

**Christmas Eve**  
December 24, 2016  
8:00 pm

## **A CANDLELIGHT SERVICE OF LESSONS AND CAROLS**

*It is Christmas time, a halting of hate time.  
On this platform of peace, we can create a language  
to translate ourselves to ourselves and to each other.  
At this holy instant, we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ.  
—from Amazing Peace: A Christmas Poem by Maya Angelou*

### **PRELUDES**

Carol

Gerald Finzi

Still, Still, Still  
Rob Woodin, baritone

Austrian carol

*Still, still, still, you can hear the falling snow.  
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping,  
Holy Star its vigil keeping.  
Still, still, still, you can hear the falling snow.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of the baby's birth.  
The night is peaceful all around you,  
Close your eyes, let sleep surround you.  
Sleep, sleep, sleep, 'tis the eve of the baby's birth.  
—Salzburg, 1819*

Whence Is That Goodly Fragrance	Harrison Oxley
Noël	Henri Mulet
Berceuse (Cradle Song)	Louis Vierne
Gesù Bambino	Pietro Yon

## THE GATHERING

\*PROCESSIONAL CAROL O Come, All Ye Faithful *Adeste Fidelis*  
arr. David Willcocks

**O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,  
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;  
Come, and behold Him, born the King of Angels!**

### *Refrain*

*O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,  
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

**God from God, Light from Light eternal,  
Lo! He abhors not the Virgin's womb;  
Only-begotten Son of the Parent! *Refrain***

**Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,  
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above;  
Glory to God, glory in the highest! *Refrain***

**Yea, Lord, we greet Thee, born this happy morning;  
Jesus, to Thee be all glory given;  
Word of our God, now in flesh appearing! *Refrain***

### THE BIDDING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister

**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.**

\* *Indicates all who are able may stand*

OPENING CAROL                      Once in Royal David's City                      *Irby*  
Carrie Cheron, soloist                      arr. George Sargeant

*Soloist:                      Once in royal David's city stood a lowly cattle shed,  
Where a mother laid her baby in a manger for His bed:  
Mary was that mother mild, Jesus Christ her little child.*

*Choir:                      He came down to earth from heaven, who is God and Lord of all,  
And His shelter was a stable, and His cradle was a stall;  
With the poor and mean and lowly, lived on earth our Savior holy.*

*For He is our childhood's pattern; Day by day, like us He grew;  
He was little, weak and helpless, tears and smiles like us He knew;  
And He feeleth for our sadness, and He shareth in our gladness.*

*Congregation:*

**And our eyes at last shall see Him, through His own redeeming love,  
For that Child so dear and gentle is our Lord in Heav'n above,  
And He leads His children on to the place where He is gone.**

**Not in that poor lowly stable, with the oxen standing by,  
We shall see Him; but in heaven, set at God's right hand on high;  
Where like stars His children crowned, all in white shall wait around.**

A WORD OF WELCOME

## **THE ANTICIPATION AND PROCLAMATION OF A NEW CREATION IN LESSONS AND CAROLS**

ANTHEM                                      I Look from Afar                                      Harry Lyn Huff

*I look from afar:  
And lo, I see the power of God coming,  
And a cloud covering the whole earth!*

—Advent responsory from the early medieval Roman rite

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 9:2-7

*The prophet Isaiah foretells the reign of the Prince of Peace.*

Read by Dr. Paula Hammond Cunningham

ANTHEM

For Unto Us a Child Is Born from *Messiah*

G. F. Handel

*For unto us a child is born, unto us a son is given,  
and the government shall be upon His shoulder;  
and His name shall be called Wonderful, Counselor,  
the Mighty God, the Everlasting Father, the Prince of Peace.*

–Isaiah 9:6

THE SECOND LESSON

Luke 1:26-35, 38

*The Angel Gabriel salutes the Virgin Mary.*

Read by Graciela and Mirabelle Berman Reinhardt

ANTHEM

Balulalow

Francis Pott

Adriana Repetto, soloist

*O my deare hert, young Jesu sweet,  
Prepare Thy creddil in my spreit,  
And I sall rock Thee to my hert,  
And never mair from Thee depart.*

*But I sall praise Thee evermoir  
With sanges sweet unto Thy gloir;  
The knees of my heart sall I bow,  
And sing that richt Balulalow!*

–attr. James, John, & Robert Wedderburn, c. 1567

THE THIRD LESSON

Matthew 1:18-25

*Matthew tells of the birth of Jesus.*

Read by Rev. Dr. James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus

ANTHEM                      Glory Hallelujah to the Newborn King    arr. Harry Lyn Huff  
Matthew Wight, soloist

*Mary had a baby! Glory hallelujah!  
Glory hallelujah to the new-born King!  
The Virgin Mary had a pretty little baby.  
Mary, watcha gonna name your pretty little baby?  
Well, some call Him one thing, I know His name is Jesus.  
Oh, some call Him one thing, I'm gonna call Him Savior.  
Glory hallelujah to the new-born King!*

A CHRISTMAS WORD    Rev. Dr. Nancy S. Taylor

\*CAROL                      What Child Is This                      *Greensleeves*

**What Child is this, who, laid to rest, on Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?**

***Refrain***  
***This, this is Christ the King, Whom shepherds guard and angels sing;***  
***This, this is Christ the King, the babe, the Son of Mary.***

**Why lies He in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?  
Good Christian, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading. *Refrain***

**So bring Him incense, gold and myrrh, come, peasant, king, to own Him;  
The King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone Him. *Refrain***

THE FOURTH LESSON              Matthew 2:1-5, 9-11

*The Eastern visitors are led by a star to Jesus.*  
Read Rev. Edward Matuvhunye, United Church of Zimbabwe

ANTHEM                      There Shall a Star Come out of Jacob                      Felix Mendelsson

*There shall a star come out of Jacob,  
And a scepter shall rise out of Israel;  
With might destroying princes and cities!*

*As bright the star of morning gleams,  
So Jesus sheddeth glorious beams  
Of light and consolation.  
Thy Word, O Lord, radiance darting,  
Truth imparting, gives salvation;  
Thine be praise and adoration!*

–Numbers 24:17; Psalm 2:9; hymn *Wie Schön Leuchtet der Morgenstern*

\*THE FIFTH LESSON                      John 1:1-16

*The Evangelist unfolds the mystery of the Incarnation.*  
Read by Rev. John M. Edgerton, Associate Minister

ANTHEM                      Our Brother Is Born                      Erik K. Gustafson

*Now every Child that dwells on earth, stand up, stand up and sing!  
The passing night has given birth unto the Children's King.  
Sing sweet as the flute, sing clear as the horn,  
Sing joy of the Children Come Christmas the morn!  
Little Christ Jesus Our Brother is born.*

*Now every Star that dwells in sky, look down with shining eyes!  
The night has dropped in passing by A Star from Paradise.  
Sing sweet as the flute ...*

*Now every Beast that crops in field, breathe sweetly and adore!  
The night has brought the richest yield That harvest ever bore.  
Sing sweet as the flute ...*

*Now every Bird that flies in air, sing, raven, lark and dove!  
The night has brooded on her lair and fledged the Bird of Love.  
Sing sweet as the flute ...*

*Now all the Angels of the Lord, rise up on Christmas Even!  
The passing night will bear the Word That is the Voice of Heaven.  
Sing sweet as the flute ...*

–Eleanor Farjeon

## OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OURSELVES

THE CHRISTMAS OFFERING

Rev. John M. Edgerton

Your Christmas offering will support Old South Church's  
tender ministries of mercy, justice, and beauty.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Cantique de Noël  
James Giessler, soloist

Adolphe Adam  
arr. Harry Lyn Huff

*O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining,  
It is the night of the dear Savior's birth.  
Long lay the world in sin and error pining  
Till He appeared and the soul felt its worth.  
A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices,  
For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.  
Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices!  
O night divine, O night when Christ was born.*

*Led by the light of faith serenely beaming,  
With glowing hearts by His cradle we stand.  
So led by light of a star sweetly gleaming,  
Here came the Wise Men from the Orient land.  
The King of Kings lay thus in lowly manger;  
In all our trials born to be our friend.  
He knows our need, to our weakness no stranger,  
Behold your King! Before Him lowly bend!*

*Truly He taught us to love one another,  
His law is love and His gospel is peace.  
Chains shall He break, for the slave is our brother,  
And in His name all oppression shall cease.  
Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we,  
Let all within us praise His holy name.  
Christ is the Lord! Sing praise to Him forever.  
His power and glory ever more proclaim!*

—Placide Cappeau; tr. John Sullivan Dwight, 1855

\*A CHRISTMAS CREED FROM LATIN AMERICA

**I believe in Jesus Christ and in the power of the gospel, begun in  
Bethlehem.**

**I believe in the One whose spirit glorified a small village, of whose coming  
shepherds saw the sign, and for whom there was no room at the inn.**

**I believe in the One whose life changed the course of history, over whom the rulers of the earth had no power, and who was not understood by the proud.**

**I believe in the One to whom the oppressed, the discouraged, the afflicted, the sick, the blind, the injured gave welcome, and accept as Lord and Savior.**

**I believe in the One who—with love—changed the hearts of the proud and with His life showed that it is better to serve than to be served, and that the greatest joy is giving your life for others.**

**I believe in peace, which is not the absence of war, but justice among all people and nations and love among all.**

**I believe in reconciliation, forgiveness, and the transforming power of the gospel.**

**I believe that Christmas is strength and power, and that this world can change, if with humility and faith, we kneel before the manger.**

**I believe that I must be the first one to do so.**

\*CAROL

Joy to the World!

*Antioch*  
arr. John Rutter

**Joy to the world! The Lord is come:  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let every heart prepare Him room,  
And heaven and nature sing. *Repeat***

**Joy to the world! The Savior reigns:  
Let all our songs employ;  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy. *Repeat***

**He rules the world with truth and grace,  
And makes the nations prove  
The glories of His righteousness,  
And wonders of His love. *Repeat***



## A SERVICE OF LIGHT

THE PASSING OF THE LIGHT

Rev. John M. Edgerton

PASSAGES OF LIGHT

Emma and Ben Stern

CAROL (seated)

Silent Night, Holy Night

*Stille Nacht*  
arr. Bruce Saylor

**Silent night, holy night, all is calm, all is bright  
Round yon virgin mother and child. Holy infant so tender and mild,  
Sleep in heavenly peace, sleep in heavenly peace.**

**Silent night, holy night, shepherds quake at the sight,  
Glories stream from heaven afar, heavenly hosts sing alleluia;  
Christ, the Savior, is born! Christ, the Savior, is born!**

**Silent night, holy night, Son of God, love's pure light,  
Radiant beams from Thy holy face, bring the dawn of redeeming grace,  
Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth; Jesus, Lord, at Thy birth.**

*Please extinguish your candles before rising for the next carol.*

\*CAROL

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

*Mendelssohn*  
arr. David Willocks

**Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!  
Peace on earth and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!"  
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;  
With the angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

**Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord;  
Late in time behold Him come, offspring of the Virgin's womb.  
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail the incarnate Deity,  
Pleased as one with us to dwell; Jesus, our Emmanuel.  
Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

**Hail the heaven-born Prince of Peace! Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!  
Light and life to all He brings, risen with healing in His wings,  
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,  
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.  
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born King!"**

\*WORDS OF BLESSING

Rev. Dr. Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE

Organ Flourish on “Joy to the World!”

Michael Dell

**The music this Christmas Eve is dedicated to the memory of our beloved Minister of Music, Harry Lyn Huff (1952-2016).**



## **MERRY CHRISTMAS!**

The poinsettias are given by Old South members and friends in honor and memory of loved ones. A listing of gifts is available at the back of the Sanctuary.

Join us for worship at Old South Church in Boston:

**First Worship** *informal and vibrant* Sundays at 9 am

**Festival Worship** *grand and expressive* Sundays at 11 am

**Jazz Worship** *with soul and sax* Thursdays at 6 pm

**Healing Worship** *gentle and tender* Second Sundays at 10 am

### ***Join Old South Church New Year's Eve***

3:00 pm **King of Instruments Organ Demonstration**

6:30 & 8:00 pm **Pipes and Pops Concert**

*Free and open to the public.*

OldSouth.org | Facebook.com/OldSouthChurch | @OSCboston

## THE OLD SOUTH CHOIR

Tim Harbold, Conductor

George Sargeant, Associate Organist & Choirmaster

Elizabeth Ragan, Verger Elinor Yeo, Chaplain

### Soprano

Alecia Batson\*  
Caitlyn Byers  
Jiaying Dang  
Reenie Harwell  
Katerina Holmgren  
Marie Hurd  
Julia Kornick  
Erika Mitchell\*

Raphaela Mueller  
Dawn Patterson  
Gloria Platt  
Adriana Repetto\*  
Anita Scheuring  
Megan Stephen  
Abby Whitman

### Alto

Allison Albaugh  
Carol Blair  
Carrie Cheront  
Yoana Dimitrova  
Heather Gallagher\*  
Alliea Groupp  
Sharon Kimball  
Elizabeth Ragan

Marianna Spera  
Susan Stern  
Katie Mae Tucker  
Heather Weirich\*

### Tenor

Christopher Bocchiaro  
James Giessler\*  
Cory Gross  
Larry Mynatt

Sam Ou  
William Ragan  
David Story  
Connor Vigeant\*

### Bass

David Albaugh  
Erik Gustafson  
Michael Hand  
Chris Harrington

Robert Kosturko  
Sean O'Donnell  
Paul Soper\*  
Robert Woodin\*  
Matthew Wight\*

\*Choral Fellows  
†Section Leader

## INSTRUMENTAL ENSEMBLE

Agita Arista, flute; Katherine Matasy, clarinet  
Neil Godwin, horn; Sam Ou, cello  
Timur Rubinshteyn and Aaron Trant, percussion

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

Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister  
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  
Carrie Swayne-Gerrish, Youth Leader ❖ Rebecca Bowler, Seminarian 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 ❖ Tim Harbold, Director, Gospel & Festival 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  
Kelsey Walck, Administrative Assistant ❖ Linda Van Praet, Accounting and Human Resources  
Janet Butler, Wedding Coordinator  
Elias Perez, Senior Sexton ❖ Ozo Nwodo and Oponng 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.