



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

February 18, 2024 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

First Sunday in Lent

*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

[III.] *Adagio*

Edward Elgar

from the Cello Concerto in E minor, Op. 85

INTROIT

FRANCIS

David Hurd

Great God, your love has called us here
as we, by love, for love were made.

Your living likeness still we bear,
though marred, dishonored, disobeyed.

We come, with all our heart and mind
your call to hear, your love to find.

** Indicates all who are able may stand*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

One: Here, at the dawn of our Lenten journey, we are called to travel:

Many: to the wounded spaces within us, our own jagged edges.

One: Here, ashen faced, we are called to wait:

Many: We wait for the One whose love is steadfast and in whom we are secure.

One: Together, we journey:

Many: paying heed to the systems of sin that surround us. Together, we repent. Together, we turn toward God. Amen.

*HYMN 198

Lift High the Cross

CRUCIFER

WELCOME

*PASSING THE PEACE

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Romans 7

*HYMN 614

Go Forth, O People of God

NUEVA CREACION

You are invited to sing either Spanish or English text — or a combination of both!

*During the hymn, children that wish may meet childcare staff
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SERMON

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 188

Give Me a Clean Heart

DOUROUX

This brief chorus is sung twice.

RESPOND

* CALL TO PRAYER

Ashley J. Popperson

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. *Please be seated.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

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

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Calvin Hampton

There's a wideness in God's mercy like the wideness of the sea;
there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.
There is welcome for the sinner, and more graces for the good;
there is mercy with the Savior; there is healing in his blood.

There is no place where earth's sorrows are more felt than up in heaven;
there is no place where earth's failings have such kindly judgment given.
There is plentiful redemption in the blood that has been shed;
there is joy for all the members in the sorrows of the Head.

For the love of God is broader than the measure of the mind;
and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.
If our love were but more faithful, we should take him at his word;
and our life would be thanksgiving for the goodness of the Lord.



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scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.
You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.

OFFERTORY

Search Me, O God (A Psalm of Humility)

Heather Sorenson

Sam Ou, *cello*

Search me, O God, and know my heart.

See if there be any wickedness in me.

Is there strife? Is there pride?

A transgression that is hidden from my eyes?

Search me, O God...

And lead me, lead me in the path eternal.

And lead me, lead to life that's everlasting.

Search me, O God...

Try me, know me. Search my heart.

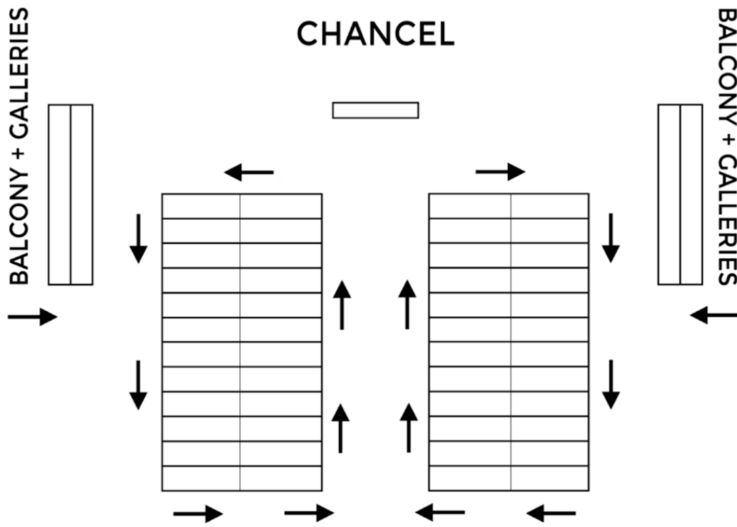
THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Ashley J. Popperson
& Rachel J. Barton

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Our communion table is open to all. Communion is served by intinction. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive a piece of bread. Dip the bread into the cup and partake. The cups contain non-alcoholic grape juice. Gluten-free crackers are available at a separate station. If you are unable to come forward, please signal an usher and the elements will be brought to you.



ANTHEM

In Remembrance

Calvin Hampton

Come unto me,
all that travail and are heavy laden,
and I will refresh you.

So God loved the world that he gave his only begotten son,
to the end that all that believe in him should not perish,
but have everlasting life.

Take and eat; this is my body which was broken for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Drink this cup; this is my blood which was shed for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.

Alleluia.

*(Though often ascribed masculine or feminine pronouns in prose and poetry,
God is unbound by human concepts of gender.)*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 347

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Tuba Tune

Norman Cocker



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

The flowers today are given in loving memory
of Ruth Ann Strong by the Palma Strong Fund.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,
begins immediately following worship at the front of the Sanctuary.
Led by docent Kate Silfen.



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.

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 church in the heart of Boston. If you are interested in deepening your participation, or if you just love Old South, it's time to think about **membership**. Contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson for more info at ashley@oldsouth.org.

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.

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 www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit or see the front desk.

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

John M. Edgerton, *Senior Minister*

Ashley J. Popperson, *Associate Minister*

Rachel Barton, *Assistant Minister and Nancy S. Taylor Fellow*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*

David Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*

Madison Chau, *Seminary Fellow*

James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*

George Sargeant, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster*

Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*

Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*

Aislin Kate Anderson, *Children's Choir Director*

Amelia Gerrard, *Church Administrator* ❖ John Braught, *Director of Operations*

Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*

Emily Ross, *Archivist* ❖ Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*

Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director*

Rémy Hatfield-Gardner and William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Ava Welling, *Sound Technician*

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*

Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*

Christine Del Favero and Tony Rich, *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.



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