

December 29, 2019
**First Sunday
after Christmas**

*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 Fanfare for the New Year Calvin Hampton

*HYMN (*insert*) **There's a Star in the East** FOLLOW

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION Shawn M. Fiedler

**Gracious, loving and merciful God,
In this Christmas season,
As the light of your Word penetrates our hearts,
As we are reminded of the gifts of life and faith,
As the glories of the heavenly hosts echo in our church,
We open ourselves up to your Spirit and give you thanks.
We are grateful, Lord Jesus, that your story has become our story. Amen.**

** Indicates all who are able may stand*

*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

SOLO Geistliches Wiegenlied, Op. 91, No. 2 Johannes Brahms

*Die ihr schwebet um diese Palmen in Nacht und Wind,
Ihr heil'gen Engel, stilltet die Wipfel! Es schlummert mein Kind.*

*Ihr Palmen von Bethlehem im Windesbrausen, wie mögt ihr heute so zornig sausen!
O rauscht nicht also! Schweiget, neiget euch leis' und lind;
Stillet die Wipfel! Es schlummert mein Kind.*

*Der Himmelsknabe duldet Beschwerde, ach, wie so müd' er ward vom Leid der Erde.
Ach nun im Schlaf ihm Leise gesänftigt die Qual zerrinnt,
Stillet die Wipfel! Es schlummert mein Kind.*

*Grimmige Kälte sauset hernieder, Womit nur deck' ich des Kindleins Glieder!
O all ihr Engel, die ihr geflügelt wandelt im Wind,
Stillet die Wipfel! Es schlummert mein Kind.*

You who hover around these palms in night and wind,
You holy angels, silence the tree-tops! My child is sleeping.

You palms of Bethlehem in the raging wind, why do you bluster so angrily today!
O roar not so! Be still, lean calmly and gently over us;
Silence the tree-tops! My child is sleeping.

The heavenly babe suffers distress;
Oh, how weary he has grown with the sorrows of this world.
Ah, now that in sleep his pains are gently eased,
Silence the treetops! My child is sleeping.

Fierce cold blows down on us, with what shall I cover my little child's limbs?
O all you angels, who wing your way on the winds,
Silence the tree-tops! My child is sleeping.

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE Psalm 148 Laura Walker Dunn

*HYMN (*insert*) **Infant Holy, Infant Lowly** W ŻŁOBIE LEŻY

SERMON Go Tell it! Katherine A. Schofield

*HYMN 154 **Go Tell It on the Mountain** AFRICAN-AMERICAN SPIRITUAL

*CALL TO PRAYER David Becker

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE **Away in a Manger** MUELLER

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Shawn M. Fiedler

OFFERTORY

Gesù Bambino

Pietro Yon

When blossoms flowered 'mid the snows upon a winter night,
Was born the Child, the Christmas Rose, the King of Love and Light.

The angels sang, the shepherds sang, the grateful earth rejoiced;
And at his blessed birth the stars their exultation voiced.

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

Again the heart with rapture glows to greet the holy night,
That gave the world its Christmas Rose, its King of Love and Light.

Let every voice acclaim his name, the grateful chorus swell.
From paradise to earth he came that we with him might dwell.

O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.

*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 154

I Am the Light of the World

LIGHT OF THE WORLD

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Katherine A. Schofield

POSTLUDE

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 **Mary Hunter**.



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.