



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING & GODSPEED

May 22nd, 2022
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

Fanfare for the 350th Anniversary
of Old South Church *in* Boston

*HYMN 70

God Is Here

ABBOT'S LEIGH

*Today's processional banner bearers are Tom Grant and Quinn Grant;
Bearing the paten, tankard, and chalice are co-senior Deacons Susan Navia and Paul Brouliette;
Bearing the great Pulpit Bible (1716) is Don Taylor, Nancy's brother;
Bearing the baptismal waters are three generations of the Maliel family.*

* *Indicates all who are able may stand*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

The Reverend Shawn M. Fiedler,
Acting Associate Minister

One: In the beginning — before time, before people, before the world began,

Many: God was.

One: Here and now, among us, beside us,
enlisting the people of earth for the purposes of heaven,

Many: God is.

One: In the future, when we have turned to dust,
and all we know has found its fulfillment,

Many: God will be.

One: Not denying the world...

Many: but delighting in it;

One: Not condemning the world...

**Many: but redeeming it through Jesus Christ:
God was and is and ever will be.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

WELCOME

ANTHEM

When in Our Music God Is Glorified
THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS
Peter Coulombe, *director*

Kevin McChesney, *arr.*

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Ephesians 4. 11-12

Dr. Deb Washington,
Past Moderator

The gifts that Jesus gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up of the body of Christ, until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ.

*HYMN 17

To You, O God, All Creatures Sing

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*During the hymn, children who wish to may meet childcare staff
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SERMON

Pleasures Peculiar The Reverend Dr. Nancy S Taylor,
20th Senior Minister

Today's sermon is based on *The Pleasures Peculiar to the Ministerial Life Pointed Out*, an ordination sermon preached in 1768 by the Reverend Amos Adams. The sermon, owned by Old South Church, is held with our other ancient materials in the Department of Rare Books and Manuscripts at the Boston Public Library.

*HYMN 173

**You Have Come Down
to the Lakeshore**

PESCADOR DE HOMBRES

*CALL TO PRAYER

The Reverend June R. Cooper,
Theologian in the City

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. *Please be seated.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Creator, 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 *Ave Maria from Quattro Pezzi Sacri* (1898)

Giuseppe Verdi

In Memoriam: Rev. Canon Peter George Southwell-Sander.

*Ave Maria, gratia plena, Dominus tecum;
benedicta tu in mulieribus,
et benedictus fructus ventris tui, Jesus.
Sancta Maria, Mater Dei,
ora pro nobis peccatoribus,
nunc et in hora mortis nostrae.
Amen.*

RESPOND

SERVICE OF THANKSGIVING & GODSPEED

Phillip B. Stern,
Church Moderator

The Reverend Alex Shea Will,
Area Conference Minister for the Northeast Region, Southern New England Conference, UCC

Phil: Across 352 years, Old South Church has been in a near constant state of change and evolution. Love, marriage, birth, death, membership, retirement and relocation are forever altering us, forming and transforming us. From Benjamin Franklin to Evan Shu, from Phillis Wheatley to Harry Huff, from Jim Crawford to Nancy Taylor, we are an evolving, adapting, organic community of Christ's people. Today, in another act of evolution, we both celebrate and bring to a close the pastoral bonds between our 20th Senior Minister and this congregation.

Alex: It is good and right to mark and honor this ending which also, and necessarily, heralds new beginnings, both for Old South Church and for Nancy.

Phil: On October 3, 2004, Old South Church in Boston called the Reverend Dr. Nancy S. Taylor to serve as our senior minister and chief executive officer. The years intervening have been an eventful season in the life of Old South, of this city, and indeed, of the world.

Nancy: *I thank Old South Church in Boston — all of you, and the many who preceded you, who have marked and changed us; who have marked and changed me; whose love for God and the church has been the center of our work. Thank you for the kindness and support shown to me these many years. You have cheered me on and buoyed me. As I retire, I carry with me all that I have learned here and all that I have felt here.*

Many: We receive your thankfulness and we thank you for your leadership and for your time among us. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness — and on Old South Church in Boston — does not leave us with your retirement.

Nancy: *I accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.*

**VOWS OF RELEASE Please rise as you are able in body or in spirit*

Alex: Do you, the members and friends of Old South Church in Boston release Nancy Taylor from the duties of Senior Minister and CEO?

Many: We do, with the help of God.

Alex: Do you, Nancy, release Old South Church from turning to you and depending on you?

Nancy: *I do, with the help of God.*

Alex: Nancy, do you offer your encouragement for Old South Church's continued ministry here and for the church's relationship with those who will succeed you?

Nancy: *I do, with the help of God.*

Phil: Let us join our voices and our hearts in the Prayer for God's Guidance:

***PRAYER FOR GOD'S GUIDANCE** *Unison*

Eternal God, Ancient of Days: you have watched over this congregation across three-and-a-half centuries of tumult and progress. You have guided us through the making of a new nation, through bloody wars, economic crises and struggles for civil and human rights. You have comforted us through storms and illness, and mentored and challenged us at times of great national decision. We give you thanks for forebears whose lives have been true, lovely and brave, whose stories we tell, whose memories we cherish, and by whose courage and faith we are inspired.

Holy One, God of our mothers and fathers, in this season of change and discernment, keep our ears tuned to your still-speaking voice, our hearts open to your tip-toed entrance, our souls quickened by your Holy Spirit, and our discipleship true to the way and cause of Christ. Grant us strength, perseverance, wisdom, and kindness toward one another. Kindle in our souls the fires of your justice, and make glad our hearts in the doing of this work. Amen.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

The Reverend Katherine A. Schofield,
Interim Associate Minister



*To give via ApplePay, GooglePay, or with a Credit Card,
scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.*

You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.

OFFERTORY

How Dear to Me

Calvin Hampton

How dear to me is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!
My soul has a desire and a longing for the courts of the Lord;
No good thing will the Lord withhold from those who walk with integrity.
Ah, Lord of hosts, happy are they who put all their trust in you!

Glorious things of you are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
One whose word cannot be broken formed you for a blessed abode.
On the Rock of Ages founded, what can shake your sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, you may smile at all your foes.

See! the streams of living waters, springing from eternal love,
well supply your sons and daughters, and all fear of want remove.
Who can faint when such a river ever will their thirst assuage?
Grace which, like our God, the Giver, never fails from age to age?

Round each habitation hovering, see the cloud and fire appear
for a glory and a covering, showing that their God is near!
Thus deriving from their banner light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed upon the manna which God gives them when they pray.

The congregation will please rise and join in the singing of the final verse:

**Savior, if of Zion's city we through grace a part may claim,
let the world deride or pity, we will glory in your name.
Fading is all worldly pleasure, all earth's boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasures, none but Zion's children know.**

*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.**

—*Nancy S. Taylor*

CHARGE TO THE CHURCH

The Reverend Dr. J. Mary Luti,
Professor, Pastor, Teacher (retired)

*HYMN

Open a Doorway Into God
The 350th Anniversary Hymn of Old South Church

CONSTANTINE



1. O - pen wide the eyes of won - der: bound-less gal - ax - ies in space,
2. Stretch out wide the arms of kind-ness: nur - ture sheep from man - y folds.
3. Fling out wide the gates of free-dom, to the suf - fering bring re - lief:
4. God of mer - cy, love, and beau - ty, blaz - ing trails to mark our way,



fin - est flecks of whirl-ing mat - ter span the mag - ni - tude of grace.
Wel - come cres - cent, star, and rain - bow, all whose seek - ing God up - holds.
hearts im - pa - tient for de - liv - erance* call for res - cue from their grief.
still trans - plant - ing, still sus - tain - ing, ‡ you have brought us to this day.



Vaults that up - lift our sights to heav - en; mu - sic that leaves us hushed and awed;
Peo - ples and crea - tures, poor and need - ing, hun - ger for mer - cies spread a - broad.
Till hurt - ful walls of bi - as crum - ble, till hate - ful cag - es stand un - barred,
In ev - ery e - ra, you have sought us, draw - ing your prom - ise in - to view.



arts that en - large our lives with beau - ty o - pen a door - way in - to God.✠
Acts of com - pass - ion toward our neigh - bors o - pen a door - way in - to God.
all those who dare to plead for jus - tice† o - pen a door - way in - to God.
Strength - en our will to meet your fu - ture, o - pen - ing new door - ways in - to you.

✠ “Behold, I have set before thee an open door,” — Revelation 3:8, carved into the Old South Church portico.

* “In every human Breast, God has implanted a Principle, which we call Love of Freedom; it is *impatient* of Oppression, and pants for *Deliverance*.” — Phillis Wheatley [*emphasis added*]

† An allusion to Whittier’s famous phrase, “So long as Boston shall Boston be, and her bay-tides rise and fall, Shall freedom stand in the Old South Church and plead for the rights of all!”

‡ A reference to the Latin motto *Qui transtulit sustinet* (carved into Old South’s portico), meaning “The God who transplanted us sustains us still.”

Text: Mary Louise Bringle (2019)
Tune: CONSTANTINE, James Gertmenian (1986)

George Sargeant, *arr.*
*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE

Sent Forth by God's Blessing

John Eggert

You will find pizza on the 2nd floor,
and on the 4th floor
but please be back in the Sanctuary
at 12:00 p.m. sharp for the Celebration Program.

The Really Useful Guide to the Senior Ministers of Old South Church in Boston,
a booklet by Historian Kate Silfen, is available in the Narthex as you depart.



The flowers today are given
in honor of the final Sunday
of the Rev. Dr. Nancy S. Taylor as Senior Minister
and in celebration of her 17 years of ministry at Old South
by the Board of Ministers & Deacons.



WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

Restrooms are available. Just ask!

An accessible, single-use restroom is available near Reception.

Welcome to Old South Church in Boston. We are a progressive Christian church first gathered in 1669. The Church played a significant role in early American history. Today, Old South Church continues to outfit itself for mission and ministry in the 21st century as a thriving church in the heart of Boston.

If you are interested in deepening your participation, or if you just love Old South, it's time to think about **membership**. Contact Interim Associate Minister Katherine Schofield at katherine@oldsouth.org

HEARING ASSISTANCE

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 **www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit** or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

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 ❖ CCS #12028 ❖ OneLicense #A-700000

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*
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
Howard Cha-Young Kim, *Pastoral Resident* ❖ Jessica Young Chang, *Seminarian*
David Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
George Sargeant, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster*
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Willie Sordillo, *Director, Jazz Worship Music*
Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*
Martha Schick, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader*
Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*

Helen McCrady, *Senior Church Administrator* ❖ John Braught, *Director of Operations*
Jamie Garuti, *Multimedia Director* ❖ Linda Van Praet, *Accounting & Human Resources*
Alex Pickering, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Emily Ross, *Archivist*
Ralph Watson, *Snowden Partnership Coordinator* ❖ Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner and William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, and David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*
Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, and George Sargeant, *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

Phil Stern, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer*
Kristi Geary, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*
Paul Brouillette & Susan Navia, *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.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON

ANNOUNCEMENTS



NANCY'S FINAL SUNDAY: MAY 22nd

Join us for this bittersweet occasion as we celebrate and honor Rev. Nancy Taylor on her last Sunday as the Senior Minister of Old South Church in Boston.

10 a.m. Worship, Nancy preaching

11 a.m. Pizza and Cupcakes

12 p.m. Celebration Ceremony

ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

During the month of May, we honor Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by giving thanks to God for the generations of Asian and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the church and whose presence makes us strong and beautiful.

GODSPEED JESS YOUNG CHANG, SEMINARIAN

Sunday, May 29th, First and Festival Worship

Old South Church in Boston has always been a teaching church. With our location near some of the best seminaries in the world, we delight in taking part in raising up the next generation of church leaders and then sending them out into the world. While all seminarians are wonderful, Jess is special and we will miss her! Join us for Jess' final Sunday. She will preach at both First and Festival Worship.

PASTORAL TRANSITION NEWS

Old South Church is profoundly grateful for the many people involved in our transition process. While these transitions can be scary and stressful for a congregation, they have been holding us in their steady, faithful hands.

During worship on Thursday, **June 2** (*Jazz*) and Sunday, **June 5** (*First and Festival*), we will give thanks to God for the completed and ongoing work of the Celebration, Interim, and Transition Committees, and bless the upcoming work of the Search Committee. This is also our celebration of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

SEEKING YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT LEADER

Go to <https://tinyurl.com/2022JobDescription> to learn more about the position and how to apply

Old South Church in Boston seeks applicants for a unique position of Youth and Young Adult Leader. This person is a magnetic leader with the dynamic gifts of interpersonal connection with students in grades 8-12 and Young Adults age 18-35. They possess a deep personal faith that they can translate to each of these unique populations, and are equally ready to dive into bible study, activism, and trivia nights at a brewery. This part-time ministry position functions as a part of a larger staff, including weekly staff meetings and administrative duties related to your program area.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH GRANT RECOMMENDATIONS

Submit by going to tinyurl.com/CSOCGrantRecommendations by May 27th

The Christian Service & Outreach Committee (CSOC) continues Old South's history of service by supporting the work of local non-profits through grant giving and by connecting our grantees with the vast human capital our congregation has to offer. Current grantees include: City Mission, common cathedral, Fathers' Uplift, and Alternatives for Community and Environment (ACE). We are soliciting recommendations from the congregation for organizations to consider as we begin the grant-making process. We are particularly interested in learning about Boston-based non-profits that serve the local Boston community, with a particular focus on Black-led organizations. Grant awards are typically \$20,000 per year for a maximum of three years. This is a competitive process as we will only be making one new grant award in 2022.

CHURCH LEADERS' GIFTS FOR THE NEW CONFIRMANDS

In preparation for last week's welcoming of 13 confirmation students into membership - the boards and committees of Old South Church contributed to a "Basket of Blessings" for each student. Each board or committee was invited to contribute a small gift representative of the work that their group undertakes here at Old South. We are so grateful for the thought and care that went into these gifts, and wanted to share the contents of these bountiful Baskets of Blessings. Go to tinyurl.com/2022ConfirmGifts to see the list of what was included in each Confirmand's basket. Thank you!

PRIDE AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH CELEBRATING THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY



LGBTQ HISTORY WALKING TOUR

Sunday, June 5th, 12:30 p.m., 15 spots available, RSVP to shawn@oldsouth.org

With Boston By Foot as our guides, we will follow the paths of Boston's LGBTQ+ community from the 1840s to the 1980s, from Thoreau's walks along the Common and Charlotte Cushman's cross-dressing roles, to the World War II bars and baths, to the AIDS Action Committee and the AIDS memorial quilt project. The tour lasts 90 minutes and covers 2 miles.

OVER THE RAINBOW: A MUSICAL SALUTE TO PRIDE

Thursday, June 9th, 6 p.m.

The Willie Sordillo Ensemble and the Holy Spirit team up to celebrate PRIDE as we pay tribute to LGBTQ+ movement with this special musical service. Who knows, maybe there will even be a bit of dancing!

PRIDE WORSHIP

Sunday, June 12th, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Old South Church will fill the Sanctuary with song, prayers, praise, and worship of the God who loves and embraces all at our annual Pride Worship service--this year on Sunday. Senior Pastor of historic Myrtle Baptist Church Rev. Brandon Crowley will preach and receive the Open Door Award

THIRD ANNUAL TRANS RESISTANCE MARCH & FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 25th, 12 p.m., Contact shawn@oldsouth.org for more information

We will join Boston's LGBTQ+ community in marching from Nubian Square in Roxbury to Franklin Park Playstead for a just and more inclusive city and world. More details to come.

GREEN TIP: AVOID FAST FOOD

Did you know the biggest contributor to the waste floating in the oceans (49%) is from fast food? Not only is fast food often unhealthy, it creates a ton of garbage! Instead of fast food, opt for wholesome meals with lots of fruits and veggies. You will find that better food comes in less packaging and you'll feel better too. Go to oldsouth.org/tips-greening-your-life for more Green Tips.

COVID PRECAUTIONS

- Masking is OPTIONAL (except for Church School teachers and children in classrooms)
- Masks are available at the front desk for those who choose to wear one
- We strongly encourage everyone to be fully vaxxed and boosted, to attend to handwashing, and to refrain from entering the building if you have so much as a sniffle.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, June 1st, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall

The Red Cross continues to experience a severe blood shortage. Want to help out? Donate blood to help end the critical shortage status with the Red Cross. Visit tinyurl.com/BloodDriveOSC or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule an appointment.

CELEBRATING MARTHA SCHICK & THE END OF THE PROGRAM YEAR

Sunday June 5th, 10 a.m., 2nd floor

We will mark the end of our church school and program year with an All-Church gathering. We will not have a full blown breakfast - but there will be coffee/tea and some pastries to help us feel festive. We always gather to thank the leaders of our church school classes, but this year in particular we are going to recognize the ministry of Martha Schick, whose time with us is ending. Martha has served as the Youth & Young Adult leader since fall 2018, and will soon begin her ordained ministry career at the Wellesley Village Church.

ANNOUNCING THE PHILLIS WHEATLEY ROOM

Sunday, June 19th, 10:00 a.m., 4th floor

By action of the Church Council, the Samuel Johnson Room (previously named for a pious and generous lay leader) will be known as the Phillis Wheatley Room. Located on the Fourth Floor, this room houses our collection of Senior Minister portraits and is a place of study, prayer, and meeting for all ages. We will retain the tradition of displaying a lay leader's portrait, now Phillis, above the fireplace, keeping watch over the Old South clergy. Phillis' will be the first portrait of a person of color, and second female (after Nancy Taylor) displayed in the public spaces of Old South Church.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Vimeo, Facebook, and YouTube

JAZZ Worship, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

HEALING Worship, the second Sunday at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

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 the Sanctuary, for any length of time.
