



WORDS OF WELCOME

Nancy S. Taylor

ANTHEM

There Is a Balm in Gilead Nolan Williams, Jr. *arr.*

*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*)

## ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:10-17

Amo Ngoepe

\*HYMN 179

**We Yearn, O Christ, For Wholeness** PASSION CHORALE

*During the hymn children are invited to leave for care.*

SERMON

The Rev. Dr. Anna Carter Florence  
*Anna Carter Florence is the Peter Marshall Professor of Preaching at Columbia Theological Seminary in Decatur, Georgia, where her research focuses on testimony, preaching pedagogies, and creative strategies for communities to engage and encounter the biblical text for our present context. An ordained minister in the Presbyterian Church (USA), Dr. Florence served as an associate pastor for youth and young adults at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis before joining the Columbia faculty. She and her husband have two grown sons, two dogs, two cats, and way too much knitting yarn.*

\*HYMN 13

**O My Soul, Bless Your Creator**

STUTTGART

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Katherine A. Schofield

One: God be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

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

**Many: Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.**

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.**

RESPONSE            I Love the Lord, Who Heard My Cry            Richard Smallwood

I love the Lord, who heard my cry and pitied every groan.  
Long as I live and troubles rise, I'll hasten to God's throne.

I love the Lord, who heard my cry and chased my grief away.  
O let my heart no more despair while I have breath to pray.

**RESPOND**

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY                            The Solid Rock                            Camp Kirkland, *arr.*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;  
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;  
all other ground is sinking sand;  
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;  
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. (*refrain*)

His oath, his covenant, his love support me in the whelming flood;  
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay. (*refrain*)

When Christ shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,  
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne. (*refrain*)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Nancy S. Taylor

\*HYMN 538                    **Standing at the Future's Threshold**                    LUX EOI  
\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION                    Anna Carter Florence  
POSTLUDE                    Allegro, Op. 134, No. 6                    Gustav Merkel



**TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

**Nancy S. Taylor**, *Senior Minister*  
**Anna Carter Florence**, *Guest Preacher*  
**Mitchell Crawford**, *Minister of Music*  
**Amo Ngoepe**, *Urban Pastoral Ministry Program Resident*  
**George Sargeant**, *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*  
**Katherine A. Schofield**, *Interim Associate Minister*

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

**New here?** Join a few Old Southerners at **The Welcome Hub**  
by the piano immediately following the Postlude.

The flowers today are given in celebration of the day two years ago (Aug 26)  
when we were married at Old South by **Anthony Livolsi**.  
To love and all its lessons for all the years to come!  
by **Erin & Chris Lucca**

## MUSIC AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

*Our music ministry provides many ways to explore faith and connect more deeply to the life of the church. Whether you sing, ring, or simply have an appreciation for the arts, there is a place for you among Old South's ensembles:*

### **FESTIVAL CHOIR** *(resumes September 5<sup>th</sup>)*

*Rehearse: Thursdays, 6:30 to 8PM; Sundays, 10 to 10:45AM*

For those able to commit to regular rehearsal attendance, Festival Choir offers unparalleled opportunities to explore and perform a dazzling array of choral literature at a high level. A dedicated group of volunteer singers supported by Old South's professional Choral Fellows, we present music each week at Festival Worship from September through June. *Contact Mitchell Cranford ([mitchell@oldsouth.org](mailto:mitchell@oldsouth.org)) for more information.*

### **THE OLD SOUTH CHURCH GOSPEL CHOIR** *(resumes September 15<sup>th</sup>)*

*Rehearse: once monthly — see below*

Gospel Choir provides a joyful ministry, singing once per month at Old South's Thursday night Jazz Worship services. Our first rehearsal this fall is Sunday, September 15<sup>th</sup> (12:30-2:00 PM in Mary Norton Hall), and our first performance will be Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> (6:00 PM in Gordon Chapel, with a 5:15 PM warmup in the Sanctuary for any who can arrive that early). Please join us! All are welcome! *For our complete rehearsal schedule contact Gospel Choir director Tim Harbold, ([tim@oldsouth.org](mailto:tim@oldsouth.org)).*

### **CHILDREN'S MUSIC & CHOIR** *(resumes September 8<sup>th</sup>)*

*Rehearse: Sundays, 9AM (Children's Choir) and 11AM (Children's Music)*

These fun and engaging ensembles offer the perfect opportunity for children (ages 5 and up) to explore the variety of ways we praise God through music. Both ensembles combine to sing in Worship Services at 9AM and 11AM several times a year, as well as presenting a Christmas Pageant in December. *Contact Amy Budka ([childrenschoir@oldsouth.org](mailto:childrenschoir@oldsouth.org)) for more information.*

### **OLD SOUTH RINGERS** *(resumes September 3<sup>rd</sup>)*

*Rehearse: Tuesdays, 6:00 to 7:30 PM*

Under the direction of Peter Coulombe and utilizing Old South's substantial collection of handbells and chimes, we perform during Festival Worship Service once a month from September through June, as well as for special events — including Christmas and Spring Concerts. All skill levels welcome! *Contact Peter Coulombe ([handbells@oldsouth.org](mailto:handbells@oldsouth.org)) for more information.*

### **FIRST SINGERS**

*Rehearse: Sundays, 8:30 to 8:55AM*

This ensemble of First Worshipers and those who appreciate great music but may be unable to commit to weekly rehearsals presents music at First Worship each week. If singing makes your heart soar, you are warmly invited to join us — no experience necessary! *Contact Mitchell Cranford ([mitchell@oldsouth.org](mailto:mitchell@oldsouth.org)) for more information.*

## **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](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, staff, and other information about this storied ship of faith!

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#### **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.