

February 23rd, 2020
Transfiguration Sunday
11:00 a.m.

*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

Steal Away
THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS
Peter Coloumbe, *director*

Sandra Eithun, *arr.*

*HYMN 182

We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

HYFRYDOL

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Debbie Duval
Fourth Presbyterian, UPMP

One: Gather us in, O God—

Many: that we might be fitted out for your work in the world.

One: Grant us eyes to see the light of Christ around us—

Many: to see your light in other people.

One: Fashion us with ears to hear your voice within our own—

Many: to hear your voice in the midst of our fears and pains.

One: Fix in us, hearts ablaze with your Spirit—

**Many: to transform our doubts and fears
and prepare us to love the world. 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

Nancy S. Taylor

ANTHEM

Fantasy on “Immortal, Invisible”
THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS
*“...so perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight.”*

Douglas F. Smith, *arr.*

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 17:1-9

Jamie Mangiameli
AME New Roots, UPMP

*HYMN 183

Jesus, Take Us to the Mountain
During the hymn children are invited to leave for choir and care.

SILVER SPRING

SERMON

Amo Ngoepe, UPMP

*HYMN 525

This Little Light of Mine

LATTIMER

WELCOMING NEW MEMBERS

MaryKate Farber

Jody Mahr

PRESENTATION

Katherine A. Schofield

LITANY OF INTENT

One: Friends in Christ, these people have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their baptism and to enter a covenantal relationship with Christ and with you. We are all here to endeavor to love God with all our heart, soul, and mind.

Many: **We give thanks for every community that has been your spiritual home and we celebrate your presence in this household of faith.**

One: Do you promise, by the grace of God, to continue in the life of faith, be Christ's disciple, resist oppression and evil, show love and justice, and bear witness to Jesus Christ as best you are able?

Those joining: I promise, with the help of God.

Many: Do you promise to walk with us in faithfulness and love, and to participate in the life of this church, by worshipping God with us, and offering your time, talent, and treasure for the ministry of the church?

Those joining: I promise, with the help of God.

One: We then welcome you as partners in the common life of this church and we expand this circle of community, all rising in body or spirit to share our covenant of mission with you.

***All: I do now in the presence of God and before this assembly give myself to the One whom Jesus called "Abba, Father" as the God in whose love I am grounded and whose realm I serve; to Jesus Christ, God incarnate, to whom I surrender and who rules my life; to God the Holy Spirit as the One who sustains, recreates, and guides me. I will share God's everlasting covenant by loving and living responsibly in communion with this one God. And I do furthermore engage to walk with my brothers and sisters in the wider Church and the Old South Church secure in God's grace, prepared in gratitude to live by the promise and serve in the hope of the Gospel.**

*THE RIGHT HAND OF CHRISTIAN LOVE

Allen L. Gifford, Deacon

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Nancy S. Taylor

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.*

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| *PRAYER OF DEDICATION | | Jana Dye First Baptist Jamaica Plain, UPMP |
| *HYMN 514 | Over My Head | SPIRITUAL |
| *BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION | | Amo Ngoepe |
| POSTLUDE | Fanfare from <i>La Péri</i> | Paul Dukas |



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 Chuck Gerlinger.

The flowers today are given
in loving memory of LK Case,
by the Case Family.



City Mission, an ecumenical faith-based organization, created the Urban Pastoral Ministry Program as a residency program that supports the development and growth of new pastors who are committed to excellence in pastoral ministry in urban communities. City Mission, in cooperation with four local Boston churches, selected four recent seminary graduates to serve as residents for two years in the four congregations. The senior pastors at these congregations are mentoring residents and providing opportunities for residents to take a leadership role in all aspects of the congregation's ministry. The residents spend one-third of their time at City Mission, focusing on building partnerships between congregations and community organizations and learning from and reflecting with other residents.

Notes on Today's Music

from MITCHELL CRAWFORD

February is Black History Month, a time when our music should reflect the many and varied contributions of African American composers and arrangers to the repertory of sacred music, and to celebrate musical forms (i.e., the spiritual) and styles (i.e., Jazz) that arose from within African American communities. Were we only to feature the music of African Americans during February, it would be the very definition of tokenism; however, Old South's music program embraces an intentionally broad reach, and we are proud to showcase works that highlight diversity throughout the year.

How then should we honor Black History Month? My own inclination is to offer works which allow us to absorb and appreciate the development of the African American Spiritual, a genre I consider to be one of the greatest and most significant within American music. Thus, during February, the Festival Choir will offer each week arrangements which, collectively, allow us to chart the evolution of this multifaceted repertory.

Born in Memphis, Tennessee, **Wendell Whalum** was already an established church musician by the time of his graduation from Booker T. Washington High School, having held positions at Avery Chapel and Providence A.M.E. Churches, as well as Memphis's Central Baptist Church. He attended Morehouse College — obtaining the Bachelor's degree in 1952 — and, upon completion of the Master's degree from Columbia University the following year, returned to his *alma mater* as a member of the faculty. Once there, he was quickly appointed Director of the **Morehouse College Glee Club**, which rose to national prominence over the course of his thirty-four year tenure.

Beyond the academy, Whalum received international acclaim through his work as a composer and arranger. He was a talented organist, concertizing widely and performing as soloist with the Atlanta Symphony Orchestra in 1968. His relationship with the ASO extended to his work preparing choruses — typically the Morehouse College Glee Club and the Atlanta University Center Community Chorus — for numerous Symphonic collaborations in a variety of repertoire. Throughout his career, Whalum maintained involvement in church music, serving a number of churches in metropolitan Atlanta. Most notable among these was the Ebenezer Baptist Church, which The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. co-pastored from 1960–1968.

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). 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*

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, *Weekday Receptionist*

Shirley Bivins, Rubia Reyes, George Sargeant, & Vernon Walker, *Evening & Weekend 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.