

August 11th, 2019
Ninth Sunday
After Pentecost

*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 Partita on *Christ Ist Erstanden* Richard Purvis
III. Capriccio
- *HYMN 386 **The Church's One Foundation** AURELIA
- *CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 33, adapted* Nancy S. Taylor
- One: Happy are those whose God is the LORD, the people whom God has chosen as a heritage.
- All: The LORD looks down from heaven and sees all humankind.**
- One: A king is not saved by a great army; a warrior is not delivered by great strength.
- All: Truly the eye of the LORD is on those who fear God, on those who hope in God's steadfast love.**
- One: Our souls wait for the LORD; who is our help and shield. Our hearts are glad because we trust in God's holy name.
- All: Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us, even as we hope in you.**

* Indicates all who are able may stand

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE God Calls His People REID/Calvin Hampton

God calls all people firm to stand; God's work with us is shared.
To follow Christ with open mind let Christians be prepared.

We know the one who ventures much will master earthly strife;
the one who gives and spends himself will gain a servant life.

God calls, and God provides the grace to undergird our will;
it gives us confidence that God can good create from ill.

Beyond divisions made by us Christ shows the visions clear
of lasting kingdom work and rule in every field and sphere.

God calls, and powers that break and part are void, and all are one.
God's love unites us, we confess, together with God's Son.

RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY A Gaelic Blessing John Rutter

Deep peace of the running wave to you.
Deep peace of the flowing air to you.
Deep peace of the quiet earth to you.
Deep peace of the shining stars to you.
Deep peace of the gentle night to you.
Moon and stars pour the healing light on you.
Deep peace of Christ, of Christ the light of the world to you.
Deep peace of Christ to you.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION Nancy S. Taylor

SERVICE OF GODSPEED

GREETING

Nancy S. Taylor and Katherine A. Schofield

THANKSGIVING AND VOWS OF RELEASE

Deb Washington

Moderator: John, seven years ago you arrived at Old South and began to minister with and among us. Thank you and bless you for the gift that you have been to the Old South Church.

John: I thank Old South Church in Boston, its members and friends, for the love, kindness and support shown me these past seven years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all I have learned here.

People: We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

John: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

Moderator: Do you, the members and friends of Old South, release John Edgerton from the duties of Associate Minister?

People: We do, with the help of God.

Moderator: John, do you release this local church from depending on you and turning to you?

John: I do, with the help of God.

Moderator: Do you offer encouragement for the continued ministry here and on the relationship with another who will come to serve?

John: I do, with the help of God.

WITNESS OF THE ASSOCIATION

Steve Paxhia

Steve: On behalf of the Metropolitan Boston Association, the Southern New England conference, and the entire United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. The member churches of our association and conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge support in the transitions signified in this service

People: Thanks be to God!

PRAYER

Nancy S. Taylor

*HYMN 459

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Partita on *Christ Ist Erstanden*
V. Toccata

Purvis



Today's Worship Leaders:

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*

John M. Edgerton, *Associate Minister*

Jan Monsma, *Thirty-Seven Year Member of Old South Church*

Steve Paxhia, *Chair, Metropolitan Boston Association Committee on Ministry*

George Sargeant, *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*

Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister*

Deb Washington, *Old South Church Moderator*

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

Today's flowers are given in loving memory of **Charlotte Holmes** by the **Mount Vernon Church.**

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, staff, and other information about this storied ship of faith!

CCLI License #2802138

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.