



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

March 15, 2020

**Third Sunday
in Lent**

10:00 a.m.

*Warning! To enter into the life of this people of God's to encounter God's soul-challenging,
life-changing, radicalizing love. Will you join us? Do you dare?*

GATHER

PRELUDE Two Settings of "Our Father, Who in Heaven Above" BWV 682 & 683 - J S. Bach

WELCOME Shawn M. Fielder

HYMN **O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns** CHARTERHOUSE

**O Jesus Christ, may grateful hymns be rising,
in every city for your love and care;
Inspire our worship, grant the glad surprising
that your blessed Spirit rouses everywhere.**

**Grant us new courage, never proud, but humble,
strong in your strength to venture and to dare;
To lift the fallen, guide the ones who stumble,
seek out the lonely and God's mercy share.**

**Show us your Spirit, brooding o'er each city,
as you once wept above Jerusalem,
Seeking to gather all in love and pity,
and healing those who touch your garment's hem.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Let us bow before God, our Maker, with our confession.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(adapted from the Psalms)*

One: The sacrifice acceptable to God

Many: is a broken spirit.

One: a broken and contrite heart, O God, you will not despise.

Many: Praise to you, Jesus Christ our Savior,

One: for you do not call the righteous,

Many: but us sinners, to repentance.

One: Create in me a clean heart, O God,

Many: and renew a right spirit within me.

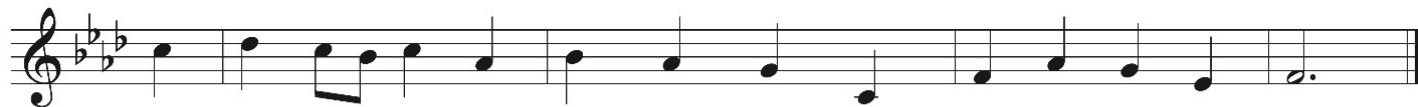
One: Let us pray.

SILENCE

SUNG RESPONSE



(choir) Re - store in us, O God, the splen - dor of your love;
Three - per - soned God, ful - fill the prom - ise of your grace,



re - new your im - age in our hearts, and all our sins re - move.
that we, when all our search - ing ends, may see you face to face.

Text: Carl P. Daw Jr., 1987
Tune: BAYLOR, Hal H. Hopson, 1985

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUNG AMEN!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Katherine A. Schofield

ANTHEM

Thixo Onothando

Traditional isiXhosa;
Michael Barrett, *arr.*

Thixo onothando, ndimi phambi kwakho
Thixo onothando, ndiph' uthando ndifakaze ngawe.

Hosanna phezulu, hosann' enyangweni
Thixo ndila nambla, hosanna.

God of love, I stand before you.
God of love, give me love so I may testify about you.

Hosanna above, Hosanna in the highest.
God, I am here today; Hosanna.

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

John 4:5-42

Pam Roberts

Pam Roberts is a visual artist. She has served in a variety of roles at Old South over the years. Pam met her husband, Scott McInturff, through Young Adults activities; they fell in love while performing in the TAOS production of "The Crucible". Their three children have grown up in the Old South family.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down your head upon my breast."
I came to Jesus as I was, so weary, worn, and sad;
I found him in a resting place, and he has made me glad.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "Behold, I freely give
the living water, thirsty one; stoop down and drink and live."
I came to Jesus, and I drank of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived, and now I live in him.

I heard the voice of Jesus say, "I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise, and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk till traveling days are done.

A WORD

Nancy S. Taylor

HYMN

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

MORECAMBE

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh.
Teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh.
Teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven-descended Dove,
my heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

RESPOND

CALL TO PRAYER (*adapted from Psalm 14*)

Katherine A. Schofield

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: May our prayer rise before God like incense.

Many: May the lifting of our hearts be like a morning sacrifice.

One: Let us pray.

PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer!
 Oh, what peace we often forfeit, oh, what needless pain we bear,
 all because we do not carry everything to God in prayer.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

tinyurl.com/osc-online-giving

OFFERTORY

I've Just Come from the Fountain

André J. Thomas, *arr.*

I've just come from the fountain, I've just come from the fountain, Lord.
 I've just come from the fountain, his name's so sweet!

Sisters, you love Jesus? *Yes, Lord, I do love my Jesus!*
 Sisters, you love Jesus? His name's so sweet.

I've just come from the fountain...

Brothers, you love Jesus? *Yes, Lord, I do love my Jesus!*
 Brothers, you love Jesus? His name's so sweet.

Been drinking, my Lord! I've been drinking from the fountain.
 His name's so sweet!

I've just come from the fountain...

Backslider, do you know Him?
 Do you know that man from Galilee?
 The Prince of Peace, the Rose of Sharon!
 Mighty counselor! King Jesus!

Been drinking, my Lord! I've been drinking from the fountain.
 His name's so sweet!

I've just come from the fountain...
 His name's so sweet! Oh Lord, my Lord!

DOXOLOGY

**Praise God, whose many names abound.
 Our Judge, our Rock, our Holy Ground.
 Our Home, our All, earth's Majesty.
 Love, Spirit, Light and Mystery. Amen.**

OLD HUNDREDTH

—*Nancy S. Taylor*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Shawn M. Fiedler

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.

Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
From everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.

A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while troubles last, and our eternal home!

BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE



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



WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

During this difficult time we invite you to continue worshipping with us online. We have instituted a Blue Ribbon Panel of members, including doctors, who are monitoring the situation and will decide when normal scheduling can resume.

Remember to wash your hands, practice social distancing, and follow CDC and local public health advisories. We wish you all a healthy spring and hope to see you in person when the situation allows for it.

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*
Phil Stern, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer*
Randy Billings, *Chair, Board of Trustees*
Susan Navia & Ruben Bonilla Santiago, *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.

OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON **350**
Still making history