las hermanas están juntas, se parece al rocío sobre los montes de Sión.
[How good it is when sisters dwell in peace with one another, fresh like the morning dew that falls on Zion's holy hill.]
(refrain)

Miren qué bueno es cuando nos reunimos todos juntos, porque el Señor abí manda vida eterna y bendición.
[How good it is when all earth's people dwell in peace together: that is where God will pour out blessings and eternal life.]
(refrain)

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.

SHARING THE MEAL

Our communion table is open to all. Today's communion will be served by intinction. You will be invited to come forward at the direction of the ushers. You will be handed a piece of bread. Dip it into the cup and partake. The cups contain unfermented grape juice. Gluten-free crackers are available.

We Are Coming, Lord, to the Table *Festival Choir alone*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

HYMN (*post communion — seated*)

Holy Gift of Love *Stanzas: Solo — Refrain: All*

Soloist:

The proof of Jesus' love is printed in his palm.
He bore the weight of sin and hate— Lamb of God who died upon the cross.
Christ Jesus is the light who ended my soul's night.
He washed my sin and called my friend, wrote my name within the book of life.

Refrain: (*choir and congregation*)

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff. It begins with a 4/4 time signature. The melody starts with a half note 'Ho', followed by a dotted half note 'ly', and then a quarter note 'gift'. The time signature changes to 2/4 for the next two measures: a quarter note 'of' and a quarter note 'love,'. The time signature returns to 4/4 for the final measure, which contains a whole note 'O'. The second line of music starts with a 4/4 time signature and contains the lyrics 'ho - ly gift of love, dear Je - sus, the'. The third line of music starts with a 4/4 time signature and contains the lyrics 'Lamb of God who bore my sins. Hal - le - lu - jah!'. The time signature changes to 2/4 for the next two measures: a quarter note 'Hal' and a quarter note 'le'. The time signature returns to 4/4 for the final measure, which contains a quarter note 'lu' and a quarter note 'jah!'.

Soloist:

When Jesus rose again, I rose to life with him.
And now my soul is his alone, free at last from death and fear and sin.
My heart is filled with life; my eyes are filled with light;
My lips proclaim true love's true name: glory to my savior Jesus Christ! (*refrain*)

DEPART

*HYMN

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory

BATTLE HYMN

Vs. 1: Solo (refrain: All) — Vs. 2: Festival Choir — Vs. 3: All



1. Mine eyes have seen the glo - ry of the com - ing of the Lord
2. I have seen You in our home fires burn - ing with a qui - et light
3. In the beau - ty of the lil - ies You were born a - cross the sea



You are speak - ing truth to pow - er, You are lay - ing down the sword
You are moth - er - ing and feed - ing in the wee hours of the night
With a glo - ry in Your bos - om that is still trans - fig - ur - ing



Re - plant - ing eve - ry vine - yard til a brand new wine is poured
Your gen - tle love is pa - tient, you will ne - ver fade or tire.
Dis - man - tl - ing our em - pires til each one of us is free



Your peace will make us one. *Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le -*



lu - jah! Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah!



Glo - ry, glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah! Your peace will make us one.

*SUNG RESPONSE

O For A Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON'S GHOST

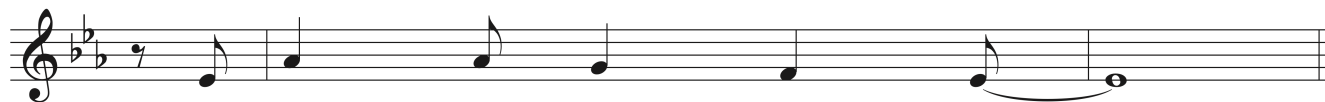
Sung by all



1. O for a thou - sand tongues to sing my great Re - deem - er's praise,
 2. My gra - cious Mas - ter and my God, as - sist me to pro - claim,
 3. Je - sus! the name that charms our fears, that bids our sor - rows cease;
 4. Glo - ry to God, and love and praise, be ev - er, ev - er giv'n



the glo - ries ev - er e - cho - ing, the tri - umphs of God's grace,
 to spread through all the earth a - broad the hon - ors of your name,
 'tis mu - sic in the sin - ner's ears, 'tis life, and health, and peace,
 by all the saints in ev - ery age, the church in earth and heav'n,



the tri - umphs of God's grace!
 the hon - ors of your name.
 'tis life, and health, and peace.
 the church in earth and heav'n.

POSTLUDE

A Trumpet Minuet

Alfred Hollins

Also participating in today's service:

- John Baboian, *guitar and bass*
- Edilio Bermudez, *violin*
- Tim Harbold, *piano*
- Zoë Krohne, *song leader*
- Aaron Trant, *percussion*

The Rev. Dr. Emily Click, *Communion Steward*



Today's communion bread baked by Karen Hand

*Flowers today are given by Helen McCrady,
in loving memory of her parents, Sally and Ned McCrady*

Please join us for Refreshments & Fellowship in the Gordon Chapel following the Postlude.

New here? Join a few Old Southerners at **The Welcome Hub**,
located at the piano in front of the sanctuary immediately 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.



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 out <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, support staff, and other information about this storied ship of faith!

CCLI #2802138

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON
MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & PROGRAM STAFF**

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister* ❖ Shawn M. Fiedler, *Acting 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*
Amo Ngoepe, *Assistant Minister for Urban Life*
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*

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.