

Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

May 1, 2016
Care of Creation
Sunday
11:00 am

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?

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE **Capital District Youth Chorale, Guilderland, NY**
Diane Warner, Director

Zion's Walls

Aaron Copland

Give Me Your Tired, Your Poor

Irving Berlin, arr. Mark A. Brymer

The Last Words of David

Randall Thompson

*HYMN 567

Stars and Planets Flung in Orbit

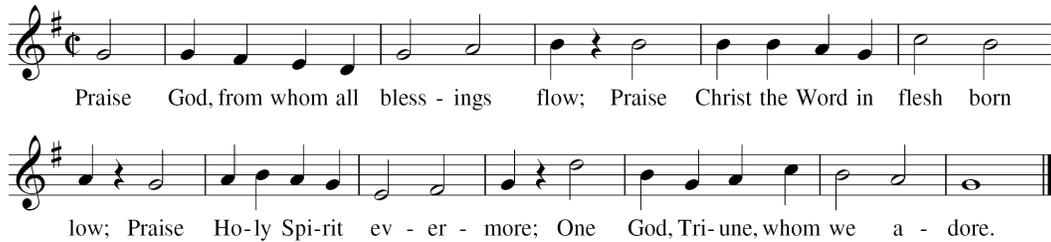
Lauda Anima

* *Indicates all who are able may stand*

*LITANY OF CONFESSION

Nancy S. Taylor

Written by Emma Brewer-Wallin



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise Christ the Word in flesh born
low; Praise Ho-ly Spi-rit ev - er - more; One God, Tri-une, whom we a - dore.

One: O God, You created the heavens and the earth, and saw that they were good. You created the birds of the air and the fish of the sea, and saw that they were good. You created us, and called us to be stewards of it all, and You said it was good.

Many: **But we confess, Creator God, that we have not lived up to Your call. We confess, Creator God, that what You once called good is disappearing. We confess, Creator God, that we have misused the dominion You gave us.**

Sung Response

One: O God, You took on flesh and knew what it is to be of the earth. You felt the air rush through Your lungs and the water run over Your skin. You had dirt beneath Your fingernails. You walked with those we consider unworthy and ate with those we would never invite to our tables.

Many: **We confess, Redeemer God, that we forget the ways of your earthly sojourn. We confess, Redeemer God, that in our desire for comfort and efficiency, we have hurt those whom You taught us to love the most.**

Sung Response

One: O God, You are here with us, even now. Your everlasting presence binds us with those who came before and the many generations who will follow. You stir up our souls, breathing into us the courage to act.

Many: We Confess, Sustainer God, that we too easily ignore Your still small voice. We Confess, Sustainer God, that we choose to maintain our lifestyles rather than sustain our earth for our children.

Sung Response

***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

ANTHEM

**Let All the Ends of the Earth
- PREMIERE PERFORMANCE -**

Erik K. Gustafson

*May God be gracious to us and bless us
And make God's face to shine upon us.
That your way may be known upon the earth,
Your saving power among all nations.*

*Let the peoples praise you, O God;
Let all the peoples praise you.
Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,
For you judge the peoples with equity
And guide the nations upon the earth.*

*The earth has yielded its increase;
God, our God, has blessed us.
May God continue to bless us;
Let all the ends of the earth revere God.*

-Psalm 67

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Romans 5:1-5

Ted Wade

***HYMN 569**

Touch the Earth Lightly
(Children and teachers may leave for choir and childcare.)

Tenderness

SERMON Shaped by Hope - In a Climate Crisis World Jim Antal
Conference Minister and President
Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ

*HYMN 563 We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky *Endless Song*

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

*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. (The congregation 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.

PRAYER RESPONSE What a Wonderful World
Bob Thiele & George David Weiss
arr. Mark A. Brymer

*I see trees of green, red roses too,
I see them bloom for me and you,
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.*

*I see skies of blue and clouds of white,
The bright blessed day, the dark sacred night,
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.*

*The colors of the rainbow, so pretty in the sky,
Are also on the faces of people going by,
I see friends shaking hands, saying "How do you do?"
They're really saying, "I love you."*

*I hear babies cry, I watch them grow
They'll learn much more than I'll ever know
And I think to myself, what a wonderful world.*

Yes, I think to myself, what a wonderful world!

CALL TO THE OFFERING

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Go Down, Moses Spiritual, arr. David Eddleman
When the Saints Go Marching In Spiritual, arr. John Rutter
Capital District Youth Chorale

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 586 Come to Tend God's Garden *King's Weston*

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION Jim Antal

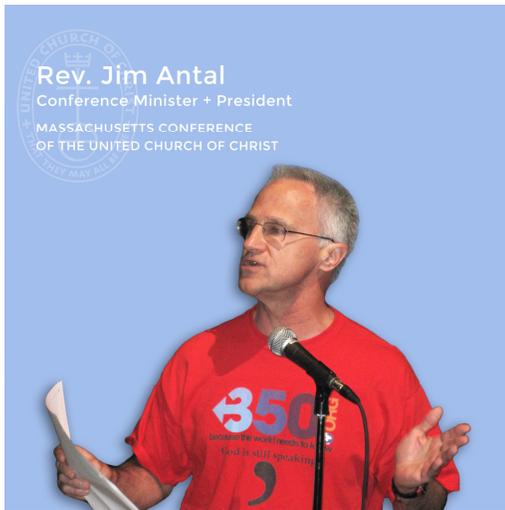
POSTLUDE Toccata on the Bells of Westminster Grimoaldo Macchia



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

GUEST PREACHER

Rev. Dr. Jim Antal



We welcome the Rev. Dr. Jim Antal, Minister and President of the Massachusetts Conference United Church of Christ – a covenant of 365 UCC churches along with over 800 authorized UCC ministers who serve throughout the Commonwealth. After teaching and leading two national peace organizations, Rev. Antal spent 20 years leading vital churches of all sizes in Massachusetts and Ohio and providing a public voice on peace and justice issues. His mentors have included Henri Nouwen and William Sloan Coffin, Jr. Rev. Antal is a national leader in the area of climate change.

In his role as Conference Minister, Rev. Antal seeks to:

- Connect congregations and pastors to the resources and opportunities offered by the Conference and the national setting of the church
- Serve as a prophetic voice in the Conference
- Provide leadership in ecumenical and interfaith relations
- Interpret the work and witness of the UCC to the press and in the public square
- Identify and promote strategies and practices that will enlarge the witness of the UCC in Massachusetts

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.

Today's scripture reader, Ted Wade, joined Old South Church in 2013. Ted focuses much of his energy on environmental matters. He has organized talks on climate change at Old South Church which have included speakers Austin Blackmon, Boston's Chief of Environment, Energy and Open Space, and Emma Brewer-Wallin, MAUCC Climate Justice Intern; and last winter Ted led a book study on the Pope's *encyclical* on climate change.

The flowers are given by Ruth Edens and David Zimmer in gratitude for the Old South Church congregation.

Name tags facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know.

Parents are free to wander when restless. Audio of the service is available across the Narthex in the Gordon Chapel.

For LARGE print bulletins or hearing assistance devices 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):

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).

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

We are delighted to welcome to Festival Worship this morning The Capital District Youth Chorale from Guilderland, New York. This is their second visit to Old South Church, having sung here last in 2010. The Chorale, formerly known as the Schenectady County Community College Children's Chorus, was founded in 1982 by Diane Warner, who continues as their Director. The singers are drawn from 67 schools in five counties of the greater Capital District of New York State. Entrance into and advancement within CDYC is based upon audition results, experience, and reliability. The Chorale will grace our worship with anthems during the prelude, offertory and postlude.

The first anthem, sung by the Old South Choir, is the world premiere of a new work by Composer-in-Residence Erik K. Gustafson. In the composer's words:

The choral anthem, Let All the Ends of the Earth, has its inspiration from the ongoing concern of Climate Change and the theme of Care of Creation. Of the psalms considered to be set to music for today's service, Psalm 67 appears in this year's Lectionary for May 1st. Beyond this connection to today's service, Psalm 67 also suggests a human and humane approach to Care of Creation. As the psalm and today's musical setting emphasize praise for the blessings of God - even earth's 'increase,' people among the world's most prominent inhabitants can further not only its stewardship of creation, but also its role in establishing a more suitable natural environment vis-à-vis Climate Change. In this way, the scripture can be more fully realized: "Let all the ends of the earth revere God."

Praise for the beauty of our planet following the annual celebration of Earth Day continues with the music sung as the prayer response. "What a Wonderful World" was first recorded by Louis Armstrong in 1967. Intended as an antidote for the increasingly racially and politically charged climate of everyday life in the United States, the song also has a hopeful, optimistic tone with regard to the future.

May our worship together this morning inspire our hearts to do whatever we can to promote responsible stewardship of God's "wonderful world".

—Harry L. Huff, Minister of Music

CALENDAR

Sunday, May 1	8:30 am	First Worship Choir
	9:00 am	FIRST Worship, Jim Antal preaching
	9:45 am	Old South Café in the Gordon Chapel
	10:00 am	Community Hour: <i>Godly Play</i> <i>Q & A with Jim Antal</i> <i>Choir Rehearsal</i>
	11:00 am	FESTIVAL Worship, Jim Antal preaching
Monday, May 2	8:00 am	Treasurer's Meeting
	6:00 pm	Stewardship Committee
	6:00 pm	Theological Book Group
	7:00 pm	Christian Service and Outreach Committee
Tuesday, May 3	5:30 pm	Old South Ringers Rehearsal
Thursday, May 5	6:00 pm	JAZZ Worship, Nancy S. Taylor preaching
	6:30 pm	Old South Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 pm	Young Adult Book Group
	7:00 pm	"Through the Whole Bible" Reading Group
Friday, May 6	8:00 am	Capital Campaign Steering Committee
	12:30 pm	Planned Giving Committee
Saturday, May 7	8:00 am	Christian Formation Committee, <i>off site</i>
Phillis Wheatley Sunday Sunday, May 8	8:30 am	First Worship Choir
	9:00 am	FIRST Worship, Nancy S. Taylor preaching
	9:45 am	Old South Café in the Gordon Chapel
	10:00 am	HEALING Worship
	10:00 am	Community Hour: <i>Phillis Wheatley Intergenerational Fair</i> <i>Choir Rehearsal</i>
	10:30 am	Procession to Boston Women's Memorial (and 12:30)
	11:00 am	FESTIVAL Worship, Nancy S. Taylor preaching

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON
MINISTERS, OFFICERS AND STAFF**

Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister ❖ Harry L. Huff, Minister of Music
John M. Edgerton, Associate Minister ❖ Anthony T. Livolsi, Associate Minister
James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus
Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children and Family Ministries
Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence ❖ June Cooper, Theologian in the City
Calvin Genzel, Wedding Outreach Minister ❖ Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister
Jackie Geilfuss, Youth Leader ❖ Amelia Nugent, Field Education Intern
Carolyn Davis, Director, Old South Preschool
George Sargeant, Associate Organist and Choirmaster
Laurel Leslie, Choir Director, First Worship ❖ Willie Sordillo, Music Coordinator, Jazz Worship
Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers ❖ Amy Budka, Children's Music Leader
Linda O'Donnell, Director, Children's Choirs ❖ Timothy Harbold, Director, Gospel Choir
Deb Washington, Moderator ❖ Rob Gabler, Clerk ❖ Lauren Berk, Treasurer
Phil Stern, Chair, Board of Trustees ❖ Emily Click, Historian
Debbie Leonard, Senior Deacon ❖ Vicki A. Newman, Pledge Secretary
Helen McCrady, Senior Church Administrator ❖ Amy Perry, Communications
Rebecca Bowler, Administrative Assistant ❖ Linda Van Praet, Accounting and Human Resources
Janet Butler, Wedding Coordinator
Elias Perez, Senior Sexton ❖ Ozo Nwodo and Oppong Serebour, Sextons
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, and Lena Rojas Receptionists
www.oldsouth.org ❖ CCLI License #2802138

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

TODAY AT OLD SOUTH: May 1, 2016

First Worship Choir rehearses at 8:30 am to learn a simple song. Come-as-you-can. Laurelkleslie@gmail.com

Community Hour at 10 am offers a variety of educational opportunities for children, youth, and adults between the morning services, including today:

Q & A

with Rev. Jim Antal

Conference Minister and President

Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ

Mary Norton Hall, second floor

PHILLIS WHEATLEY SUNDAY

On Mother's Day, May 8th, Old South Church will celebrate church member Phillis Wheatley – mother of African American poetry – on the occasion of her birthday. You are encouraged to honor the spirit of Phillis through the modern day African American church practice of dressing smartly from head to toe, wearing your **best Sunday hat!**

At 10 am Community Hour, we will celebrate Phillis with an **intergenerational fair**, including: write your own poem, story time, illustrate one of Phillis' poems, and decorate a birthday cupcake. At both 10:30 am and 12:15 pm, we will **promenade to the Phillis Wheatley statue** at the Boston Women's Memorial on Commonwealth Ave.

At 11 am Festival Worship, we will present **special guest Sarah-Ann Shaw** with Old South Church's Open Door Award. Sarah-Ann Shaw is a longtime community and civil rights advocate and Boston's first female African American television reporter, hired by WBZ-TV in 1969. We will honor Ms. Shaw because over a lifetime — both in front of the TV camera and off the air — she demonstrated a determination to not only open doors, but also eyes and hearts.

BOOK GROUPS

MONDAYS AT 6 PM

Theological Book Group continues to read *Grounded: Finding God In The World* by Diana Butler Bass. Bass argues for a transformation of how we understand God: a shift from only the vertical dimension to a sense of the sacred that saturates our world. Sign up at the Front Desk. Books available for \$20. Facilitated by Theologian In Residence Donald Wells, granwell@comcast.net.

THURSDAYS AT 7 PM

Fun-and-Not-Scary, at-a-Snail's-Pace Read Through of the Whooooole Bible continues to explore Exodus. Next week, we will discuss Exodus 18-19. To join, email Rev. Anthony Livolsi, anthony@oldsouth.org.

AIDS Walk Boston

On Sunday, June 5th, Old South Church will participate in Boston's **AIDS Walk & 5k Run** – for our 30th year – continuing our long tradition as the Walk's oldest standing church team.

GIVE: Visit www.aac.org/goto/OldSouthChurch2016 to sponsor the OSC Team. We're currently \$4,100 away from our goal ... Help us keep our Gold Team status!

WALK: Email Co-Captain Vashti Selix at vashti.selix@gmail.com to join the OSC Team.

HELP: Don't underestimate the power of word of mouth! Be an OSC Team Ambassador and spread the word with family and friends – on Facebook, Twitter, Tumblr, you name it!

SERVICE

The Rolling Food Drive is collecting peanut butter for the Allston-Brighton Food Pantry. Collection in the stone entryway.

COMMUNITY HOUR, Sundays 10-11 am

FOR CHILDREN

Infants through grade 2 are welcome in our **childcare ministries** beginning at 8:40 am. Care is available uninterrupted through First Worship, Community Hour, and Festival Worship.

Our Montessori-style **Godly Play** program invites children to see themselves as active participants in the story of faith. **Today's** story for the Preschool and Early and Older Elementary Classes: Greatest Parable (Judea).

SAVE THE DATE: Parents Night Out is Friday, May 13th from 6 - 10 pm: a fun night of activity for children age 6 weeks through grade 6 while YOU take time for yourself. RSVP to children@oldsouth.org by Monday, May 9th.

FOR YOUTH

The **Youth Group** for students in grades 7-12 explores issues of life and faith Sundays with Youth Leader Jackie Geilfuss, jackie@oldsouth.org.

FOR ADULTS

Study and reflect on today's preaching text (Romans 5:1-5) at **Sunday Morning Bible Study** at 10 am in the fourth floor Sam Johnson Room.

Rev. Jim Antal, Conference Minister and President, Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ, will take part in a Q & A.

BOSTON HANDBELL FESTIVAL

On Tuesday, May 17th at 8 pm, local handbell ensembles including our own **Old South Ringers** will gather for an evening of free music. Co-sponsored by the Back Bay Ringers and Old South Church. Celebrating its tenth year!

ATTN: ARTISTS, WRITERS, STITCHERS

Old South Church is working with *common art*, an art program for unhoused and low income individuals, to create an **art memorial quilt** in honor of Michael (who passed away on the steps of the church back in January) and all those who have died on Boston's streets.

ARTISTS - To join a session at *common art* on Wednesday, May 18th, 10 am - 2 pm, to create works on fabric panels cut from Michael's sheet. Up to 10 artists from OSC.

WRITERS - To write a short prose, poem, or prayer on a 4.5" x 7" fabric panel cut from Michael's sheet. Up to 4 writers from OSC. Writers welcome to join artists at *common art*.

STITCHERS - To sew finished panels onto Michael's blanket. All stitchers, from expert to beginner, welcome! Date TBD by everyone's availability.

To volunteer, contact Kathleen Simone at sewingwithoutzippers@gmail.com.

WORSHIP

Week of May 2nd – Rev. Nancy Taylor preaching Thursday and Sunday

Jazz Worship: Thursdays, 6 pm. With soul and sax.

First Worship: Sundays, 9 am. Informal and vibrant.

Festival Worship: Sundays, 11 am. Our “signature” service - grand and expressive.

Healing Worship: 2nd Sundays, 10 am. Gentle and tender.

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 in the Sanctuary, for any length of time.

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON
Boylston & Dartmouth Sts. at the Copley T
(617) 536-1970 OldSouth.org

