



## Old South Church

*Copley Square, Boston*

*A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ*

*Gathered 1669*

March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

**Fourth Sunday  
in Lent**

10:00 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

Prelude *De Profundis*

Herbert Howells

WELCOME

Katherine A. Schofield

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Holy and Living God, we thank you for bringing us to this day.  
In our worship, show us who we are: channels of your love,  
and vessels of your mercy; through Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN

**For the Healing of the Nations**

WESTMINSTER ABBEY

**For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;  
for a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;  
to a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word.**

**Lead us forward into freedom; from despair your world release,  
that, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.  
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.**

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

AMEN!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Nancy S. Taylor

## ATTEND

SCRIPTURE John 9. 1-11

Aislin Kate Anderson

Aislin Kate Anderson, who was baptized into this church in July of 2018, comes to Old South Church from a Unitarian Universalist church in Oak Ridge, Tennessee. With a degree in vocal performance and theatre, Aislin has sung with our Festival Choir and our Gospel Choir for over a year. She also began singing with the First Worship choir in September of 2019. By day Aislin is Office Manager and Executive Assistant to the CEO of a commercial real estate firm. She enjoys playing social volleyball and flag football. She lives in South Boston with her plants Zeze and Al.

ANTHEM

Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)

Chris Tomlin  
Russell Mauldin, *arr.*

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a child like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.

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

*My chains are gone, I've been set free: my God, my Savior has ransomed me.  
And like a flood his mercy rains: unending love, amazing grace.*

The Lord has promised good to me; his word my hope secures.  
He will my shield and portion be as long as life endures. (*refrain*)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow; the sun forbear to shine.  
But God, who called me here below will be forever mine.

You are forever mine.

HYMN

There Is a Balm

*There is a balm in Gilead to make the wounded whole;  
there is a balm in Gilead to heal the sin-sick soul.*

Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,  
but then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. *(refrain)*

Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,  
and if you lack for knowledge, he'll not refuse to lend. *(refrain)*

**RESPOND**

CALL TO PRAYER *(adapted from Psalm 14)*

Shawn M. Fiedler

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.**

PRAYER RESPONSE

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CONVERSE

**Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?  
We should never be discouraged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
Can we find a friend so faithful who will all our sorrows share?  
Jesus knows our every weakness; take it to the Lord in prayer!**

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Amo Ngoepe

[tinyurl.com/osc-online-giving](http://tinyurl.com/osc-online-giving)

OFFERTORY

Come Ye Sinners

David Ashley White, *arr.*

Come ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;  
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and pow'r.

*I will arise and go to Jesus, He will embrace me in His arms;  
In the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

Come ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;  
If you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all. *(refrain)*

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;  
All the fitness He requires is to feel your need of him. *(refrain)*

DOXOLOGY

OLD HUNDRETH

**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.**  
—*Nancy S. Taylor*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Shawn M. Fiedler

HYMN

**O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

ST. ANNE

**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

*Marche, Op. 122, No. 4*

Louis-J.-A. Lefébure-Wély



**WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH**

During this difficult time we invite you to continue worshiping 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](http://www.oldsouth.org/calendar) for a calendar of events, and the general website [www.oldsouth.org](http://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*  
Reuben Bonilla-Santiago & Susan Navia, *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*  
Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Assistant Church Administrator* ❖ Allison Albaugh, *Wedding Coordinator* ❖ Emily Ross, *Archivist*  
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*