



## Old South Church

*Copley Square, Boston*

*A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ*

*Gathered 1669*

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2022

## Third 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

PRELUDE

Air

Gerre Hancock

\*HYMN 373

**They Did Not Build in Vain**

LEONI

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Howard Cha-Young Kim

One: O God, you are the gathering one  
who calls us into community with each other

**Many: to love and work, to support and heal.**

One: You are the gathering one  
who calls us into community with all people;

**Many: to bring justice and hope, freedom and truth.**

One: You are the gathering one  
who calls us into community with the whole creation;

**Many: to live in harmony, to cherish and renew.**

One: As we gather, let us share the stories of how God has seen us through.

**Many: As we gather, let us live into the story of God's future.**

*\* Indicates all who are able may stand*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

\*RESPONSE

Gathered in God's Name

**Solo:** *Gathered in God's name 'round the living Word.  
Gathered as one family in the name of love.*

**Congregation:**

Gath-ered from near and far, gath-ered in this ho - ly place,  
gath-ered as stran-gers and friends, gath-ered and gift - ed by grace.  
Gath - ered in God's name, 'round the liv - ing Word.  
Gath - ered as one fam-'ly in the name of love,  
in the name of love, *slowing* in the name of love.

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Spirit of the Living God

Audrey Assad  
Joseph M. Martin, *arr.*

O Spirit of the living God, thou light and fire divine,  
descend upon thy church once more, and make it truly thine.  
Fill it with love and joy and power, with righteousness and peace;  
till Christ shall dwell in human hearts, and sin and sorrow cease.

Blow, wind of God! With wisdom blow until our minds are free  
from mists of error, clouds of doubt, which blind our eyes to thee.

Burn, winged fire! Inspire our lips with flaming love and zeal,  
to preach to all thy great good news, God's glorious commonweal.

So shall we know the power of Christ who came this world to save;  
so shall we rise with him to life which soars beyond the grave;  
and earth shall win true holiness, which makes thy children whole;  
till, perfected by thee, we reach creation's glorious goal. Amen.

## ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Nehemiah 8: 1-6

Eliette Hilaire

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Shawn M. Fiedler

\*HYMN 609

**Now Is the Time Approaching**

WEBB

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

SERMON

Recollecting:  
People of the Book

Katherine A. Schofield

\*HYMN 417

**This Is a Day of New Beginnings**

BEGINNINGS

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Donald A. Wells

One: God be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: We lift our eyes to the hills—from where will our help come?

**Many: Our help is from God, who made heaven and earth.**

One: Let us pray. *Please be seated.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**O Gracious and Loving God, 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

Prayer for the Children

Kurt Bestor;  
Andrea S. Klouse, *arr.*

*Offered in response to ongoing atrocities committed against the people of Ukraine*

Can you hear the prayer of the children,  
on bended knee, in the shadow of an unknown room?  
Empty eyes with no more tears to cry,  
turning heavenward toward the light.

Crying, “who will help me to see the morning light of one more day?  
But if I should die before I wake, I pray my soul to take.”

Can you feel the hearts of the children,  
aching for home, for something of their very own?  
Reaching hands, with nothing to hold on to,  
but hope for a better day, a better day.

Crying, “who will help me to feel the love again in my own land?  
But if unknown roads lead away from home,  
give me loving arms, away from harm.”

Can you hear the prayer of the children?

## RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Nancy S. Taylor



*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

Oh, What a Beautiful City Eurydice V. Osterman, *arr.*

*Oh, what a beautiful city, oh, what a beautiful city,  
oh, what a beautiful city, twelve gates into the city, a-hallelujah!*

Three gates in-a the east, three gates in-a the west,  
three gates in-a the north, three gates way down south.  
Makin' it twelve gates into the city, a-hallelujah!

My Lord built-a that city, an' he said it was just a-four-square,  
and he said he wanted you, sinner, to meet him in-a the air.  
Makin' it twelve gates into the city, a-hallelujah!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 616

**I Want to Be Ready**

African-American spiritual

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Katherine A. Schofield

TAYLOR TRAILERS: CELEBRATING NANCY'S MINISTRY

Bob Brown &

Jennifer Mills-Knutsen

POSTLUDE

*Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671*

J. S. Bach



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

**Close-Up**, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,  
begins following Worship at the front of the Sanctuary.  
Led by docent Chuck Gerlinger.

The **flowers** today are given in loving memory of Ruth Ann Strong  
by the Palma Strong Fund.



## TODAY'S CALENDAR

8:45 a.m.	Childcare 3 <sup>rd</sup> flr ( <i>available through 12:30 p.m.</i> )
9:00 a.m.	FIRST Worship
9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour in Gordon Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Community Hour: The Forum, 2 <sup>nd</sup> flr
10:00 a.m.	Festival Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.	Drop-In Bible Study, 4 <sup>th</sup> flr
10:00 a.m.	Youth Group,
10:00 a.m.	Church School
11:00 a.m.	FESTIVAL Worship
12:00 p.m.	Connections Class, 4 <sup>th</sup> flr
12:15 p.m.	Coffee Hour in Gordon Chapel
12:15 p.m.	(G)RACE Speaks Anti-Racism Workshop
1:15 p.m.	O.W.L. Program ( <i>offsite</i> )

*links at [oldsouth.org](http://oldsouth.org)/Sundays*

## NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

One of Contemporary Christian Music's rising stars, **Audrey Assad** spent her early years in New Jersey, the daughter of an American mother and Arab-American father of Syrian descent. Relocating to Florida when she was 18, Assad briefly attended college before turning her focus to her nascent singing career. She recorded a well-received demo in 2003, but it was only after her move to Nashville in 2008 that things began to take off. Her major break came following the release of her first album, when Assad was signed by Sparrow Records; in the years since, she has worked and toured with a number of chart-topping Christian Contemporary artists and bands, including Chris Tomlin, Matt Maher, Tenth Avenue North, and Jars of Clay. *Spirit of the Living God* was released on the 2013 album *Fortunate Fall*, and is heard today in an arrangement for choir by American composer and arranger Joseph Martin.

**Eurydice V. Osterman**, whose arrangement of *Oh, What A Beautiful City* is featured during this week's offertory, is an author and composer whose works have been performed worldwide. Dr. Osterman earned both her Bachelor and Master of Music degrees from Andrews University, and the Doctor of Musical Arts degree in Composition from The University of Alabama.

In a teaching career spanning more than thirty years, Osterman served Oakwood University in Alabama as Professor of Music, chair of the department, and conductor of university choirs; she also served as chair of the Department of Music at Northern Caribbean University in Jamaica. Dr. Osterman is an accomplished organist and has conducted seminars throughout the United States, Europe, the Caribbean, South America, and Africa.

—Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*

Gerre Hancock was best known for his tenure as Organist and Master of Choristers at Saint Thomas Church in New York City. Before this appointment, Dr. Hancock held positions at Christ Church Cathedral in Cincinnati and St. Bartholomew's Church in New York City, where Old South's late Minister of Music Harry Huff also served for a time. Dr. Hancock was also known for his improvisational skills, the style of which is reflected in the harmonic language of his *Air for Organ*. The reflective beginning and end of the piece frame a more majestic middle section and afford the performer an opportunity to showcase many of the colorful solo reed stops of Old South's E.M. Skinner organ.

—George Sargeant, Associate Organist and Choirmaster



## WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

For **LARGE** print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher. The Chapel has full audio of the service if you need to stretch your legs.

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.

**Name tags** facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know—there will be one waiting for your next Sunday!

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](mailto: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](http://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit) or see the front desk.

## LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at [www.oldsouth.org/calendar](http://www.oldsouth.org/calendar) for a calendar of events, and the general website [www.oldsouth.org](http://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**

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.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **CONNECTIONS Two Opportunities!**

*Saturday, March 19<sup>th</sup>, at 10 a.m. in Rev. Taylors office or*

*Sunday, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 12:15 p.m. 4<sup>th</sup> floor Guild Room or [tinyurl.com/March22Connections](http://tinyurl.com/March22Connections)*

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? Join our Connections Info Session! For more info contact Rev. Katherine Schofield at [katherine@oldsouth.org](mailto:katherine@oldsouth.org).

## **LGBTQ+ LISTENING SESSION**

*Monday, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 7 p.m. on Zoom at [tinyurl.com/OSCListening](http://tinyurl.com/OSCListening)*

Old South Church in Boston has a deep and proud legacy of welcome and inclusion of LGBTQ+ folk! To honor this important legacy, the Pastoral Transition Task Force will hold a Pastoral Transition Listening Session dedicated to our LGBTQ+ community.

## **UKRANIAN REFUGEE SUPPORT**

*Donate at <http://tinyurl.com/OSC-online-giving> or reach out to [Helen@oldsouth.org](mailto:Helen@oldsouth.org)*

Old South launched a matching campaign to support Ukranian refugees. We are partnering with Marborough UCC and the Diakonia of the Lutheran Church in Poland ([www.diakonia.org.pl](http://www.diakonia.org.pl)). They are helping both refugees that fled to Poland (mainly women and children) and the Diakonia of the German Lutheran Church in Ukraine, centered in Kharkiv that is being bombed as we speak. Help is given by Diakonia to people regardless of their religion or lack thereof. The outreach committee is donating \$2000 and we would love to mobilize more congregational support as well.

## **TRAVELING SOUP KITCHEN**

*Saturday, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., 2nd Floor*

We will meet, prepare meals, and deliver them to our friends and neighbors in Copley Square that call the street home. If you would like to help out, please email Ralph Watson at [ralphwatson258@gmail.com](mailto:ralphwatson258@gmail.com).

## **HOLY WEEK 2022**

**Palm Sunday** | April 10<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

**Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae** | April 14<sup>th</sup> 7:00 p.m.

**Good Friday** | April 15<sup>th</sup>, 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

**Easter Sunday and Athlete Blessing** | April 17<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m.

## **UPCOMING COMMUNITY HOUR FORUMS: OLD SOUTH AT THE OSCARS**

*Sundays, 10:00 a.m., 2nd Floor Mary Norton Hall and on Zoom, go to [tinyurl.com/OSCForum](https://tinyurl.com/OSCForum) to join*

Join us each week as we explore an Oscar-nominated film through the lens of Christian faith. Come, having seen the movies, and channel your inner Siskel (or Ebert) ... or just be prepared for spoilers!

- **3/20 "Don't Look Up"** Two low-level astronomers must go on a giant media tour to warn humankind of an approaching comet that will destroy planet Earth. Starring Leonardo DiCaprio and Jennifer Lawrence. Available on Netflix.
- **3/27 "Encanto"** The Madrigals are an extraordinary family who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia in a charmed place called the Encanto. The magic of the Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift -- every child except Mirabel. However, she soon may be the Madrigals last hope when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is now in danger. Music by Lin-Manuel Miranda. Available on Disney+.

## **GREEN TIP**

### **A CREATION-CARING LENT: WEEK THREE - WATER**

God calls us to care for the sacred gift of water: to protect it (don't pollute) and use it carefully (conserve, don't waste). IF YOU CAN ONLY DO ONE THING, turn off running water when not using it. Go to [tinyurl.com/OSCGreenLent2022-3](https://tinyurl.com/OSCGreenLent2022-3) for this week's full reflection on Water, and to mark your commitment to a greener life go to [tinyurl.com/OSC2022LentCommitment](https://tinyurl.com/OSC2022LentCommitment).

## **LENTEN DEVOTIONAL: VINCENT VAN GOGH AND THE BEAUTY OF LENT**

*Access the devotional at [tinyurl.com/2022SaltDevotional](https://tinyurl.com/2022SaltDevotional)*

*Gather at the Forum on Palm Sunday, April 10th, at 10:00 a.m. to discuss*

Vincent van Gogh devoted his life to light: the light of creation, the light of painting, the light of God's grace – and the light in humanity, mind, body, and soul. In just ten years of his short life, from age 27 to 37, he created more than 2000 luminous works of art – go to [tinyurl.com/SaltVanGoghLinks](https://tinyurl.com/SaltVanGoghLinks) see some of his paintings – shimmering with vitality, with passion, and above all, with light. The word “Lent” refers to the “lengthening” light, the growing days that, in time, will coax the sunflowers to open, the wheat fields to rise again, and the irises to bloom. This Lent the Christian Formation Committee invites you to dive weekly into the words of Scripture and the paintings and letters of Vincent van Gogh such that each will shine light on the other and point toward simple, powerful practices you can try yourself, or with your family or friends.

## **ANTI-RACISM SEMINARS**

*Final Sunday session March 20<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 p.m.*

*Final Wednesday session March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 10:00 a.m.*

*Go to [tinyurl.com/Antiracism-Training-2022](https://tinyurl.com/Antiracism-Training-2022) to join, passcode: OSCBoston*

(G)RACE Speaks offers two four-week interactive seminars to facilitate dialogue on the intra-racial church, intra = within or inside one group. Through personal stories, dialogues are focused on understanding and finding the means of dealing with conscious and unconscious racial behavior. Open to all. (G)RACE speaks facilitates holy conversations around race among the members and friends of Old South Church. Schedule and more info at [oldsouth.org/grace-speaks](https://oldsouth.org/grace-speaks).

## **GRANT OPPORTUNITY - FAITH JOURNEYS: YOURS AND OURS**

As a part of our collective commitment to be a Teaching Church, the Christian Formation Committee announces the opening of a small grants program intended to support Old South members on our faith journeys and encouraging us to bring our own learning back to the community. Grants of up to \$3,000 will be awarded to Old South members to support experiences leading to personal spiritual growth and faith formation (such as attendance at a conference or enrollment in a course, participation in an advocacy or service learning endeavor, leadership development or training, or immersion experiences that enable intersectional relationship-building). Awardees will be expected to bring their experience back to the church to enable others to learn and grow in some way. Go to [oldsouth.org/faithjourneys](https://oldsouth.org/faithjourneys) to learn more or apply.

## **BIBLE STUDY**

*Sundays at 9:00 a.m., 4<sup>th</sup> floor Sam Johnson Room, and Zoom at [tinyurl.com/OSCBibleStudy](https://tinyurl.com/OSCBibleStudy)*

Delve into the day's scripture passage heard in worship. Led by our ministerial staff, 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 jessica young chang at [jess@oldsouth.org](mailto:jess@oldsouth.org).

## **THROUGH THE BIBLE**

*Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., on Zoom at [tinyurl.com/OSCThroughBible](https://tinyurl.com/OSCThroughBible)*

Join us as we journey at a reflective and thorough pace through the Hebrew Bible. We're currently reading through Psalms. For more information and the Zoom link, email Howard Cha-Young Kim.

## **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.

## **A LABOR OF LOVE:**

### **Adulting when it comes to Wills, Healthcare Proxies (for you and your loved ones), and What to Do When Someone Is Sick**

*Sunday, May 1st at 10 a.m., 2nd Floor or Zoom at [tinyurl.com/OSCLaborofLove](https://tinyurl.com/OSCLaborofLove)*

Your Planned Giving Committee cares about you (you of all ages) and is eager to help you think about some important and very personal matters. We will have OSC experts to present briefly on each topic with time for Q & A. Some 70% of Americans die without a will. Don't be one of those. You're smarter than that! And, while you're at it, if you want to name Old South Church in your planned giving, that would make us happy, too, but our greatest happiness will be in knowing you are planning ahead with your head and your heart.

## **PASTORAL TRANSITION CELEBRATION TEAM**

The Celebration Team is planning ways to celebrate the tenure of Reverend Nancy Taylor. In the coming weeks we will announce ways you can participate in celebrating and honoring Nancy, up to and including her final Sunday on May 22<sup>nd</sup>.

### **MAY 22<sup>nd</sup> SCHEDULE**

**All-Church Worship** 10:00 a.m. | **Light Lunch** 11:00 a.m. | **Celebration** 12:00 p.m.

## **HONORING NANCY | THE NANCY S. TAYLOR LEADERSHIP FELLOWSHIP**

Old South Church in Boston has long been a teaching church. Rev. Taylor's commitment to nurturing, guiding and mentoring seminarians and new ministers is a hallmark of her tenure at Old South Church. To honor and preserve this legacy, the Celebration Team announces the creation of the Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellowship. This program will be funded through an endowment and offered annually to a seminary student. The "Taylor Fellow", in addition to the seminary Old South already supports, targets seminary students in their third or final year. To learn more about the fellowship visit [oldsouth.org/nancy](https://oldsouth.org/nancy). To contribute to this endowment, visit [oldsouth.org/donate](https://oldsouth.org/donate).

## **WEEKLY WORSHIP**

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

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

**FIRST Worship** Sunday 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

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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.

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