



CHRISTMAS DAY WORSHIP

December 25th, 2022 ★ 10:00 a.m.

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?

PRELUDE 'Twas in the Moon of Wintertime *arr.* Richard Cummins

*CALL TO WORSHIP adapted from Isaiah 9:2-7

One: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;
 those who lived in a land of many shadows—
 on them light has shined.
 You have increased the joy of the nation as with joy at the harvest –
 For the yoke of their burden, and the rod of their oppressor,
 You have broken.

**All: For to us a child has been born;
 to us a son has been given!**

One: Authority shall rest upon those shoulders, and this child shall be called

**All: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,
 Everlasting Sovereign, Prince of Peace.**

** Indicates all who are able may stand*

One: His authority shall grow continually,
and in this realm there shall be endless peace.
This child will uphold it
with justice and with righteousness
from this time onward and forevermore.

All: The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*CAROL

Joy to the World

ANTIOCH

**Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;
let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**No more let sins and sorrows grow, nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found, far as, far as the curse is found.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love, and wonders, wonders of his love.**

WELCOME

PRAYER *Unison*

Holy God,

to this world that worships power,

You have sent a vulnerable child.

To these times when violence seems normal, You whisper peace.

To lives heavy with fear and weary of uncertainty,
You have sent messengers:
angels who sing to our imaginations of good will on earth;
shepherds whose care extends to a flock as wide as the world;
sages who learn to find their way home by a new way.

Today, in the full light of this new day,
show us again the power of love to reshape our choices.
By the words of a familiar story and the singing of beloved songs,
stir our minds with conviction and heal our hearts with joy.

May birth of this one holy child
teach us to recognize the integrity of every child.
And may Your Word, now dwelling among us full of grace and truth,
teach us to recognize one another as Your children,
one whole human family.

We ask it in the name of the One whose birth brings us to life. Amen.

READING FROM SCRIPTURE Isaiah 11:1-9

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*CAROL **Angels We Have Heard on High** GLORIA

Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.

refrain:

Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be which inspire your heavenly song? (*refrain*)

Come to Bethlehem and see him whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. (*refrain*)

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

Luke 2:1-20

A CHRISTMAS STORY

PRAYERS FOR THE WORLD – AND THE LORD’S PRAYER *Unison*

Sovereign God 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.

CAROL

Away in a Manger

AWAY IN A MANGER

**Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,
the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.**

**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.**

CALL TO THE OFFERING



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

In Dulci Jubilo

arr. Richard Cummins

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

READING FROM SCRIPTURE John 1:1-14

*CAROL Go, Tell It on the Mountain GO TELL IT

refrain:

**Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

**While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (*refrain*)**

**The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (*refrain*)**

**Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (*refrain*)**

BIDDING The Work of Christmas

When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
and the shepherds are back with their flock,
then 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 others,
to make music in the heart

- Howard Thurman

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Personent Hodie* arr. Richard Cummins

LEADERS OF WORSHIP

Mitchell Crawford,
Minister of Music

The Rev. June Cooper,
Theologian in the City

The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Spalding,
Interim Senior Minister

Kate Nintcheu
Director of Children and Family Ministries

NEW YEAR'S EVE

MEET THE KING OF INSTRUMENTS

Saturday, 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 CONCERTS

Saturday, 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. Free and open to the public.

NEW YEAR'S DAY

NEW YEAR'S DAY ALL-CHURCH WORSHIP AT 10:00 a.m.

Come start the new year off right with a festive worship service! Childcare will be provided.

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

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.

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

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 or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

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 ❖ CCS #12028 ❖ OneLicense #A-700000

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON — MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF

Richard E. Spalding, *Interim Senior Minister*
James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister*
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
Howard Cha-Young Kim, *Pastoral Resident*
David Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
George Sargeant, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster*
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*
Willie Sordillo, *Director, Jazz Worship Music*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*
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.



OLD
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in BOSTON