



Photo by Corey Spence

All Church Worship — Old South Church *in Boston*

December 26th, 2021 10:00 a.m.

First Sunday of Christmas

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

'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime

Richard Cummins, *arr.*

1. An - gels from the realms of glo-ry wing your flight o'er all the earth;
 2. Shep-herds, in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your flocks by night
 3. All cre - a - tion join in prais - ing God Cre - a - tor, Spir - it, Son

you, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry, now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 God with us is now re - si - ding, yon - der shines the in - fant light:
 ev - er - more your voi - ces rai - sing to th'e - ter - nal three in one:

Refrain

Come and wor - ship, come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ the new born king!

INVOCATION

The Work of Christmas
Howard Thurman

Katherine A. Schofield

When the song of the angels is stilled,
 when the star in the sky is gone,
 when the kings and princes are home,
 when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
 the work of Christmas begins:
 to find the lost,
 to heal the broken,
 to feed the hungry,
 to release the prisoner,
 to rebuild the nations,
 to bring peace among the people,
 to make music in the heart.

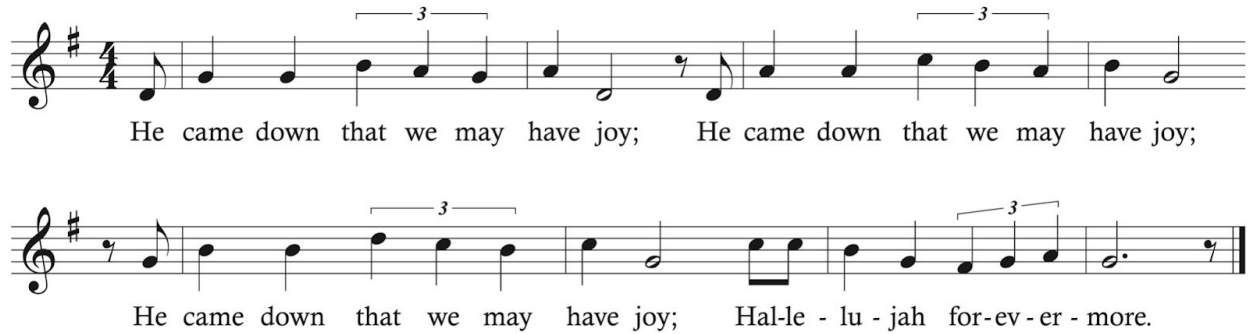
PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

RESPONSE

He Came Down

Cameroon Melody



He came down that we may have joy; He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy; Hal-le - lu - jah for-ev - er - more.

WELCOME

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate Nintcheu

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 60:1

David Story

SERMON

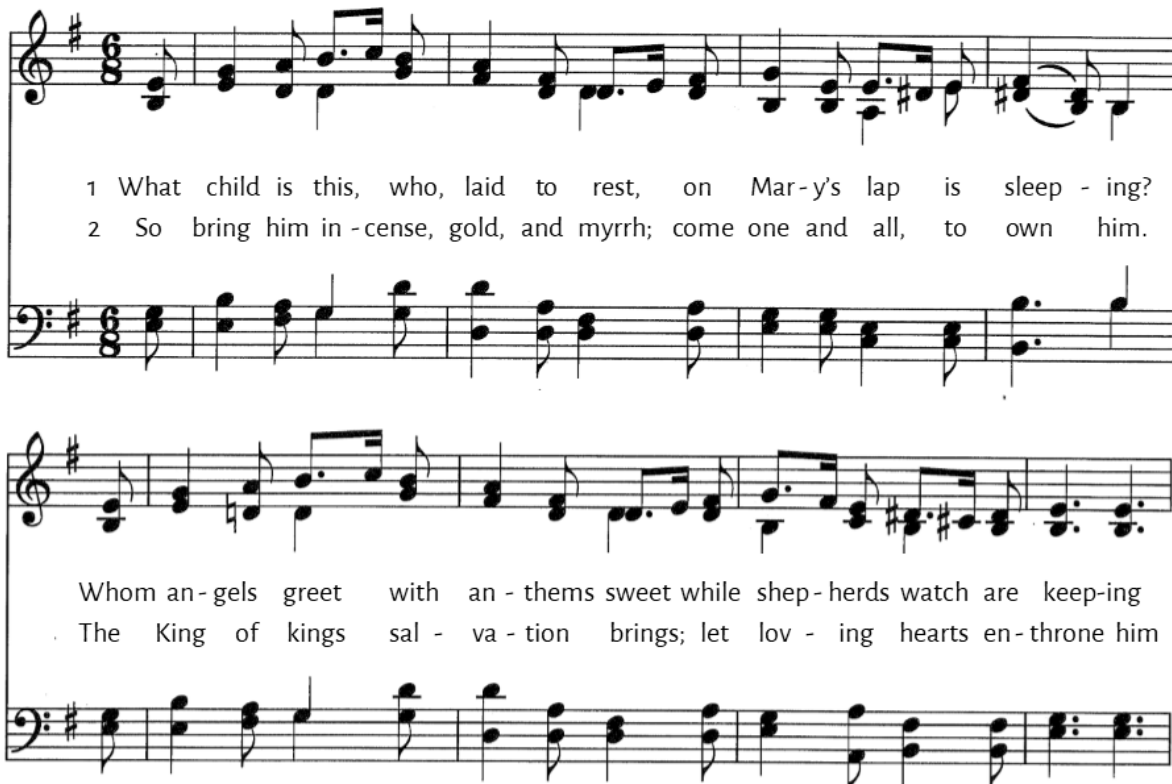
Reflection

Katherine A. Schofield

HYMN

What Child is This

GREENSLEEVES



1 What child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mar-y's lap is sleep - ing?
2 So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh; come one and all, to own him.
Whom an - gels greet with an - thems sweet while shep - herds watch are keep - ing
The King of kings sal - va - tion brings; let lov - ing hearts en - throne him

This, this is Christ the king, whom shep-herds guard and an-gels sing;
 Raise, raise the song on high. The vir-gin sings her lull-la-by.

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mar-y!
 Joy, joy, for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mat-y!

CALL TO PRAYER

June R. Cooper

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:

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

Our Creator, 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

Away in a Manger

MÜLLER

**Be near me, Lord Jesus; I ask thee to stay
 close by me forever and love me, I pray.
 Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,
 and fit us for heaven to live with thee there.**

RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Jessica Young Chang



*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

Good King Wenceslas

Leo Sowerby, *arr.*

Good King Wenceslas looked out, on the Feast of Stephen;
when the snow lay round about, deep, and crisp, and even:
brightly shone the moon that night (though the frost was cruel),
when a poor man came in sight, gathering winter fuel.

“Hither page and stand by me, if thou know’st it, telling,
yonder peasant— who is he? Where and what his dwelling?”
“Sire, he lives a good league hence: underneath the mountain;
right against the forest fence, by Saint Agnes’ fountain.”

“Bring me flesh and bring me wine, bring me pine-logs hither:
thou and I will see him dine, when we bear them thither.”
Page and monarch forth they went, forth they went together;
through the rude wind’s wild lament, and the bitter weather.

“Sire, the night is darker now, and the wind blows stronger;
fails my heart, I know now how, I can go no longer.”
“Mark my footsteps, my good page; tread thou in them boldly;
thou shalt find the winter’s rage freeze thy blood less coldly.”

In his master’s steps he trod, where the snow lay dinted;
heat was in the very sod which the Saint had printed.
Therefore, Christians all: be sure, wealth or rank possessing,
you who now will bless the poor shall yourselves find blessing.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Refrain

Go tell it on the moun - tain, o-ver the hill and ev - ery - where.

Last time. end

Go tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ is born!

1 While shep-herds kept their watch-ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2 The shep-herds feared and trem-bled when lo! a - bove the earth
3 Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,

to Refrain

Be - hold through-out the heav-ens there shone a ho - ly light.
Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed our Sav - ior's birth.
And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ-mas morn.



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



INFORMATION ABOUT OLD SOUTH

Check out the church website at
www.oldsouth.org/Sundays for everything Sundays,
www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of virtual 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

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*
Reamogetje S. Ngoepe, *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*
Oussama Ouadani and William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, and David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*
Shirley Bivins 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.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW YEAR'S EVE CONCERTS AT OLD SOUTH

KING OF INSTRUMENTS CONCERT

Friday, December 31st at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary

Experience the "Sensurround" magnificence of Old South Church's mighty 1921 E. M. Skinner pipe organ — affectionately dubbed the "Copley Philharmonic Organ." In repertoire designed to showcase its myriad colors, Minister of Music Mitchell Crawford offers a diverse program the whole family is sure to enjoy. Free and open to the public.

FIRST NIGHT PIPES AND POPS CONCERT

Friday, December 31st at 6:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. in the Sanctuary

The best of Boston's brass and percussion artists join Minister of Music Mitchell Crawford in a supersonic program, presenting fun and engaging arrangements of popular classics, as well as a seasonal sing of "Auld Lang Syne." Free and open to the public.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY HOUR FORUMS

Sundays, following All-Church Worship, 2nd Floor Mary Norton Hall

- **January 9th, Amirah House**, which Old South helped to found, provides aftercare, resources, and opportunities to women who have survived different forms of sexual exploitation, sex trafficking, and prostitution. They do this by offering residential recovery opportunities, organizing outreach efforts, and educating communities, providers, and policy makers on the unique challenges victims and survivors face in the Northeastern United States. Join us for a presentation by Stephanie Clark, CEO and learn how you can support this vital mission.
- **January 16th, Old South Church Enslavers and Enslaved.** Archivist Emily Ross has delved into the records of Old South and the archives of 17th and 18th century Boston newspapers to explore the depth of slave holding by members of Old South. She will present a snapshot of her findings.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, January 19th, 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? Donate blood to help end the critical shortage status with the Red Cross. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/BloodDriveOSC> or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule an appointment.

GREEN TIP: 12 Green Tips of Christmas

7. Buy experiences instead of physical gifts.
8. Take a nature hike with family or friends to enjoy the gift of the outdoors together.

BIBLE STUDY

Sundays at 9:00 a.m., Sam Johnson Room on the fourth floor, and Zoom

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 jess@oldsouth.org.

OLD SOUTH MICRO COMMUNITIES

Sign up at <https://forms.gle/SSF8ecoqoHPQykR8>

In an effort to help our community stay well connected, build new friendships, and weather the isolation of the winter season, we are once again creating groups of 4-5 people who each week will have a question to discuss over text or email. This year our discussion topics will be more spiritually based and groups will be encouraged to gather (in person or online) for an initial "getting to know you" session. We'll kick this off the week of January 16th and run through April 9th, the beginning of Holy Week. Once you have signed up, you will hear from us the second week of January introducing you to your micro community!

ADVENT SERVICE PROJECT REPORT

Last Saturday a group of families and volunteers gathered to pack 49 Christmas presents for our unhoused neighbors. The packages included warm accessories for the cold, socks, handwarmers, toiletries, and gift cards for Dunkin Donuts. Check out our photo gallery for more.

OSC Giving Back

Because of your generosity Old South Church has been able to give strong financial support to many vital organizations this year.

The Christian Service and Outreach Committee has awarded grants of \$20,000 each to

- City Mission
- Common Cathedral
- Healthcare without Walls
- Father's Uplift
- Alternatives for Community and Environment.

Our newest grantees are Fathers' Uplift (an organization in Dorchester that assists fathers in overcoming financial, oppressive, emotional, traumatic, and addiction-based barriers that prevent them from remaining engaged in their children's lives) and Alternatives for Community and Environment (an organization in Roxbury that empowers communities of color and low-income communities in Massachusetts to eradicate environmental racism and classism, create healthy, sustainable communities, and achieve environmental justice).

Through the Micah Mission Fund and other church benevolence funds OSC has given donations of over \$7,000 each to the Friends of Boston's Homeless, Afghan Refugee Support and Haitian Refugee Support. The Allston-Brighton Food Pantry has received \$6,420 from OSC in 2021 and additional donations have also been made to AGO Young Organists Initiative, Mothers for Justice and Equality, Families for Justice as Healing, Haiti Earthquake Relief, December Tornado Relief and the Cooper Justice Center.

DONATE FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

The church is open for worship on Sunday mornings and we have beautiful flowers in front of the pulpit again! Would you like to give the flowers one Sunday - in memory or honor of a special person or event? I find it quite meaningful every Sunday to read the flower message. Go to <https://tinyurl.com/SundayFlowers2022> to sign up for a Sunday. Due to the COVID economy the price has gone up to \$100. Please send you message along with your payment. You can drop it off, send a check, or go to www.oldsouth.org/donate and make your gift online. While worship was all-virtual we supported Allston Brighton Food Pantry with “in lieu of flowers” donations. Our support of this important ministry will not end. As we return to taking donations for Sunday flowers, other collections will be given to the Food Pantry. Questions? Contact Helen McCrady at helen@oldsouth.org.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us for worship in person and on Vimeo.

JAZZ Worship Resumes January 6th, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

ALL-CHURCH Worship, Sundays at 10:00 a.m.

Our monthly **HEALING Worship** is held the second Sunday at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

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.
