



## Old South Church

*Copley Square, Boston*

*A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ*

*Gathered 1669*

September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019  
**Fourteenth Sunday  
after Pentecost**

Today, in our church's 350th year, we launch in earnest a formal partnership between two long-time neighbors who share this block: Snowden International High School (corner of Newbury & Dartmouth) and Old South Church (corner of Boylston & Dartmouth). The Snowden-Old South Partnership urges Old Southerners to be good neighbors to this urban school whose headmaster, administrators, and teachers face stiff winds in their determination to provide an excellent education and a tool box of life-skills to over 500 high schoolers.

## **GATHER**

*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?*

PRELUDE

Invocation

Isadore Freed

\*HYMN 495

**Called As Partners in Christ's Service**

BEECHER

*\* Indicates all who are able may stand*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *by Craig Mitchell*

Amo Ngoepe

One: To see the life that teems around us,  
**Many: To give thanks for the gift we have received;**  
One: To notice the beauty and promise of fall,  
**Many: To breathe deeply of the season;**  
One: To accept the gift of love, and to love in return:  
**Many: This is to worship God.**  
One: Let this sanctuary and this time be a thin place:  
**Many: Where earth and heaven embrace,  
Where past interweaves with future,  
Where people gather expectantly.**  
One: Let this sanctuary and this time be a thin place:  
**Many: Where hopes are renewed,  
Where faith is restored,  
Where peace is revived,  
Where love is refreshed.**  
One: Let this be a thin place, and this a thin time:  
**Many: Where fresh words are heard,  
Deep wisdom revealed,  
Daring promises proclaimed,  
Where the God who shaped us,  
The Christ who remakes us,  
The Spirit who inspires us,  
Walk among us,  
Full of grace and truth.**

\*A SIGN OF OUR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

WORDS OF WELCOME

Katherine A. Schofield

ANTHEM

It Takes a Village  
James Giessler, *tenor*

Joan Szymko

It takes a whole village to raise our children,  
It takes a whole village to raise one child.  
We all — everyone — must share the burden.  
We all — everyone — will share the joy.

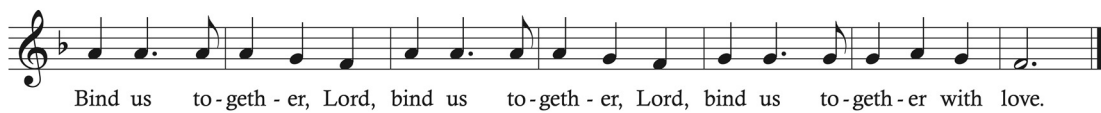
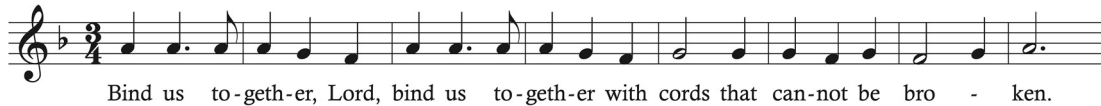


PRAYER RESPONSE

**Bind Us Together**

Bob Gillman

**Refrain:** *choir and congregation*



*Choir:*

You are the family of God, you are the promise divine.  
You are God's chosen desire, you are the glorious new wine. *refrain*

**RESPOND**

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ralph Watson

OFFERTORY

Beautiful City from *Godspell*  
Connor Vigeant, *tenor*

Mac Huff, *arr.*

Out of the ruins and rubble, out of the smoke,  
out of our night of struggle can we see a ray of hope?  
One pale thin ray, reaching for the day.

*We can build a beautiful city,  
Yes, we can — yes, we can.  
We can build a beautiful city,  
not a city of angels but we can build a city of man.*

We may not reach the ending, but we can start  
slowly but truly mending, brick by brick, heart by heart.  
Now, maybe now, we start learning how. *refrain*

When your trust is all but shattered, when your faith is all but gone,  
you can give up, bitter and battered, or you can slowly start to build... *refrain*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION		Shawn M. Fiedler
*HYMN 539	<b>Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant</b>	SERVANT SONG
*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION		Nancy S. Taylor
POSTLUDE	Tuba Tune	C. S. Lang



**TODAY'S WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS:**

**Eugene Roundtree**, *Headmaster, Snowden International High School*  
**Elvis Rodriguez**, *Snowden International High School, student*  
**Ralph Watson**, *Snowden Partnership Volunteer Coordinator*  
**Nicki Black & Miranda McInturff**, *Processional Banner Bearers*

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

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 **Dick Yeo.***

The flowers today are given by **John and Robin Briggs**  
 in celebration of their 19<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary,  
 for the joy that their daughters, **Allie and Molly**, bring to their lives,  
 and in gratitude for their membership at Old South 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](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, support staff, and other information about this storied ship of faith!

CCLI #2802138

## **HOSPITALITY HELP NEEDED**

Old South needs 25 people each week to extend a warm, inclusive, open door welcome. We hear again and again from visitors and new members alike how the hospitality at Old South made such a difference for them.

Hospitality volunteers also say they get great satisfaction from providing gifts from a smile to a cupcake. Take a chance and volunteer—you can meet people from all over the world or make new friends right here in Boston. Volunteering allows you to get to know our large congregation better and make visitors feel at home.

### **USHERS**

Greet members and visitors, help folks find a seat,  
collect offering, wish people well as they exit.

### **WELCOMERS**

Are the happy faces that greet visitors to Festival Worship.  
Bring your best smile and brighten someone's day  
before the service in the Narthex  
and after the service in the Gordon Chapel.

### **BADGE BOARD HOST**

Name badges let our members, friends, and visitors get to know each other.  
Badge Board Hosts encourage people to wear their badges as they go into worship.

### **FESTIVAL WORSHIP FELLOWSHIP HOUR HOSTS**

There are two ways to serve as a host:  
Six people are needed each week to put on their baking hat  
or stop by their favorite bakery to provide baked goods or other snacks.  
Two people are needed each week to host the tables at Fellowship Hour.

To help fulfill this need go to [www.tinyurl.com\OSCFall2019](http://www.tinyurl.com\OSCFall2019) or stop by the front desk for a paper copy of the form today. You won't regret it!

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON  
MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & PROGRAM STAFF**

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*  
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister* ❖ Shawn M. Fiedler, *Acting Associate Minister*  
James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus*  
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, *Assistant Minister for Urban Life*  
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* ❖ Evan Shu, *Historian*  
Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, *Senior Deacons* ❖ Vicki Newman, *Pledge Secretary*

**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.



## UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

### BRING-A-FRIEND TO WORSHIP

*Thursday, September 19th and Sunday, September 22nd*

Do you know someone who loves music? Someone who could use a peaceful break in the day? Do you have a friend who is struggling? Or one who wants to get involved in the city? Invite them to church! Studies show that a friend's invitation is the #1 reason new people get engaged in church.

### HYMN WORKSHOP & FESTIVAL

*Workshop on Saturday, Oct. 5th at 10 a.m., Festival Worship on Sunday, Oct. 6th*

On October 6th — World Communion Sunday — Old South welcomes Brian Hehn, Director of The Center for Congregational Song, to lead Ancient-Modern: a Hymn Festival celebrating our musical inheritance alongside new songs that reflect the breadth and depth of the global church. Brian will demonstrate music to be presented at the Festival during a workshop open to the public on Saturday, October 5th at 10 a.m. in the Sanctuary. Please join us!

## NEW 10AM COMMUNITY HOUR SERIES

FROM COMMANDMENT TO ACTION: LOVE OF NEIGHBOR, FAMILY, SELF

**9/15 Partnering with our Neighbors for a Brighter Future** – In our 350th Anniversary year we are strengthening our partnership with our nearest neighbors, the Snowden International School. Our faith calls us to work for increased educational access for all, starting in our own back yard. Discuss the challenges and opportunities of the education system for local youth and learn how to get involved in our partnership with Snowden.

**9/22 Fostering Families of Love and Support** – Love makes a family. At Old South we celebrate the beautiful diversity of what family can be. Come learn more about the foster care system in Massachusetts and the work of organizations like Silver Lining Mentoring (one of our grant recipients) who empower youth in foster care to thrive through committed mentoring relationships and the development of essential life skills.

**9/29 Health, Wellness and Community Care** – Faith, health and wellness are deeply entwined, and ensuring access to quality, affordable health and mental health care is a social justice imperative. Join us for a discussion on the intersections of faith and health, and learn more about GBIO's latest efforts to address our society's biggest healthcare challenges.

# COMMUNITY LIFE

## REGISTER NOW FOR THE ALL-CHURCH RETREAT

*October 4-6th at Craigville Retreat Center on Cape Cod*

Our 2019 retreat facilitator will be Rev. Rebecca Anderson, founder of Earshot storytelling, and co-pastor at Gilead Chicago, a new church built around storytelling. Rebecca has lead retreats all over the country including the Wild Goose Festival, General Synod (UCC), and General Assembly (Disciples of Christ). She will lead us as we explore bible stories, and craft our own stories. Expect fun and engaging programming for all ages. Register at [oldsouth.org/all-church-retreat](http://oldsouth.org/all-church-retreat) or at the Front Desk. Kids are free!

## CONNECTIONS LUNCH & COFFEE

*Lunch: Sunday, September 29th at 12:30 p.m.; Coffee: Saturday, October 5th at 10 a.m.*

Want to know more about getting involved at Old South? Curious about church membership? Ready to put your name in the books alongside Phillis Wheatley, Sam Adams and Deb Washington? Come to Connections Lunch on Sept. 29th or Connections Coffee on Oct. 5th! RSVP to [Katherine@oldsouth.org](mailto:Katherine@oldsouth.org).

## THEOLOGICAL BOOK GROUP

The Theological Book Group begins its Fall season on Monday, September 23rd, with Serene Jones' book, "Call it Grace: Finding Meaning in a Fractured World." Part memoir and part theological reflection, she writes an accessible and thought provoking book. Interested? Sign up at the Front Desk (Book \$16,) or email Don Wells ([granwell@comcast.net](mailto:granwell@comcast.net)). Limited to 22 participants.

## SMALL GROUP SIGN UP

Do you seek to be in community at Old South, cultivate spiritual friendships, and grow in your faith? Consider joining a Small Group! We are currently forming groups for the fall season (September through November). Participants gather weekly at church or off-site to discuss a topic of their choosing. Fill out the interest form at [oldsouth.org/seasonal-small-groups](http://oldsouth.org/seasonal-small-groups)

## HOSPITALITY SIGN UP

It's time to sign up to participate in Old South's warm, inclusive, open door welcome for October, November and December. Whether you'd like to usher, welcome, or bring and serve food, we need your help! Sign up at [tinyurl.com/OSCFall2019](http://tinyurl.com/OSCFall2019)

# OLD SOUTH CHURCH GOSPEL CHOIR

*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 15th (12:30-2:00 PM in Mary Norton Hall), and our first performance will be Thursday, September 19th (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)).

## JUSTICE & ACTION

### ABC'S OF RACISM: TALKING TO KIDS ABOUT RACISM

*Saturday, October 12th from 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. at Old South*

Join the acclaimed, Black-women-led social justice project Wee The People as it brings its most popular workshop for educators and parent groups to Old South. This interactive workshop will explore the barriers that prevent adults from talking about race and racism with kids; examine the social science of race awareness in children; and identify and practice strategies to begin the conversation with kids about the complexities of race and racism. **Old Southerners get in free with code GRACESPEAKS.** Register at [www.bit.ly/33BkepG](http://www.bit.ly/33BkepG).

### SAVE THE DATE: BUILD-A-BED ON NOV. 2<sup>ND</sup>

*Saturday, November 2nd, 8:30 a.m. - 1 p.m. in Mary Norton Hall*

The Faith in Action Task Force is excited to announce a new Urban Mission Ministry project in partnership with the Massachusetts Coalition for the Homeless. On Nov. 2nd, we'll build 20 twin beds and provide for complete bedding for children living in poverty in Boston. This is an ideal program for children (as young as 5 years) and adults. To register, visit [oldsouth.org/urban-mission-ministry](http://oldsouth.org/urban-mission-ministry), and email Richard Spada at [richardspada@comcast.net](mailto:richardspada@comcast.net) with questions.

## FAMILY SOUP KITCHEN

*Sunday, September 29th at 10 a.m.*

We're looking for 4-5 families to help prepare soup, sandwiches, and bags of goodies for our unhoused neighbors, then take it outside to pass it out. This is a limited-space opportunity, so RSVPs must be solid. Contact Kate Nintcheu at [children@oldsouth.org](mailto:children@oldsouth.org) to reserve your family's spot!

# CLIMATE CHANGE ACTION

## GLOBAL CLIMATE STRIKE

*Sept. 20th, 9 a.m. at Boston City Hall Plaza, main rally 11:30 a.m.; tabling outside OSC 1-3 p.m.*

On September 20th, millions of people will strike around the world to demand action on the climate crisis. Join thousands in Boston at City Hall Plaza to kick off a week of climate action! This event is youth led, and inspired by the Fridays for our Future weekly strikes organized by teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg. Email Neil at [nmiller45@gmail.com](mailto:nmiller45@gmail.com) for more info.

## CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS AND FLOODING

### PARIS TO PITTSBURGH DOCUMENTARY & PRESENTATION

*Sunday, September 22nd - 12:30pm in Mary Norton Hall*

From coastal cities to America's heartland, *Paris to Pittsburgh* celebrates how Americans are demanding and developing real solutions in the face of climate change. Join us to view the segments "New Jersey," "Pittsburgh" and "Call for Climate Action". Each will look at how climate change is resulting in sea level rise and flooding. Following the film screening and discussion, OSC's Brad Swing (Director of Energy Policy and Programs for the City of Boston) will share Boston's climate-ready vision to prepare for sea level rise.

## GREENTIP: WALK, BIKE, OR TAKE PUBLIC TRANSPORT

*Brought to you by the Climate Change Task Force*

Driving around town uses a lot of gas. Gas is a fossil fuel and one of the main contributors to climate change. You can help with that by walking or biking short distances instead of driving. Rethink your commute this week! Can you walk or bike to the store? To school? To the library? Find a place you can walk or bike instead of driving. Get the whole family on board and plan a day without vehicle travel. Of course, taking public transportation or carpooling is another way to cut back on emissions. Try to incorporate those into your weekly routine too. To take on this Climate Commitment and learn more visit: [homeguides.sfgate.com/pros-environment-riding-bikes-79378.html](http://homeguides.sfgate.com/pros-environment-riding-bikes-79378.html)

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NOTICES 1) Worship services and events at Old South Church are sometimes photographed and videotaped to document the vibrant life of our church. If you do not wish to be included in these recordings, please notify an usher. 2) Please do not leave bags unattended in the building, including in the Sanctuary, for any length of time.

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