



Gathered in 1669

March 4, 2018
Third Sunday of Lent
11:00 am

GATHERING

PRELUDE	Saraband (in modo elegiaco)	Herbert Howells
*HYMN 442	I'm Pressing on the Upward Way	<i>Higher Ground</i>
*CALL TO WORSHIP	1 Corinthians 18, adapted	Anthony T. Livolsi

One: The message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to all who are in need of saving, it is the power of God.

Many: For it is written, "I will unravel the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart."

One: And it has come true. Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age?

Many: So God decided to save those who believe through the foolishness of the cross.

* *Indicates all who are able may stand*

One: The pious are waiting for miracles, non-believers are waiting for experts to hand them the solution. Those things just aren't coming.

Many: And so we must proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to believers and foolishness to everyone else.

One: But to those whom God calls, the cross is the power of God and the wisdom of God.

Many: For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength.

*A SIGN OF OUR UNITY AND RECONCILIATION

We invite you to greet those around you,
Wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

WORDS OF WELCOME

RECEIVING

ANTHEM Ah, Thou Poor World, Op. 110, No. 2 Johannes Brahms

*Ah, thou poor world, thou cheatest me.
That I confess unfeignedly,
Yet in thee seek my pleasure,
Yet in thee seek my pleasure.*

*False world, thou art but idle show.
Thy splendor fades, as well I know.
Thy joys have briefest measure.
Thy joys have briefest measure.*

*Thy wealth, thy honors manifold,
In need, in death, no comfort hold.
Thy gold is naught but tinsel gold.
Be thou, O God, my treasure.
Be thou, O God, my treasure.*

— Anonymous, tr. A. G. Latham

SCRIPTURE

Luke 4:16-30

Deb Washington

Dr. Deb Washington, Director of Diversity for Nursing & Patient Care Services at MGH, serves as the Moderator of Old South Church in Boston.

(Children may leave for choir and care.)

*HYMN 587

Through All the World a Hungry Christ

De Tar

SERMON

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 409

I Heard My Mother Say

Give Me Jesus

RESPONDING

*CALL TO PRAYER

Nancy S. Taylor

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. (The people may be seated)

PASTORAL PRAYER


During the prayer, we invite you to listen for the clergy to invoke one of the two “calls” and to sing the corresponding response at the third chime.

Call of confession: We humbly seek your mercy.



God ___ have ___ mer - cy. _____

Call of petition: We pray to you, O God.



Hear our prayer. _____

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.

ANTHEM Create in Me, O God, a Pure Heart, Op. 29. No. 2 Johannes Brahms

Create in me, O God, a pure heart, and grant anew a right spirit within me.

—Psalm 51:10

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Let Nothing Ever Grieve Thee, Op. 30 Johannes Brahms

*Let nothing ever grieve thee, distress thee, nor fret thee;
Heed God's good will, my soul. Be still, compose thee.*

*Why brood all day in sorrow?
Tomorrow will bring thee God's help benign and grace sublime in mercy.*

*Be true in all endeavor, and ever ply bravely;
What God decrees brings joy and peace and will stay thee.
Amen.*

—Paul Fleming (1609-1640); tr. Walter E. Buszin

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Anthony T. Livolsi

SENDING

*HYMN 386

The Church's One Foundation

Aurelia

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Lift High the Cross

John Eggert

HOLY WEEK SERVICES

The heart of the mystery of the Christian faith plays out during Holy Week. As we mark Holy Week this year, we are encouraging all our members to come to both our Maundy Thursday and Good Friday services.

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Maundy Thursday, March 29, identical Tenebrae services at 6pm and 8pm in the Chapel.

Good Friday, March 30, service at 6pm. The Chapel will be open throughout the day for prayer and contemplation.

Easter Sunday Festival Worship, April 1 at 9am & 11am. Identical services featuring music for choirs, brass and timpani.

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

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 urban church in the heart of Boston. Join us immediately following worship for fellowship and refreshments in the Gordon Chapel.

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

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

SUNDAY FLOWERS The Sunday Flower Calendar for 2018 is up in the first floor elevator lobby. Donating Sunday flowers is a special way to remember loved ones and special events. The cost is \$50. Put your name by the date you want and send the message you wish to appear in the bulletin to helen@oldsouth.org.

If you need to stretch your legs during worship the Gordon Chapel has full audio of the Sanctuary service throughout.

Name tags facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know. For **LARGE** print bulletins or hearing assistance devices ask an Usher.

HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES

Old South has installed a **Hearing Loop** in the Sanctuary, the latest technology in hearing assisted devices.

1. If you have a hearing aid: the loop works directly for those whose hearing aids have a "T-Coil."
2. If you are hard of hearing but don't use an aid: ask for one of the devices that is paired with the loop.

Note: The sound will be best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles. The loop does NOT work in the upper galleries.

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):

1. Park at the **Garage@100 Clarendon** (behind Back Bay Station), have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and **you** pay the discounted rate of \$7 for up to 3 hours. Old South bears no cost.
2. Park at the **Prudential Garage** for up to 5 hours on Saturday or Sunday, have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and the Prudential Garage will bill **Old South** (costing us \$15k - \$20k per year).

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 4	9:00 am	FIRST Worship, <i>John Edgerton preaching</i>
	9:00 am	Children's Choir Rehearsal
	9:45 am	Old South Café in Gordon Chapel
	10:00 am	Post-Parkland Shooting Discussion for parents in the Chapel
	10:00 am	Community Hour — <i>'Against the Powers'</i>
	10:00 am	Church School and Childcare
	10:00 am	Youth Group
	10:00 am	Festival Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Lectionary Bible Study
	11:00 am	FESTIVAL Worship, <i>John Edgerton preaching</i>
	11:15 am	Children's Music
	12:15 pm	Fellowship Hour in Gordon Chapel
	12:30 pm	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	12:30 pm	Confirmation Class
Monday, March 5	6:00 pm	Theological Book Group
	7:00 pm	Christian Service & Outreach Committee Meeting
	7:30 pm	Spiritual Classics Reading Group, <i>'The Sparrow'</i>
Tuesday, March 6	5:30 pm	Handbells Rehearsal in Gordon Chapel
	6:30 pm	Stewardship Committee Meeting
Wednesday, March 7	12:00 pm	Men's Lunch Hour Small Group
	6:15 pm	Young Adult Book Group, <i>'The Meaning of Jesus'</i>
	6:30 pm	Young Adult Group, <i>'Strengthening Our Marriages'</i>
Thursday, March 8	12:00 pm	Women's Lunch Hour Small Group
	5:00 pm	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	6:00 pm	JAZZ Worship
	6:30 pm	Festival Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Young Adult Book Group, <i>'Mere Christianity'</i>
	7:00 pm	Young Women's Small Group, <i>'Learning to Walk in the Dark'</i>
	7:00 pm	'Through the Bible' Study, <i>The Book of Joshua</i>
	8:00 pm	Social Change and the Church Discussion Group
Friday, March 9	6:00 pm	Parents' Night Out
	8:00 pm	Boston Conservatory Brass Ensemble Concert
Saturday, March 10	6:00 pm	Youth Group Lock-In

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON
MINISTERS, OFFICERS AND STAFF**

Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister
John M. Edgerton, Associate Minister ❖ Anthony T. Livolsi, Associate Minister
James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus
Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children and Family Ministries
Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence ❖ June R. Cooper, Theologian in the City
Calvin Genzel, Wedding Outreach Minister ❖ Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister
Carrie Swayne-Gerrish, Youth Leader ❖ Rebecca Bowler, Seminarian Intern
Carolyn Davis, Director, Old South Preschool ❖ Emma Brewer-Wallin, Ministry Intern
George Sargeant, Associate Organist and Choirmaster
Willie Sordillo, Jazz Worship Music Director
Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers ❖ Amy Budka, Children's Music Leader
Tim Harbold, Director, Gospel & Festival Choirs

Deb Washington, Moderator ❖ Rob Gabler, Clerk ❖ Lauren Berk, Treasurer
Randy Billings, Chair, Board of Trustees ❖ Emily Click, Historian
Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, Senior Deacons ❖ Vicki Newman, Pledge Secretary

Helen McCrady, Senior Church Administrator ❖ Jamie Garuti, Communications
Linda Van Praet, Accounting & Human Resources ❖ David Albaugh, Building Manager
Allison Albaugh, Wedding Coordinator
Elias Perez, Senior Sexton ❖ Ozo Nwodo and Oppong Serebour, Sextons
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, and Lena Rojas Receptionists

www.oldsouth.org ❖ 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.

MINISTER OF MUSIC CANDIDATE AT WORSHIP

Sunday, March 11th

The Minister of Music Search Committee rejoices to report that we have a candidate. He will be with us on Sunday, March 11 to conduct and play portions of both First Worship and Festival Worship.

Following Festival Worship, you are invited to join the candidate in Mary Norton Hall to meet him and for Q & A. If all goes as we expect, the Search Committee will present the candidate to the March meeting of the Church Council, which is the hiring body in this instance.

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY

March 18th, 11:30am. Childcare and children's activities are offered throughout.

Schedule:

- 10:00am All-Church Worship (no 9am First Worship)
- 11:30am **348th Annual Meeting** of Old South Church in Boston
- 12:45pm(ish) Brunch on the 2nd Floor in Mary Norton Hall

The Annual Meeting Agenda includes:

- Receipt of the 2017 Annual Report
- Consideration of proposed amendments to the By-Laws
 - Christians in Formation Committee (minor adjustments)
 - The (G)RACE Speaks Committee (addition)
 - The Columbarium Committee (addition)
- Report of the 350th Anniversary Committee
- Report of the Minister of Music Search Committee
- Leadership Report & Elections
- Act of Memorial for loved ones who died over the past year
- Report of the Treasurer and Trustees
- Recognition of Outgoing Leaders and Installation of Incoming Leaders

COMMUNITY HOUR: AGAINST THE POWERS

This Lent, Old South Church explores the drama of Jesus' confrontations with the twin evils of injustice and inertia — the confrontations which led ultimately to his death. Sunday 10am Community Hour sessions, led by Rev. Anthony Livolsi, will probe deeper into the stories of Jesus' last days and crucifixion. Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John each saw something different in his tragic end — but what?

CONNECTIONS LUNCH

Sunday, March 11th at 12:30pm in the Guild Room

Interested in church membership? Connections Lunch invites you to explore Christianity, the United Church of Christ, our rich history and offerings, and to consider your own place at Old South Church. RSVP to Anthony@oldsouth.org. Led by Associate Minister Rev. Anthony Livolsi.

HOLY WEEK

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SPRING HOSPITALITY HOST SIGN UP

The bulbs are already peeking through in the gardens! We will have Spring! That means it's time to sign up to participate in Old South's warm, inclusive, open door welcome for next quarter – April, May and June. Whether you'd like to usher, welcome, or bring and serve food, we need your help! **Sign up by March 11th** at www.tinyurl.com/OSCSpring18Hosp

EASTER FLOWERS

We are accepting donations of \$20 for the display of lilies, tulips, and cherry blossoms for Easter Sunday. Go to www.tinyurl.com/OSC-online-giving and choose Easter Flowers for your gift. Cards will also be available at Church for the next several weeks. The donation deadline is **Sunday, March 25th**.

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

POST-PARKLAND SHOOTING DISCUSSION

Sunday, March 4th at 10am. All teachers and parents of school-aged children welcome to attend.

After news of the Parkland school shooting, we are all left shaken. But you as parents and teachers carry a special burden--the burden of clearly and vividly imagining this sort of evil being visited upon your own children. We want to tend to your spirits. Old South parents of school-aged children and teachers are invited to gather for thoughtful, facilitated conversations about the impact these mass shootings are having on us.

To get involved in future anti-gun violence work with Old South, email John at john@oldsouth.org.

FAMILY LENTEN ACTIVITY: MAKING EASTER GARDENS

Saturday, March 24, 9:30am-11:30am

Make plans to join us for this special Lenten family activity! Kate will lead families through constructing an Easter Garden and through the events of Holy Week. The plan is for our gardens to sprout to life by Easter Morning (just like Jesus did)! RSVP to Kate Nintcheu children@oldsouth.org by Wednesday March 21st.

ADULT EDUCATION

'FUN-AND-NOT-SCARY, AT-A-SNAIL'S-PACE READ THROUGH OF THE WHOLE BIBLE' STUDY: *New book begins Thursday, February 15th at 7:00 pm.* Join us as we embark on the next book in our journey: Judges. Reading the Bible chapter by chapter, book by book opens us up to new allusions, parallels, and rich insights. To join in, email Rev. Anthony Livolsi at anthony@oldsouth.org.

MUSICIANS OF THE OLD POST ROAD CONCERT

Saturday, March 10 at 3pm in Gordon Chapel

Musicians of the Old Post Road bring their spring program Many Happy Returns to Old South Church on Saturday, March 10 at 3pm. This program explores the varied ways that Baroque composers across Europe used the technique of melodic variation atop repeating bass lines. Works by Couperin, Telemann, Purcell, and others demonstrate the creative uses of these cyclical forms in vocal, instrumental, and theatrical music. Soprano Teresa Wakim returns as soloist. Tickets at www.oldpostroad.org.

FORMOSA DUO CONCERT

March 11 at 3pm in Framingham Public Library & March 19 at 7:30pm in Jordan Hall

Come see Sam Ou on cello and Chi-Chen Wu on piano as the duo plays Beethoven, de Fall, and Brahms. Admission in free!

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.

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON

(617) 536 - 1970 OldSouth.org

