

One: From remembering wrongs done to us, and forgetting Your grace,

All: From all of this, O God, turn us around.

One: Turn us around from brokenness and set our feet on paths of healing among people.

All: Turn us around from emptiness, and set our feet on paths of abundance for all.

*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

All the Way Down
Heather Gallagher, *mezzo-soprano*

Adam J. Simon

I went down
Into the cavern
All the way down
To the bottom of the sea.
I went down lower
Than Jonah and the whale
No one ever got so far down
As me.

I went down lower
Than any diamond mine
Deeper than the lowest hole
In Kimberly
All the way down
I thought I was the devil
He was no deeper down
Than me.

And when they thought
That I was gone forever
That I was all the way
In hell
I got right back into my body
And came back out
And rang my bell.

No matter how
They try to harm me now
No matter where
They lay me in the grave
No matter what injustices they do
I've seen the root
Of all that believe.

I've seen the room
Where life and death are made
And I have known
The secret forge of war
I even saw the womb
That all things come from
For I got down so far!

But when they thought
That I was gone forever
That I was all the way
In hell
I got right back into my body
And came back out
And rang my bell.

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE Romans 8:31-39 Rory Razon

*HYMN 413 **By Gracious Powers** BONHOEFFER

During the hymn children may leave for choir and care.

SERMON John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 188 **Give Me a Clean Heart** DOUROUX

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER Katherine A. Schofield

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

All: Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.

One: Let us pray. *The congregation 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.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

*In thanksgiving to God and giving witness to generous hearts,
our financial gifts support ministries of mercy and justice.*

OFFERTORY

Amazing Grace

Jay Rouse, *arr.*

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a sinful wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; I once was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and by His grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear, the very hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares we have by faith already come:
'Tis grace that brought us safe thus far, and grace will surely lead us home.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound!

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun!

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION AND PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

Nancy S. Taylor

SHARING THE MEAL

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 contains 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

Come, Thou Fount

Eric Nelson, *arr.*

Come, Thou fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise:
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
Praise thy mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of Thy redeeming love.

Here I raise mine Ebenezer; hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home:
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let Thy grace, Lord, like a fetter. Bind my wandering heart to Thee:
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 209

O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free

DEO GRACIAS

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Toccata on *Deo Gracias*

John Eggert



*Close-Up, a 20-minute tour of the Sanctuary, begins following
worship at the front of the Sanctuary. Led by docent Liz Morgan.*

Today's scripture reader, Rory Razon, sits on the Ordination Discernment Committee. He also recently served on the Minister of Music search committee.

The flowers today are given by **Steve Dutton**,
in loving memory of **Valerie Papillo**.

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Welcome! We are a progressive Christian church first gathered in 1669. The Church played a significant role in early American history. We continue to outfit ourselves for mission and ministry in the 21st century as a thriving urban church in the heart of Boston. Join us following worship for fellowship and refreshments in the Gordon Chapel.

Need to stretch your legs during worship? The Chapel has full audio of the service.

Name tags facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know. For LARGE print bulletins or hearing assistance devices ask an Usher.

HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES

Old South has installed a **Hearing Loop** in the Sanctuary, the latest technology in hearing assisted devices.

1. If you have a hearing aid: the loop works directly for those whose hearing aids have a "T-Coil."
2. If you are hard of hearing but don't use an aid: ask for one the devices that is aired with the loop.

The sound is best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles.

The loop does not work in the upper galleries.

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):

1. Park at the **Garage @ 100 Clarendon** (behind Back Bay Station), have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and **you** pay the discounted rate of \$7 for up to 3 hours. Old South bears no cost.

2. Park at the **Prudential Garage** for up to 5 hours on Saturday or Sunday, have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and the Prudential Garage will bill **Old South** (costing us \$15k - \$20k per year).

Notes on Today's Music

from MITCHELL CRAWFORD

As Lent begins, we have an opportunity to consider (alongside the well-known texts of *Amazing Grace* and *Come, Thou Fount*) a remarkable poem by **Thomas Merton** (1915-1968), an American Trappist monk considered among the most influential Catholic writers of the twentieth century. Merton's writings frequently explore the conflict between what he termed the "false self" — the superficial, inauthentic part of him — and the "true self" — the person Merton felt he was called to be. Through contemplation, Merton felt it was possible to access the "true" understanding of ourselves as intimately related to God.

All the Way Down is Merton's poetic account of the self-cleansing which marked the start of his own pilgrimage toward the "true self." Merton believed "the full maturity of the spiritual life cannot be reached unless we first pass through the dread, anguish, trouble and fear that necessarily accompany the inner crisis of 'spiritual death,' in which we finally abandon our attachment to our exterior self and surrender completely to Christ." Merton's description of the journey into his personal depths is necessarily intense, but bracing for its honesty and vivid imagery.

Merton's poem is set to music by composer **Adam Jacob Simon** (b. 1987), whose works have been performed by an array of local and national groups, including the Lorelei Ensemble, Conspirare, Seraphic Fire, WordSong Boston, Palaver Strings and the Oriana Consort. He was the winner of the 2010 St. Botolph Club Emerging Artist Award, facilitating the recording of his String Quartet #1 with the Mt. Auburn String Quartet. An accomplished singer, Simon currently serves as staff singer across the way at Trinity Church, Copley Square.

This morning in brief:

Welcome (back) to **Leslie Amper**, who accompanies the Festival Choir in their Anthems.

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 10	9:00 AM	FIRST Worship, <i>John M. Edgerton preaching</i>
	9:00 AM	Children's Choir
	9:45 AM	Old South Café in Gordon Chapel
	10:00 AM	HEALING Worship
	10:00 AM	Community Hour, <i>Lenten Study</i>
	10:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 AM	Lectionary Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Church School
	11:00 AM	FESTIVAL Worship, <i>John M. Edgerton preaching</i>
	11:15 AM	Children's Music
	12:15 PM	Fellowship Hour
	12:30 PM	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	1:30 PM	O.W.L.
	2:00 PM	Interfaith Summit: <i>Climate Change and Vulnerability</i>
Monday, March 11	9:00 AM	Treasurer's Meeting
	6:00 PM	Theological Book Group
	6:30 PM	LGBT/Queer Monday Meal, <i>State Park restaurant in Kendall Square</i>
	7:00 PM	Christian Service and Outreach
	7:30 PM	Spiritual Classics
Tuesday, March 12	11:00 AM	Caregivers Support Group
	5:30 PM	Membership Committee
	6:00 PM	Old South Ringers Rehearsal
	6:15 PM	Young Adult Book Group
	7:00 PM	Council

Wednesday, March 13	12:00 PM	Men's Lunch Hour
	6:15 PM	Young Adult Book Group
	6:30 PM	Young Adult Small Group
	7:00 PM	Music Committee
Thursday, March 14	12:00 PM	Women's Lunch Hour Small Group
	5:15 PM	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 PM	JAZZ Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i>
	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	"Through the Bible" Study
	7:00 PM	Young Adult Book Group
Sunday, March 17	8:00 PM	Women's Christianity and Civic Life Small Group
	9:00 AM	FIRST Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i>
	9:00 AM	Children's Choir
	9:45 AM	Old South Café in Gordon Chapel
	10:00 AM	Community Hour, <i>Lenten Study</i>
	10:00 AM	Climate Environmental Stewardship Group
	10:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 AM	Lectionary Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Church School
	11:00 AM	FESTIVAL Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i>
	11:15 AM	Children's Music
	12:00 PM	350th Committee
	12:15 PM	Fellowship Hour
	12:30 PM	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	12:30 PM	(G)race Speaks <i>Personal Story Workshop</i>
	12:30 PM	Sacred Music and the Bible
	12:30 PM	Climate Communications Group
12:30 PM	Climate Justice and Action	

OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON MINISTERS, OFFICERS, AND STAFF

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*
John M. Edgerton, *Associate Minister* ❖ Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim 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*
David Story, *Wedding Outreach Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*
Martha Schick, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader* ❖ Betsy Wooster, *Seminarian*
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 Bowler, *Administrative Assistant*
Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Oppong Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, *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.