

ANTHEM

Star in the East

William Walker

Hail the blest morn! See the Great Mediator
down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger;
Lo, for a guard the bright angels attend.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning,
dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid.
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Cold on his cradle the dewdrops are shining,
low lies his head with the beasts of the stall.
Angels adore him in slumber reclining,
Maker and Monarch and Savior of all.

Shall we not yield him — in costly devotion —
odors of Edom and offerings divine,
gems of the mountains and pearls of the ocean,
myrrh from the forest, and gold from the mine?

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 2:1-15

Candace Kosturko

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

*HYMN 155

The Magi Who to Bethlehem Did Go

LOS MAGOS

REFLECTION

Phil Stern

*HYMN 306

The Church of Christ, in Every Age

WAREHAM

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Donald A. Wells

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

O Loving Creator 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

The Shepherd's Farewell
from *L'enfance du Christ*, Op. 25

Hector Berlioz

You must leave your lowly dwelling: the humble crib, the stable bare.

Babe, all mortal babes excelling; content our earthly lot to share.

Loving father, loving mother, shelter you with tender care!

Blessed Jesus, we implore you with humble love and holy fear:

in the land that lies before you, forget not us who linger here!

May the shepherd's lowly calling ever to your heart be dear!

Blest are you beyond all measure, O happy father, mother mild!

Guard you well your heavenly treasure: the Prince of Peace, the Holy Child!

God go with you, God protect you, guide you safely through the wild!

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

Behold a Star from Jacob Shining Felix Mendelssohn
from *Christus*, Op. 97

Behold a star from Jacob shining,
and a scepter from Israel rising,
to dash in pieces princes and nations.

How bright the star of morning gleams,
enfolding us with radiant beams of light and consolation.
Thy word, Jesu, truly feeds us; gently leads us; brings salvation.
Thine be praise and adoration!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 164

Arise, Your Light Is Come

FESTAL SONG

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Richard E. Spalding

POSTLUDE

Allegro maestoso e vivace
from the Organ Sonata Op. 65, No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn



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

The flowers today are given by Jim and Linda Crawford
in memory of Benjamin Coalter Crawford.

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

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

Richard E. Spalding, *Interim Senior Minister*
James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister*
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
Howard Cha-Young Kim, *Pastoral Resident*
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, & David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*
Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, & 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*

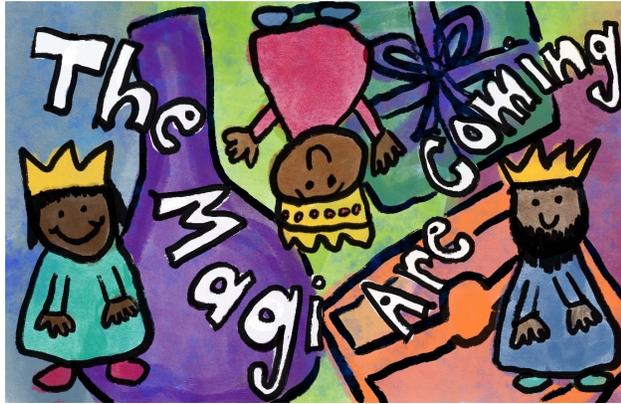
A NOTE ON THE INCLUSIVE DIMENSIONS OF GOD'S GRACE

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



STEWARDSHIP: AN EPIPHANY!

January is Stewardship month at Old South Church: the season when we all pledge our financial resources to fuel the work of Mercy, Justice, & Beauty for 2023 - a threshold year for a new season of our ministry! We think of it as following in the footsteps of the Magi, bearing our own gifts for the Christ child as we explore what *Faithful Belonging* means - to God, and to each other. Watch the stars for more information.



ONLINE COMMUNITY COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, January 8th, 12:30 p.m. via Zoom at tinyurl.com/OSCOOnlineCoffeeHour

Our Old South Community extends well beyond our walls. If you call Old South home, but join us from a distance we invite you to "drop in" for fellowship and connection during this winter's Online Community Coffee Hour.

UPCOMING FORUM

Sundays, 10 a.m., 2nd Floor Mary Norton Hall and on Zoom, 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.

My Favorite Theologian:

John Cobb Jr. - with Katherine Schofield

January 8th

This Winter we'll hear from our clergy leaders about their favorite theologians, how the study of theology shapes their ministry work, and what growing edges they're exploring in these areas. Katherine will kick us off with an exploration of Process Theology and the contemporary theologian - John Cobb, Jr.

HEALING WORSHIP

Sunday, January 8th, 5 p.m., on Zoom, go to tinyurl.com/OSCHealing 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.

MLK SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES

The weekend ending January 16th

One way to mark the Martin Luther King, Jr federal holiday is to spend time that day in service to others. This January, instead of hosting our own event, we have compiled some ideas for you and your loved ones. If you DO volunteer - please send Jamie Garuti a photo of yourself/ you group that day, and tell us where you volunteered!

Boston Cares

has compiled several options: <https://www.bostoncares.org/mlkvolunteer>

Cradles to Crayons

is hosting an entire Weekend of Purpose, with at-home practices for Friday - Sunday, and in person on Monday. Go to www.cradlestocrayons.org/boston/take-action/mlk2023/ for more info or to register.

MOSAIC (formerly known as Kids4Peace)

is partnering with GBIO to host a Day of Service on Sunday January 15th to host a workshop on advocacy and climate justice for youth ages 12 - 18. For more information and to register go to tinyurl.com/MOSAICMLK2023 by January 10th.

MASS AND CASS STORYTELLING PROJECT

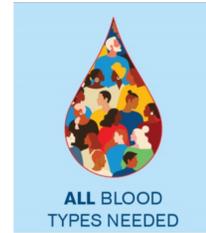
Tuesday Evenings beginning January 24th

Join us for a free 6-week storytelling workshop with Lani Peterson, Psy.D., psychologist (lanipeterson.com), and story coach. By focusing on the power of stories to change and heal, we will learn how to tell a personal story for impact, and most importantly, learn how to support others with lived experience to find and tell their stories in a way that leads to growth and change. This piloted program will be accessible to 20 individuals – housed and unhoused who will all commit to using these skills at both Mass and Cass as well as with all unhoused in the Boston area. Go to tinyurl.com/MassandCassStories to register.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, January 10th, 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? All blood types needed! Donate blood to help end the critical shortage. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/BloodDriveOldSouth> or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) for an appointment.



SMALL GROUP SIGN UPS

Fill out the interest form at tinyurl.com/OSCSmallGroups2023

Do you seek to deepen your experience of community at Old South Church, cultivate spiritual friendships, and grow in your faith? We are currently forming groups for the spring season (Jan through May). Some groups are meeting online while others meet in person (or a mix of both).

CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND SUPPORT

With the aid of many hands, the Congregational Care and Support Team reaches out with a pastoral ministry of prayers, love and support for members and friends of Old South Church in times of need. If you, or someone you know, could use a card, a meal, a ride, a prayer or a listening ear, don't hesitate to reach out to care@oldsouth.org.

THROUGH THE BIBLE

Thursdays, 7pm, 4th Floor Phillis Wheatley Room and on Zoom

Join us as we journey at a reflective and thorough pace through the Hebrew Bible. We are excited to welcome a new Bible Study Instructor to lead this group. Andrew Vosburgh, a student at Harvard Divinity School, has a deep appreciation of biblical hermeneutics and is well versed in ancient languages so will bring many gifts to the group.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 10am in the Phillis Wheatley Room and via zoom

Delve into the day's scripture passage heard in worship. This no-homework Bible study delights in taking a scholarly look at ancient texts. Don't leave your questions at the door; we need them. For more information contact Katherine Schofield.

GREEN TIP: SWITCH TO RENEWABLE ENERGY

The time is NOW to switch to renewable energy in Boston. As OSC member Bradford Swing (Dir. of Energy Policy and Programs, City of Boston, Office of the Mayor) has shared with our community before, the City's Community Choice Electricity program provides Boston residents with more affordable greener electricity than Eversource. In fact, the City's GREEN 100 product (electricity 100% from renewable generation) is now MUCH cheaper than Eversource's 18% green electricity (the minimum mandated by state law.). If you need help with any aspects of this, please call 311.

A REVOLUTIONARY PORTRAIT

Go to oldsouth.org/revolutionary-portrait to read the full blog

Old South Historian Kate Silfen describes how the dedication of the Phillis Wheatly Room at Old South was a historic occasion in more ways than one. It marked the first time one of the church's public spaces had been named for a woman of color. But it also celebrated the arrival of a portrait that was revolutionary for its time.



DONATE FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Go to tiny.oldsouth.org/Flowers2023 to sign up for a Sunday, dates are filling quickly

Would you like to give the flowers one Sunday - in memory or in honor of a special person or event? I find it quite meaningful every Sunday to read the flower message. The price is \$100. Please send you message along with your payment. You can drop it off, send a check, or go to tinyurl.com/DonateOSC and make your gift online. **Sunday February 19th is still available.**

PASTORAL SEARCH UPDATE

Go to <https://oldsouth.org/updates-senior-minister-search-committee> for latest update

The Old South Church Senior Minister Search Committee has had a productive month and we are right on schedule with our anticipated timeline for welcoming a new Senior Minister to our pulpit. As you will recall, we convened as a committee in June and spent the summer planning. We released our church profile and “posted” our job description with the UCC in late September. For the last two months, we have been receiving and prayerfully reviewing “applications” from potential candidates. We have selected a pool of candidates that we will be inviting for virtual initial interviews during a 4-6 week period starting in the second week of January.

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



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.