



Old South Church *in* Boston

December 24th, 2022

A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS

*It is Christmas time, a halting of hate time.
On this platform of peace, we can create a language
to translate ourselves to ourselves and to each other.
At this holy instant, we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.*

from *Amazing Peace:
A Christmas Poem*
by Maya Angelou

PRELUDE

Carillon de Westminster
Greensleeves

Louis Vierne
Richard Purvis, *arr.*

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

ADESTE FIDELES

O Come, All Ye Faithful

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant;
O come ye; O come ye to Bethlehem!
Come, and behold him, born the King of angels!**

refrain:

**O come, let us adore him; O come, let us adore him;
O come, let us adore him, Christ, the Lord!**

**Sing, choirs of angels; sing in exultation;
sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God, all glory in the highest! (*refrain*)**

**Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born that happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory given;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing! (*refrain*)**

*CHRISTMAS CREED FROM LATIN AMERICA
Unison

Katherine A. Schofield,
Interim Associate Minister

**I believe in Jesus Christ
and in the power of the Gospel which began in Bethlehem.
I believe in the One whose spirit glorified a small village,
of whose coming the shepherds saw the sign,
and for whom there was no room in the inn.
I believe in the One whose life changed the course of history,
for whom the kings of the earth had no power,
and who was not understood by the proud.
I believe in the One to whom the poor, the oppressed,
the discouraged, the afflicted, the sick, the blind,
and the leprous gave welcome and accepted as Savior.**

I believe in the One who, with love,
changed the hearts of the proud, showing, with his life,
that it is more important to serve than to be served,
and that the greatest joy is in giving your life for others.
I believe in peace, which means justice among all peoples
and nations, and love among all.
I believe in reconciliation, forgiveness
and the transforming power of the gospel.
I believe that Christmas is strength and power, and that this world
can change if, with humility and faith,
we kneel before the manger.
I believe that I must be the first one to do so. Amen.

WELCOME AND BIDDING PRAYER

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

IRBY

Once in Royal David's City

Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,
where a mother laid her baby in a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild; Jesus Christ, her little child.

He came down to earth from heaven who is God and Lord of all,
and his shelter was a stable, and his cradle was a stall;
with the poor and meek and lowly lived on earth our Savior holy.

For he is our childhood's pattern: day by day like us he grew;
he was little, weak, and helpless; tears and smiles like us he knew;
and he feelth for our sadness, and he shareth in our gladness.

Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,
we shall see him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high,
and he leads his children on to the place where he is gone.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 40:1-11

Rob Gabler

The prophet speaks of a world reconfigured by the coming of God's anointed one.

CAROL

Riu, Riu, Chiu

Mateo Flecha el Viejo, *attr.*

[*Estribillo:*]

*Riu, riu, chiu la guarda ribera:
Dios guardo el lobo de nuestra cordera.*

[Refrain:]

'Riu, riu, chiu' cried the shepherd by the riverside.
God kept the wolf [Satan] away from our lamb
[the Virgin Mary].

*El lobo rabioso la quiso morder,
Mas Dios poderoso la supo defender;
Quisole hazer que no pudiese pecar,
Ni aun original esta Virgen no tuviera.*

The raging wolf wanted to bite her,
but more-powerful God knew how to protect her.
He wanted to make her incapable of sin,
and this Virgin did not even have original sin.

*Este qu'es nacido es el gran monarca,
Christo patriarca de carne vestido;
Ha nos redimido con se hacer chiquito:
Aunque era infinito, finito se hiziera.*

He who is born is the great King,
Christ the Patriarch clothed in human flesh.
He has redeemed us by making himself a child:
although he is immortal, he made himself mortal.

*Muchas profecias lo han profetizado;
Y aun en nuestros dias lo hemos al consado.
A Dios humanado vemos en el suelo
Y al hombre en el cielo porque él le quisiera.*

Many prophecies have foretold it;
and in our time we have seen it fulfilled.
We see God in human form here on earth,
and man raised to heaven because God loved him.

*Pues que ya tenemos lo que deseamos,
todos juntos vamos, presentes llevemos;
todos le daremos nuestra voluntad,
pues a se igualar con el hombre viniera.*

Since we now have our hearts' desire,
let us all go together bearing gifts;
we shall all submit our will to him,
because he came to make himself equal with man.

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:26-38

Paula Hammond

The angel Gabriel announces to Mary the fullness of time.

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!**

**Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!**

THE THIRD LESSON

Luke 2:1-20

Ryan Chitty

When the time is come, the holy birth is revealed first to shepherds.

CAROL

Hydom, Tiddlydom*

Traditional Czech
Mark Burrows, arr.

Shepherds in the field at night all behold a wondrous sight.
Hear the song the angels sing, hear the happy news they bring.

Hurry shepherds far and wide, gather near the baby's side.
Play the pipe and beat the drum, now a joyous time has come.

Peace so precious, love so small, sleeping in a cattle stall.
Gentle Joseph, Mary mild, tending to the little child.

Shepherds run to spread your cheer, night is ending—hope is here.
Play the pipe and beat the drum, now a joyous time has come.

**The word "hydom" mimics the drone of bagpipes; "tiddlydom" represents the rhythm of the drum.*

A CHRISTMAS WORD

Richard E. Spalding
Interim Senior Minister

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

GREENSLEEVES

What Child is This?

**What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet while shepherds watch are keeping?
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary!**

**So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, one and all, to own him.
The King of kings salvation brings; let loving hearts enthrone him.
Raise, raise the song on high. The virgin sings her lullaby.
Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary!**

THE FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 2:1–12

Manuel Navia

Sages led by a star encounter the power of evil and the Epiphany of Love.

CAROL

Personent Hodie

John Rutter, *arr.*

*Personent hodie
voces puerulæ,
laudantes incunde
qui nobis est natus,
summo Deo datus,
et de vir, vir, vir...
et de virgineo ventre procreatus.*

Let resound today
children's voices,
joyfully praising
he who is born,
given by most high God,
[...]
and conceived in a virgin's womb.

*In mundo nascitur,
pannis involvitur
præsepi ponitur
stabulo brutorum,
rector supernorum.
Perdidit, -dit, -dit...
perdidit spolia princeps infernorum.*

Into the world he was born,
wrapped in swaddling clothes,
laid in a manger
in a stable for animals,
the master of heavens.
[...]
The Prince of Hell has lost his spoils.

*Magi tres venerunt,
munera offerunt,
parvulum inquirunt,
stellulam sequendo,
ipsum adorando,
aurum, thus, thus, thus...
aurum, thus, et myrrham ei offerendo.*

Three Magi came,
bearing gifts,
seeking the little one,
following a star,
to worship him,
[...]
offering gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

*Omnes clericuli,
pariter pueri,
cantent ut angeli:
advenisti mundo,
laudes tibi fundo.
Ideo, o, o...
ideo gloria in excelsis Deo.*

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

THE FIFTH LESSON

John 1:1-16

Pam Roberts

John ponders the mystical convergence of God's holy time and human time.

CAROL

The Word Was God

Rosephanye Powell

In the beginning was the Word,
and the Word was with God,
and the Word was God.

The same was in the beginning with God.

All things [that have been made] were made by him;
nothing was made he has not made.

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Howard Cha-Young Kim, *Pastoral Resident*



To give via ApplePay, GooglePay, or with a Credit Card,
scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.
You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.

OFFERTORY

O Holy Night

John Rutter, *arr.*

O holy night! the stars are brightly shining; it is the night of the dear Savior's birth.
Long lay the world in sin and error pining, till he appeared and the soul felt its worth.
A thrill of hope—the weary world rejoices, for yonder breaks a new and glorious morn!
Fall on your knees! O hear the angel voices! O night divine, O night when Christ was born!

Led by the light of faith serenely beaming, with glowing hearts by his cradle we stand.
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming, here came the Wise Men from Orient land.
The King of kings lay thus in lowly manger, in all our trials born to be our Friend.
He knows our need—to our weakness is no stranger.
Behold your King; before him lowly bend!

Truly he taught us to love one another; his law is love and his gospel is peace.
Chains shall he break, for the slave is our brother, and in his name all oppression shall cease.
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we; let all within us praise his holy name.
Christ is the Lord, then ever, ever praise we, his power and glory evermore proclaim.

PASSAGES OF LIGHT

June R. Cooper,
Theologian in the City

CONGREGATIONAL CAROL **Silent Night**

STILLE NACHT

Silent night! Holy night!
All is calm, all is bright
'round yon virgin mother and child!
Holy infant, so tender and mild,
sleep in heavenly peace,
sleep in heavenly peace.

Silent night! Holy night!
Shepherds quake at the sight.
Glories stream from heaven afar,
heav'nly hosts sing: "Alleluia!
Christ the Savior is born!
Christ the Savior is born!"

Silent night! Holy night!
Son of God, love's pure light
radiant beams from Thy holy face
with the dawn of redeeming grace,
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth!
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth!

BENEDICTION

Richard E. Spalding,
Interim Senior Minister

*CONGREGATIONAL CAROL

MENDELSSOHN

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king;
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"
Joyful all ye nations, rise; join the triumph of the skies;
with the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Christ, by highest heaven adored, Christ the everlasting Lord,
late in time behold him come, offspring of the virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate deity,
pleased in flesh with us to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729

J. S. Bach

★★★★★★★★★★

CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

Sunday, December 25th, 10 a.m.

June Cooper, Rick Spalding, and Mitchell Crawford will lead a festive and joyful celebration of the Nativity - full of beloved carols, with a special Christmas story and prayers of new hope for the world now illuminated again by the Light of Christ.

NEW YEAR'S EVE AT OLD SOUTH

MEET THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS

Saturday, December 31st at 3 p.m. 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. Free and open to the public.

FIRST NIGHT: PIPES AND POPS CONCERTS

Saturday, December 31st at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. 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 Syne.” Free and open to the public.

★★★★★★★★★★

**MERRY CHRISTMAS
AND HAPPY NEW YEAR
FROM THE MEMBERS AND STAFF
OF OLD SOUTH CHURCH!**

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

For **LARGE** print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

Restrooms are available. Just ask!

An accessible, single-use restroom is available near Reception.

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 church in the heart of Boston.

HEARING ASSISTANCE

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.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Vimeo, Facebook, and YouTube

JAZZ Worship, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m. *Resumes January 5th*

FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

HEALING Worship, the second Sunday at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

LEARN MORE

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 ❖ CCS #12028 ❖ OneLicense #A-700000

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON — MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF

Richard E. Spalding, *Interim Senior Minister*
James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister*
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
Howard Cha-Young Kim, *Pastoral Resident*
David Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
George Sargeant, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster*
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*
Willie Sordillo, *Director, Jazz Worship Music*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*
Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*

Helen McCrady, *Senior Church Administrator* ❖ John Braught, *Director of Operations*
Jamie Garuti, *Multimedia Director* ❖ Linda Van Praet, *Accounting & Human Resources*
Alex Pickering, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Emily Ross, *Archivist*
Ralph Watson, *Snowden Partnership Coordinator* ❖ Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner and William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, and David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*
Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, and George Sargeant, *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

Phil Stern, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer*
Kristi Geary, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*
Paul Brouillette & Susan Navia, *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.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON