

Old South Church Copley Square, Boston A Congregation of the United Church of Christ Gathered 1669

> March 19th, 2023 The Fourth Sunday in Lent

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

PRELUDECantabileCésar Franck*HYMN 212O Jesus Christ, May Grateful HymnsCHARTERHOUSE*CALL TO WORSHIPfrom Psalms for Praying
by Nan MerrillKatherine A. Schofield

One: O my Beloved, you are my shepherd, I shall not want. Many: You bring me to green pastures for rest and lead me beside still waters. Renewing my spirit. You restore my soul.

* Indicates all who are able may stand

One:	You lead me in the path of goodness to follow Love's way.	
	Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow and of death,	
	I am not afraid.	
Many:	For You are ever with me;	
-	Your rod and Your staff, they guide me.	
	They give me strength and comfort.	
One:	You prepare a table before me in the presence of all my fears.	
	You bless me with oil, my cup overflows.	
Many:	Surely goodness and mercy will follow me all the days of my life;	
•	and I shall dwell in the heart of the Beloved forever.	

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

***SUNG RESPONSE**

Soloist; Choir: Come, bring your burdens to God; Come, bring your burdens to God; Come, bring your burdens to God, for God will always be there.



WELCOME

Katherine A. Schofield

ANTHEM

My Shepherd Will Supply My Need

Calvin Hampton

My shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name; in pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream. He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways, and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay; one word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away. Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread; my cup with blessings overflows, thy oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days; Oh, may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise. There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come; no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home. —A metrical paraphrase of the 23rd Psalm (Isaac Watts, 1719)

(Though often ascribed masculine or feminine pronouns in prose and poetry, God is unbound by human concepts of gender.)

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 11:28-30

*PSALM 100 see insert

Raise a Shout Through All the Earth

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

 SERMON
 Lay it Down
 Ashley J. Popperson

 *PSALM 34 see insert
 At All Times Let Me Sing Gladly
 PLEADING SAVIOR

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Richard E. Spalding

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 Father/Mother God, 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	Be Thou My Vision from "Songs of Faith"	Paul Basler
naught thou m	ou my vision, O Lord of my heart; be all else to me, save that thou art; ny best thought, by day or by night, g or sleeping, thy presence my light.	
I ever thou my s	my wisdom, and thou my true Word; with thee and thou with me, Lord; oul's shelter, and thou my high tower ne heavenward, O Power of my powe	
	I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; mine inheritance, now and always;	

thou and thou only, first in my heart, High King of Heaven, my treasure thou art. High King of Heaven, my victory won, may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun! Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Katherine A. Schofield



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

Psalm 23 from "Songs of Faith"

Paul Basler

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want. He maketh me to lie down in green pastures; he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul; he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name's sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil. For thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me.

Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

> The Lord is my shepherd... ...forever. Amen. —An adaptation of the 23rd Psalm (the "King James" version, 1611)

(Though often ascribed masculine or feminine pronouns in prose and poetry, God is unbound by human concepts of gender.)

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 49Ask Me What Great Thing I KnowHENDON

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

VII. Sortie, FWV 41.56

César Franck.

Join us for Refreshments & Fellowship in the Gordon Chapel following the Postlude.

> The flowers today are given by Bettina Blake in memory of her parents, William & Elizabeth (Stanton) Blake.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary, begins immediately following worship at the front of the Sanctuary. Led by docent Mary Cresse.

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

19th century French composer César Franck was a child prodigy whose impresario father's attempts to foist him on the secular music world met with resistance from many a critic and eventually led to a rift between father and son. Franck settled into a much more traditional career as a teacher at the Paris Conservatory and as organist at the Church of St. Clothilde, where the organ constructed by revolutionary organ builder Aristide Cavaille-Coll was at his disposal. Franck's compositions and Cavaille-Coll's organs shaped the direction that the French organ world would go for nearly the next century. Cantabile is the second and shortest of a set of three pieces for organ written for the inauguration of the new Cavaille-Coll organ at the Trocadero Palace in Paris as part of the 1878 French Exhibition, a celebration of France's recovery from a devastating war with Prussia earlier that decade. It is in three sections, the first of which features a deceptively simple melody played on a solo trumpet stop and heard first in the soprano voice, then in the tenor. The second treats the melody in canon between right hand and pedal. Finally, the opening material returns transformed, the solo trumpet giving way to the oboe stop that has been quietly reinforcing it from the beginning.

-George Sargeant, Associate Organist and Choirmaster

Psalm 34

At all times let me sing gladly

Traditionally attributed to David, Psalm 34 is one of several surviving acrostic psalms. It also bears a rather puzzling superscription connecting this psalm with David's escape from the Philistine king at Gath by feigning madness (1 Sam. 21:12–22:1). But that king's name was Achish, not Abimelech, as the superscription reads. On the whole this seems to be a misinformed effort to identify the psalm with an incident in David's life. Also, treating the psalm as a thanksgiving for deliverance may provide a context for the first part of the psalm, but it does not offer a rationale for the latter part's resemblance to wisdom literature.

- *Stanza 1:* The opening stanza shows evidence of personal experience that does not continue through the rest of the psalm. This shift may be a consequence of the acrostic structure, which lends itself more to adages than to narration.
- *Stanza 2:* The tone of the central portion of the psalm is very reminiscent of wisdom literature.
- *Stanza 3:* The conclusion of the psalm moves from advice for pious living to assurances of God's care. In this way it gains something of an envelope structure by returning to an affirmation of God's protection similar to the opening stanza.

The repetitive AABA structure of the pentatonic shape note tune PLEADING SAVIOR works well with the succession of wisdom sayings in this text.

Psalm 100 Raise a shout through all the Earth

The Hebrew superscription for Psalm 100 identifies it as "a psalm of thanksgiving," a designation that likely encompasses both the offering of thanksgiving sacrifice and a hymn of praise to accompany this action. In this connection it is significant to note that most of the psalm consists for directions about assembling for worship and about attitudes and actions for the assembled congregation. These are followed by the rationale for all these actions: God's goodness and faithfulness.

- *Stanza 1:* The balance of universal worship and particular calling here are reminiscent of the Israel's vocation as a "light to the nations" (Isa. 42:6; 49:6).
- *Stanza 2:* The emphasis on "God's house" and its "courts" assumes familiarity with the Temple precincts in Jerusalem, perhaps originally as a physical reality and later as a precious memory.

The strong associations of gathering for a service of corporate thanksgiving that surround ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR, make it an effective tune to carry this paraphrase.

— The Rev. Dr. Carl P. Daw, Jr.

Calvin Hampton's setting of the 23rd Psalm paraphrase, "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need," began life as a congregational hymn, with Hampton naming the tune "HUFF" after his close friend and colleague, Harry Huff. Hampton elaborated the tune into the setting we hear today (with solos for Baritone and Mezzo-Soprano superimposed over wordless choir) for inclusion in the multi-movement work "Live or Die," a work bound up with a Gay Rights movement gaining steam in the early 1980s, when it was premiered. [For any interested, *The New York Times* covered the aforementioned premiere performance of the cycle — which occurred during what the *Times* billed as the "first national gay choral festival" — in its September 13th, 1983 issue; the review in the *Times* goes on to say "the opening performance in which Timothy Vernon conducted New York's Stonewall Chorale in "Live or Die: A Ceremony of Healing" by Calvin Hampton, was itself partly a political statement; Mr. Hampton's eclectic settings of homosexual poetry were meant to stir as well as share feelings."]

The musician and educator **Paul Basler** is among this country's most commissioned and performed composers, with a prolific output encompassing works for solo horn, choral music, chamber music, and a range of didactic materials. Basler hails from Milwaukee, the son of a cornet-playing father and choral-singing mother. His parents were supportive of his musical interests and inclinations, and he began formal study (on piano) when he was just 3 years old; horn — which was to become his principal instrument — would have to wait until the sixth-grade Basler joined his middle school band. Some years later, a strong showing during a performance with the Wisconsin All-State Band led the guest conductor, Dr. James Croft of Florida State University, to offer on-the-spot to Basler a full scholarship for music study at FSU. Basler immediately accepted, and the following year relocated to Tallahassee to begin study there.

Graduate School followed at the State University of New York at Stony Brook, where Basler studied with the noted educator, William Purvis. A 1993 Senior Fulbright Lecturer award in Music took Basler to Kenyatta University in Nairobi, Kenya, where he taught composition, music theory, brass performance, and music technology. He returned to the United States the following year, accepting a position on the faculty of the University of Florida in Gainesville, Florida. (As an aside, this might be considered a major betrayal to the Florida State community that fostered Basler in earlier years — go 'Noles!). Basler remains Professor of Music at the University of Florida to this day.

Both "Psalm 23" and "Be Thou My Vision" are excerpted from Basler's "Songs of Faith", a five movement cycle written in 1998 "to celebrate the American Spirit." Each of the individual movements is dedicated to a different choral conductor and their ensemble, and as a further aside, "Psalm 23" is dedicated to Dr. André Thomas of Florida State, composer of last week's Offertory Anthem.

— Mitchell Crawford, Minister of Music

Old South Church *in* Boston invites you to its *Signature Services* during the coming year.

HOLY WEEK 2023

Palm Sunday — April 2nd, 2023 | 11AM Maundy Thursday — April 6th, 2023 | 7PM Good Friday — April 7th, 2023 | 12PM & 7PM Easter Sunday — April 9th, 2023 | 9AM & 11AM

Marathon Sunday — April 16, 2023 | 9AM & 11AM

Each year hundreds of marathoners join us for worship, where we pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special "Blessing of the Athletes."

Phillis Wheatley Sunday — May 14th, 2023 | 9AM & 11AM

Old South honors and learns from one of the saints of this church who was stolen from Africa, suffered the Middle Passage, was sold into slavery, and triumphed through her awesome wit and the mighty power of her pen.

All Saints Sunday — November 5th, 2023 | 11AM

In a solemn service of sacred music, we gather to name and remember our own beloved dead who now rest from their labors in the arms of God.

Meeting House Sunday — November 19th, 2023 | 11AM

We return to our ancestral home, the Old South Meeting House at Washington & Milk Streets, to give thanks for God's many blessings and the rich history of our faith.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE — December 24th, 2023

Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM *Lessons and Carols* | 8PM *Carols and Communion* | 11PM

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 <u>katherine@oldsouth.org</u>

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 <u>mmw.oldsoutb.org/your-first-visit</u> or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at <u>www.oldsouth.org/calendar</u> 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!

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OLD SOUTH CHURCH in BOSTON - MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF

Richard E. Spalding, Interim Senior Minister

James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus ***** Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister Emeritus Ashley J. Popperson, Associate Minister ***** Katherine A. Schofield, Interim Associate Minister Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence ***** June R. Cooper, Theologian in the City David Story, Wedding Minister ***** Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister

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

> Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children & Family Ministries 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* Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ◆ Kate Silfen, *Historian* Christine Del Favero and Tony Rich, *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.



Raise a Shout Through All the Earth



At All Times Let Me Sing Gladly



Old South Church in Boston * Week of March 19th, 2023

OLD SOUTH FORUM

Sundays, 10 a.m., 2nd Floor Mary Norton Hall, and on Zoom, at <u>tinyurl.com/OSCForums</u> password: Community This casual, no-commitment, come-when-you-can forum hosts series on a variety of topics. Clergy, congregation members, and special guests share in leading sessions.

Carl Daw Reflects on the Psalms

This Sunday, March 19th and Sunday, March 26th



Old South welcomes renowned author Carl Daw — whose newly published metrical Psalter we're exploring throughout Lent in Festival Worship — to Community Hour for a two-part series exploring the emotional and spiritual range of the Psalms. The first session will focus on the comfort and assurance of God's protection as exemplified by Psalm 23 (for good reason the most beloved of all the psalms). The following week, we'll consider a Psalm at the other extreme:

the despairing Psalm 130. Yet even this cry from the depths carries with it an undefeated confidence in God's power to rescue and to bless. Please join us for this rare opportunity to engage with one of the most celebrated hymn writers of the age!

CONNECTIONS LUNCHEON

This Sunday, March 19th, following Festival Worship in the 4th Floor Guild Room

To be a member of Old South Church is to enter the company of Revolutionary Era heroes, abolitionists, suffragettes, anti-poverty crusaders, and poets. Our saints include Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Phillis Wheatley... and maybe you! Want to learn more about the life of this community of faith and break bread with other newcomers and church members? Join our Connections Info Session! Contact Rev. Katherine Schofield at <u>katherine@oldsouth.org</u> for more info.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

Collection will be taken on This Sunday, March 19th

One Great Hour of Sharing is a multi-denominational offering making the love of Christ real for individuals and communities around the world who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship, and for those who serve them through gifts of money and time. Projects are underway in more than 100 countries, including the United States and Canada. To give to this special mission offering you can go to <u>tinyurl.com/OSCGivingPortal</u> or mail a check to the church.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMON CATHEDRAL LUNCH

Sunday, March 26th, 8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m., stay as long as you can Contact Carolyn Clark at <u>carolyneclark@comcast.net</u> with your commitment to any part of the day



The Christian Service and Outreach Committee is assembling a team of volunteers to help prepare lunches in the Old South Church kitchen and serve them to the common cathedral homeless congregation on the Boston Common. The prep work for making 120+ sandwich lunches will begin at 8:30 AM, transported to the Boston Common by 12:00 noon, and served to guests at 12:30. The Common Cathedral service begins at 1:00 and lasts until around 2:30. For more about their work see <u>commoncathedral.org</u>. common cathedral is one of Old South's annual grantees

RESTORATIVE JUSTIVE IN A MASSACHUSETTS FEDERAL COURT

Monday, March 27th, 6:00 to 7:30 p.m., go to tinyurl.com/3-2023Justice to register and for more info



Can Restorative Justice be effective in dealing with drug and gun trafficking? How are the roles of Judge, Prosecutor, and Defense Attorneys changed using the process? Why would a prosecutor be interested in restorative justice? What are the effects of restorative justice on sentencing? How is the effectiveness of the restorative justice program assessed? Find answers to these questions and your own at the SNEUCC Restorative Justice Team's webinar panel. A one-hour presentation will be followed by Q&A.

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

Due by Sunday, April 2nd, requested contribution \$20,

Go to <u>tinyurl.com/OSC-online-giving</u> and choose "Easter Flowers" to make your gift. Messages in honor or memory of loved ones or special occasions can be entered on the second page of the donation screen or you can give anonymously. The list of messages will be in the bulletin and online on Easter Sunday, April 9th. Contact Alex Pickering at <u>alex@oldsouth.org</u> with questions.



HEALING WORSHIP

NOTE DATE CHANGE: Sunday, April 2nd, 5 p.m. on Zoom, go to <u>tinyurl.com/OSCHealing</u> to join Please join us to take a moment for rest and renewal in the presence of God and other spiritual companions gathering by Zoom. All are welcome to share this quiet space and lift up our concerns, our losses, our hurts, and our celebrations in the Healing Presence of God and one another.

BLESSING OF THE ATHLETES

Sunday, April 16th, Services at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. Join us for our annual Marathon Sunday worship services, featuring the Blessing of the Marathon Athletes and Highland Cathedral for bagpipes, drum, and organ.

OLD SOUTH PRESCHOOL BOOK FAIR

Old South Preschool is celebrating National Reading Month. To cap off several special school events throughout the month, we are holding a Used Book Fair the last week of March, in the 4th floor Guild Room. Books will be organized on tables and available for purchase for a small price. The children will also be selling unique repurposed cardboard bookmarks, which they are designing.



We are accepting donations of used books (all genres and

audiences). If you have books that you no longer need and would like to see them find a new home, kindly bring them in. There is a donation box on the side of the reception desk, in the elevator lobby. This fundraiser will directly support Arts & Literacy here at OSP, and also captures our spirit of recycling and upcycling. Thank you for your participation!

GREEN TIP: TAKE ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE

Tuesday, March 21st, 12-1:30 p.m., Downtown Crossing, 425 Washington St Go to <u>tinyurl.com/OSCStopBanks</u> to sign up and for more info

Join the OSC Climate Crisis Task Force as we stand in solidarity with other faith communities, Third Act, and 350 Mass to tell Big Banks to stop funding the fossil fuel chaos that is violating our climate.

WE ARE HIRING

Work with us! Old South Church in Boston is seeking a full-time Church Administrator to oversee and coordinate the administrative life of this active congregation. Spread the word and learn more at <u>oldsouth.org/careers</u>.



TAKE OUR QUICK WEBSITE USER EXPERIENCE SURVEY

Go to tinyurl.com/2023OSCWebSurvey to take the survey

Old South Church in Boston would like to learn from **you!** Our website is a place that allows us to connect to congregants and newcomers all over Boston and the world. We want it to be easy to use so you can find the information that is important to you. **We ask that you fill out the short survey so we can better learn about how you use the website and how we can improve it.** Thank you for helping make our website more user friendly and accessible to all.

HOLY WEEK 2023

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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 5:30 p.m. via Zoom



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.

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.

Old South Church in Boston 🛠 645 Boylston Street, Boston 02116 🛠 www.oldsouth.org