

Martin Luther King, Jr. Sunday January 19, 2020 11:00am

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

Precious Lord Sayida Rivers Farmer, soloist Thomas A. Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand, I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near, When my life is almost gone, Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall: Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,
And the day is past and gone,
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

*HYMN 593

Lift Every Voice and Sing

LIFT EVERY VOICE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Nancy S. Taylor

One: From the midst of our real lives and real world,

chock full of real problems, enmities, tragedies, and pain,

Many: we come to seek courage and strength from the presence of

God, the gift of faith, and the support of one another.

One: As persons who love imperfectly and who are loved imperfectly,

Many: we come to be renewed by the perfect love of God, a love proclaimed in the community of love and faith.

One: As persons who never fully live up to our high calling in Jesus Christ,

Many: we come to learn the tools to try our best, to grow in character, faith, and love.

One: Then let us worship.

Many: We worship with hearts open to the love of God, with hand outstretched to a hurting world, and with our whole selves willing to accept the cost and joys of Christian discipleship.

--Ruth C. Duck (adapted)

*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

Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land Spiritual
OLD SOUTH CHOIR and GOSPEL CHOIR arr. Glenn Burleigh

Chorus: Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a weary land, a weary land. Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm.

I would not be a sinner. I'll tell you the reason why: I'm afraid my Lord might call my name, and I wouldn't be ready to die. (Chorus)

I would not be a backslider. I'll tell you the reason why: I'm afraid my Lord might call my name, and I wouldn't be ready to die. (Chorus) He is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm.

Has he ever made a way when you didn't have a dime?

Has he ever stepped in just right on time?

Has he ever picked you up when you were down?

Has he ever placed your feet on solid ground?

Then you know he is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm.

Jesus is a rock in a weary land, a shelter in a time of storm.

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE Matthew 16: 13-16 Tracy Keene

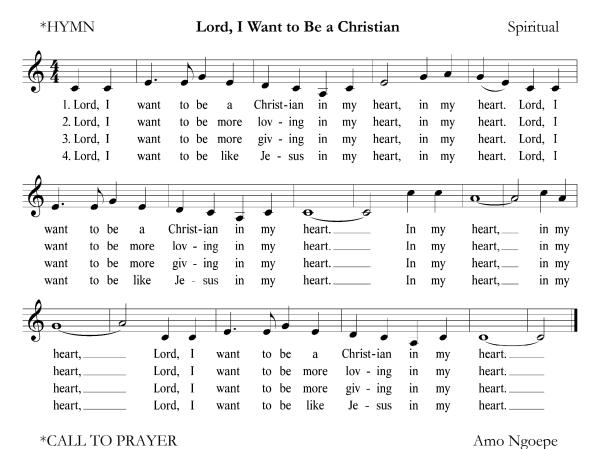
Tracy Keene and husband Tim Longman, joined Old South Church twelve years ago. Since then, they have been joined by Emily (10) and Cliff (6). Tracy is the chairperson of (G)RACE Speaks, Old South Church's on-going, intra-church conversations on race, and serves on our 350th Anniversary Faith in Action Task Force. By day Tracy is the Company Manager at the American Repertory Theatre, Cambridge.

*HYMN 604 **Hush, Hush, Somebody's Calling My Name** Spiritual During the hymn the children are invited to leave for choir and care.

STORY TELLER

Deb Washington

Deb Washington, Ph.D. serves as the Moderator of Old South Church, our highest elected, volunteer position. Since 2005 she has been the Director of Diversity for Nursing and Patient Care Health at Massachusetts General Hospital. Named one of the 100 influential people of color in Boston (2018), Dr. Washington received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Black Nurses Association in 2017. She is a co-founding member of (G)RACE Speaks, Old South Church's on-going, intra-church conversations on race.



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 AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

RESPOND

PRAYER RESPONSE

We Can Move Mountains
OLD SOUTH GOSPEL CHOIR
Jordan Pettis, soloist

Now is the time like never before, to reach out your hand, to open the door. And I hope we're strong enough to understand and see it through. And if you believe in me, I'll believe in you.

Here in the heart is where it begins, the power to change the world that we live in. And the choices that we make will be there for all to see. I will put my trust in you, if you put your trust in me.

Chorus:

Open your heart, and keep the dream alive.
We can move mountains a day at a time.
If we open our hearts, and if we open our minds,
We can move mountains together if we try.

Don't be afraid to say it out loud.

We have a vision, we can be proud.

And the love inside will bring to light one simple human truth:

The love you give away all comes back to you. (Chorus)

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Katherine A. Schofield

OFFERTORY

I Sing Because I'm Happy Charles Gabriel
OLD SOUTH CHOIR & GOSPEL CHOIR & Civilla Martin
Sayida Rivers Farmer, soloist arr. Paden/Dilworth
In thanksgiving to God for the life of Evan Shu,
who radiated faith and joy in his singing!

I sing because I'm happy. I sing because I'm free. His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me.

Why should I feel discouraged? And why should the shadows come? Why should my heart be lonely and long for my heaven and home? When Jesus is my portion, my constant friend is he. His eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

I sing because I'm happy. I sing because I'm free. His eye is on the sparrow and I know he watches me.

I'm so happy yes! I'm so happy, yes I am! For his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me!

*DOXOLOGY

REGENT SQUARE

All creation, join in praising God Creator, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One: come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ the newborn king!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 394 In Christ There Is No East or West

MCKEE

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE

Walk in the Light

Marvin Grant





- 2. FREEDOM in the light...
- 3. JUSTICE in the light...
- 4. JOY in the light...

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We are grateful to today's Musicians
Willie Sordillo, saxophone
Doug Rich, hass
Phil McGowan, percussion
Tim Harbold, Gospel Choir Director & piano

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

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

The flowers today are given by Melody Allen & family in loving memory of The Hon. W. Lloyd and Gertrude M. Allen.

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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.

HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES

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 https://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit or see the front desk.

OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OLD SOUTH

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

ANTI-RACISM WORKSHOP SERIES

Sunday, February 2nd, 9th, 23rd and Sunday, March 8th from 12:30 – 2 p.m.

This Black History Month, Old South Church's (G)RACE Speaks Committee is holding a four-week curriculum to facilitate dialogue on the intra-racial church (intra = within or inside one group). G)RACE Speaks is a committee working to affirm the God-given dignity of every human person by promoting sacred conversations about matters of race within the life of our church.

Through personal stories, the workshop series will focus on understanding and finding the means to deal with conscious and unconscious behaviors that act as obstacles to inclusion and deepening relationships.

This curriculum was written by Deb Washington, Ph.D., our Church Moderator, who has served since 2005 as the Director of Diversity for Patient Care Health at MGH. Named one of the 100 influential people of color in Boston (2018), Dr. Washington received the Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Black Nurses Association in 2017.

This four-part curriculum is open to everyone, and ideally participants will attend all sessions. To sign up or get more info, email Amo at amo@oldsouth.org. Childcare available on request.

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
Mitchell Crawford, Minister of Music & Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children & Family Ministries
Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence & June R. Cooper, Theologian in the City
Amo Ngoepe, Pastoral Resident

David Story, Executive Assistant to the Sentor Minister & Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister

Martha Schick, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader

Carolyn Davis, Director, Old South Preschool

George Sargeant, Associate Organist & Choirmaster

Tim Harbold, Director, Gospel Choir & Willie Sordillo, Director, Jazz Worship Music

Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers & Amy Budka, Children's Music Leader

Deb Washington, Moderator & Rob Gabler, Clerk & Bill Bulkeley, Treasurer
Randy Billings, Chair, Board of Trustees & Saint Evan Shu, Historian
Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, Senior Deacons & Vicki Newman, Pledge Secretary

Helen McCrady, Senior Church Administrator
Jamie Garuti, Communications Administrator
Linda Van Praet, Accounting & Human Resources
David Albaugh, Building Manager

Allison Albaugh, Wedding Coordinator
Emily Ross, Archivist
Rebecca Pasipanodya, Administrative Assistant

Elias Perez, Senior Sexton
Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, Sextons

Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, Shirley Bivins Receptionists

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.

