

Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

September 9, 2018
**Celebration of
the Christian Life**
11:00 am

PRELUDE Fantasy in G, BWV 572 J.S. Bach

*HYMN 70 **God Is Here! As We Your People Meet** ABBOT'S LEIGH

*PRAYER OF INVOCATION *Unison.* John M. Edgerton
O God, we thank you for the gift of years – for the opportunity to see the pattern of our lives and to have experienced the deaths from which we have risen over and over again. Join us now as we continue on our journeys; give us lightness of step and lightness of heart that we may grace our world with a spirit of joy and gratitude. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, who walks before us on the way. Amen.

*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

* *Indicates all who are able may stand*

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 139:1-4, 13-14

ANTHEM

Jubilate Deo in C

Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
Serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
It is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
We are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise:
Be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.
For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting:
And his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

BIRTH

REFLECTION

Katie Swayne-Gerrish

HYMN

Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

STUTTGART



1. Chil - dren of joy, our dear - est trea - sure, God's you are, from God you came.
2. Chil - dren of God, your lov - ing Par - ent, learn to lis - ten for God's call.



Back to God we hum - bly give you: live as one who bears Christ's name.
Grow to laugh and sing and wor - ship; trust and love God more than all.

GROWING UP

REFLECTIONS

Children of Old South

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

Kate Nintcheu

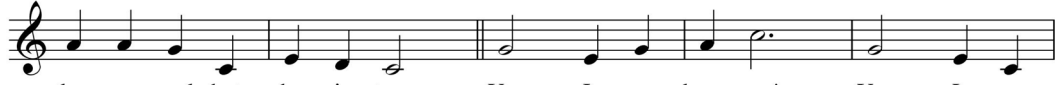
HYMN

Jesus Loves Me

JESUS LOVES ME



1. Je - sus loves me! This I know, for the Bi - ble tells me so. Lit - tle ones to him be - long;
2. Je - sus loves me! This I know, as he loved so long a - go, Tak - ing chil - dren on his knee,



they are weak, but he is strong. Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus
say - ing, "Let them come to me."



loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so.

Children may leave for choir and childcare.

FINDING OUR WAY

REFLECTION

Alexandra Rowan

HYMN

God, When I Came into This Life

LAND OF REST



1. God, when I came in - to this life, you called me by my name; To-
2. With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as mem - ber of your cast, I



day I come, com - mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
take my place with all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.

SETTLING DOWN AND SERVING

REFLECTION

Doannie Tran

HYMN

For the Beauty of the Earth

DIX



1. For the joy of hu - man love, broth - er, sis - ter, par - ent, child,
2. For the good that love in - spires, for a world where none ex - clude,



Friends on earth, and friends a - bove, for all gen - tle thoughts and mild,
For a faith that nev - er tires, and for ev - ery heart re - newed,



God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.
God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate - ful praise.

REFLECTION

Lorry Spitzer

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Anthony T. Livolsi

*In thanksgiving to God and giving witness to generous hearts,
our financial gifts support ministries of mercy, justice, and beauty.*

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Psalm 150

César Franck

Alleluia!

O praise ye the Lord, praise God in his temple.
Praise Ye the Lord in the firmament of his power.
O praise him for his might, and the greatness of his wonders.
O praise him according to his majesty.

Praise the Lord with the sound of the trumpet.
Praise the Lord with the lute and the harp.
Praise the Lord with the timbrel and the dance.
O praise him with the organ and instrument of strings.

Praise him upon the loud cymbals.
Praise him upon the high sounding cymbals.
Let everything that hath breath, praise the Lord.

Alleluia!

GROWING OLDER

REFLECTION

Ruth Purtilo

*HYMN

Abide With Me

EVENTIDE



A - bide with me: fast falls the e - ven - tide.
I need thy pres - ence ev - ery pass - ing hour;
I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bide!
what but thy grace can foil the tempt - er's power?
ills have no weight, and tears no bit - ter - ness.
When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Who, like thy - self, my guide and stay can be?
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy vic - to - ry?
help of the help - less, O a - bide with me.
Through cloud and sun - shine, Lord, a - bide with me.
I tri - umph still, if thou a - bide with me.

*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. *You may be seated.*

PASTORAL PRAYER THE LORD'S PRAYER *Unison.*

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.

*HYMN

The Weaver's Shuttle

FOREST GREEN



1. The weav - er's shut - tle swift - ly flies a - cross the tap - es -
2. The Weav - er's shut - tle swift - ly flies a - cross the earth - ly
3. Who knows the pat - terns of our lives be - fore our days are
4. O gen - tle Weav - er, lov - ing God, we are your works of



try; then pat - terns, tex - tures, var - ied hues e - merge for all to
loom. Our sto - ries all too quick - ly pass from cra - dle to the
spun? Who knows the rea - son why, and how, be - fore it's all be -
art, and so we see e - ter - ni - ty with - in each hu - man



see. And so our lives are wo - ven fine as in that weav - er's hand, a
tomb. Day fol - lows day and year on year; they fade as in a dream. And
gun? The One whose hand weaves all with love and mys - ter - y and care; The
heart. In all we think and do and say, in all we hope and fear, give



fair de - sign and rich - er still than we can un - der - stand.
none can hold the shut - tle still or stop the flow - ing stream.
One whose thread and warp and weft are flesh and earth and air!
us the eyes to rec - og - nize the heav - en al - ways here.

*BENEDICTION

Anthony T. Livolsi

POSTLUDE

Grand Chœur

Theodore Salomé



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

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.

The flowers today are given by John and Robin Briggs in celebration of their 18th 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.

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. 1. If you have a hearing aid: the loop works directly for those whose hearing aids have a "T-Coil."
2. 2. If you are hard of hearing but don't use an aid: ask for one 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, September 9	9:00 am	FIRST Worship, <i>Celebration of the Christian Life</i>
	9:45 am	Old South Café in Gordon Chapel
	9:45 am	Welcome Back Potluck Brunch
	10:00 am	HEALING Worship
	10:00 am	Lectionary Bible Study
	10:00 am	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 am	Church School
	11:00 am	FESTIVAL Worship, <i>Celebration of the Christian Life</i>
	11:15 am	Children's Music
	12:15 pm	Fellowship Hour in Gordon Chapel
	12:15 pm	Ice Cream Fellowship
	12:30 pm	Climate Change Working Group
	Monday, September 10	9:00 am
6:00 pm		Theological Book Group
7:30 pm		Spiritual Classics Group – "A Canticle for Leibowitz"
Tuesday, September 11	5:30 pm	Membership Committee
	6:00 pm	Old South Ringers Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Church Council
Wednesday, September 12	12:00 pm	Men's Lunch Hour Small Group
	6:00 pm	Young Adult Small Group – "The Beatitudes"
	6:45 pm	Young Adult Small Group
Thursday, September 13	12:00 pm	Women's Lunch Hour Small Group
	6:00 pm	JAZZ Worship, <i>Nancy S. Taylor preaching</i>
	6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Young Adult Book Group – "The Sin of Certainty"
	7:00 pm	Young Adult Open Small Group
	8:00 pm	Women's Christianity and Civic Life Small Group
Friday, September 14	5:30 pm	RSVP Group
	6:00 pm	Parents Night Out

**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*
Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & 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*
Martha Schick, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader* ❖ Betsy Wooster, *Seminarian Intern*
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*
Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, *Senior Deacons* ❖ Vicki Newman, *Pledge Secretary*
Helen McCrady, *Sr Church Administrator* ❖ Jamie Garuti, *Communications Administrator*
Linda Van Praet, *Accounting & Human Resources* ❖ David Albaugh, *Building Manager*
Allison Albaugh, *Wedding Coordinator* ❖ Emily Ross, *Archivist*
Rebecca Bowler & Lena Rojas, *Administrative Assistants*
Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Oppong Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, & Carrie Swayne-Gerrish, *Receptionists*

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.