

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

Many: and renew a right spirit within me.

One: Therefore, let us be kind to one another, and tenderhearted,

Many: forgiving one another, as God in Christ forgives us.

One: O God, draw us away from the easy path
that would lead to our destruction.

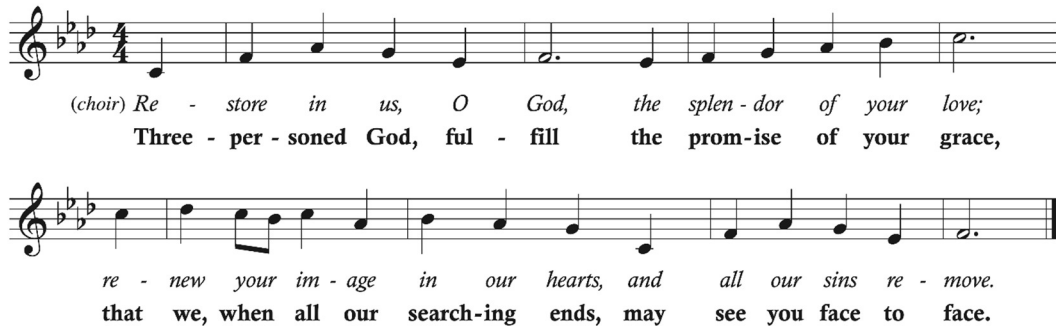
**Many: Call us instead to seek your kingdom,
to strive for what is right, and to lay up our treasure in heaven.**

One: Let us, in silence, lay before God those things for which we are truly
sorry, and for which we heartily ask God's forgiveness.

Many: 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

*A SIGN OF OUR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Spirit of the Living God

Audrey Assad
Joseph M. Martin, *arr.*

O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine,
descend upon thy church once more, and make it truly thine.
Fill it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace;
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow until our minds are free
from mists of error, clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee.

Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal,
to preach to all thy great good news, God's glorious commonweal.

So shall we know the power of Christ who came this world to save;
so shall we rise with him to life which soars beyond the grave;
and earth shall win true holiness, which makes thy children whole;
till, perfected by thee, we reach creation's glorious goal. Amen.

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

John 3:1-17

Connor Vigeant

Connor Vigeant is a Choral Fellow with the Festival Choir and a member of Old South Church. He became involved in the music ministry at Old South during his time as a student at Boston Conservatory. When not singing, Connor works as a special education preschool para-educator in the Nashua School District.

*HYMN 316

We Limit Not the Truth of God
During the hymn children are invited to leave for care.

OLD 22nd

SERMON

Katherine A. Schofield

*HYMN 292

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

TRENTHAM

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER (*adapted from Psalm 14*)

Ken Orth

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. *You 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.

CHORAL RESPONSE O Carpenter, Why Leave the Bench

LEWIS-TOWN

(*adapted from William Billings*)

O carpenter, why leave the bench where wood yields to your art,
and take instead, to try your skill, the stony human heart?

O carpenter, why leave repairs with wood and clamp and glue,
and rise from death to seek instead to make the whole world new?

O carpenter, who else could do the work that you have done?
What can we do but sing your praise, O Savior, Mary's son!

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

Witness

Jack Halloran, *arr.*

Who'll be a witness for my Lord?

Oh, I'll be a witness for my Lord.

There was a man of the Pharisees, his name was Nicodemus and he didn't believe.
The same came to Christ by night, wanted to be taught out of human sight.
Nicodemus was a man who desired to know how a man can be born when he's old.
Christ told Nicodemus as a friend, "Man, you must be born again."
He said, "Marvel not, man, if you want to be wise, repent, believe, and be baptized."

Then you'll be a witness for my Lord...

You read about Samson, from his birth
he was the strongest man that ever lived on earth.
Way back yonder in ancient times he killed ten thousand of the Philistines.
Then old Samson went a-wand'rin' about. Samson's strength was never found out.
'Til his wife sat upon his knee.
She said, "Tell me where your strength lies, if you please!"
Well old Samson's wife, she talk so fair Samson said, "Cut off a-my hair!
Shave my head just as clean as your hand,
and my strength will 'come like a natural man."

Samson was a witness for my Lord...

There's another witness for my Lord!
My soul is a witness for my Lord!

*DOXOLOGY

DEO GRACIAS

**All glory to our Lord and God,
for love so deep, so high, so broad:
the Trinity whom we adore
forever and forevermore.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Nancy S. Taylor

*HYMN 534

O God of Strength

WELWYN

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Katherine A. Schofield

POSTLUDE

II. *Sostenuto e Legato*
from the Organ Sonata in D Major, Op. 65, No. 6

Mendelssohn



Members of the Congregational Care and Support Team will be available for individual prayer under the pulpit-side balcony following worship.

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 Stephanie LaShoto-Westfield.

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



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). For more information check out <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

Notes on Today's Music

from MITCHELL CRAWFORD

American singer, composer, and conductor **Jack Halloran** was born in Iowa in 1916 and earned degrees from Morningside College (Sioux City, Iowa) and Northwestern University. Despite this distinctly Midwestern pedigree, Halloran came to be associated with the West Coast, and specifically, Southern California. Following his relocation to Hollywood on the heels of a successful stint in Chicago, Halloran became involved with a host of notable mid-century television shows and films, working alongside the likes of Roy Rogers, Pat Boone, Ray Charles, and Frank Sinatra. However, it was as choral director and arranger for *The Dean Martin Show* that Halloran became most widely known. His arrangement of *Witness* dates from 1986, and was an immediate hit: within months had sold over 30,000 copies. It remains a favorite, having earned a place within both church and concert settings.

One of Contemporary Christian Music's rising stars, **Audrey Assad** spent her early years in New Jersey, the daughter of an American mother and Arab-American father of Syrian descent. Relocating to Florida when she was 18, Assad briefly attended college before turning her focus to her nascent singing career. She recorded a well-received demo in 2003, but it was only after her move to Nashville in 2008 that things began to take off. Her major break came following the release of her first album, when Assad was signed by Sparrow Records; in the years since, she has worked and toured with a number of chart-topping Christian Contemporary artists and bands, including Chris Tomlin, Matt Maher, Tenth Avenue North, and Jars of Clay. *Spirit of the Living God* was released on the 2013 album *Fortunate Fall*, and is heard today in an arrangement for choir by American composer and arranger Joseph Martin.

**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.