



All Church Worship Old South Church *in Boston*

November 21st, 2021 10:00 a.m.

Meeting House Sunday

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?

WELCOME TO THIS 66th ANNIVERSARY of the return of Old South Church to our ancestral home. While we left this Meeting House in 1872 for our current location in Copley Square, we return here annually to honor our forebears in the faith; they, who still rejoice with us but upon a farther shore and in a greater light. Join us next Sunday back home at 645 Boylston Street.

PRELUDE

Music for a Solemn Occasion

Calvin Hampton

At the River from *Old American Songs, Set II*

Aaron Copland

Simple Gifts from *Old American Songs, Set I*

Autumn Carol

Russell Schulz-Widmar, *arr.*

Manhattan Beach

John Philip Sousa

CHORAL INTROIT

CREATION

William Billings

When I with pleasing wonder stand and all my frame survey,
Lord, 'tis thy work I own; thy hand thus built my humble clay.

Our life contains a thousand springs, and dies if one be gone.
Strange that a harp of thousand strings should keep in tune so long.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Jessica Young Chang, *Seminarian*

The Old South Meeting House resides on the ancestral and unceded land of the Massachusetts People, past and present, whose name was appropriated by this Commonwealth. We pay respect to the Massachusetts elders past and present. We name and recognize the Massachusetts People as traditional stewards of this land and we acknowledge the enduring relationship that exists between them and their traditional territories. We admit the truth of violence perpetrated against the Indigenous Peoples of the land; perpetrated, moreover, both in the name of this country and in the name of Christ, and we make a commitment to uncovering that truth. We comprehend that a land acknowledgment is a small yet important step towards ensuring a culture of respect, truth, and accountability in our church, in our City, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and in our nation.

*HYMN

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR

**Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield;
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear;
God of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**Our Creator God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;
From the field shall in that day all offenses purge away.
Giving angels, charge at last, in the fire the tares to cast;
But the fruitful ears to store in the garner evermore.**

**Even so, God, quickly come, to Thy final harvest home;
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin.
There, forever purified, in Thy presence to abide;
Come, with all Thine angels come, raise the glorious harvest home.**

*CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalms 95:1-7*

Shawn M. Fiedler, *Acting Associate Minister*

One: O come, let us sing to our God;

Many: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

One: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving;

Many: let us make a joyful noise to God with songs of praise!

One: For our God is a great God,

Many: and a great Sovereign above all gods.

One: In God's hand are the depths of the earth;

Many: the heights of the mountains are God's also.

One: The sea is God's, for God made it,

Many: and the dry land, which God's hands have formed.

One: O come, let us worship and bow down,

Many: let us kneel before our God, our Maker!

One: For this is our God,

Many: and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

*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 "The Promise of Living" from *The Tender Land* Aaron Copland

The promise of living with hope and thanksgiving
is born of our loving our friends and our labor.
The promise of growing with faith and with knowing
is born of our sharing our love with our neighbor.
The promise of living, the promise of growing
is born of our singing in joy and thanksgiving.

For many a year we've known these fields
and known all the work that makes them yield—
are you ready to lend a hand?
We're ready to work, we're ready to lend a hand.
By working together we'll bring in the harvest, the blessings of harvest.

We plant each row with seeds of grain,
and Providence sends us the sun and the rain,
by lending a hand, by lending an arm,
bring in from the land, bring out from the farm,
bring out the blessings of harvest.

Give thanks there was sunshine, give thanks there was rain,
give thanks we have hands to deliver the grain,
O let us be joyful, O let us be grateful to the Lord for each blessing.

The promise of ending in right understanding
is peace in our own hearts and peace with our neighbor.
The promise of living, the promise of growing,
the promise of ending is labor and sharing and loving.

SERMON

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*

*HYMN

We Gather Together

KREMSER

**We gather together to ask for God's blessing;
Who chastens and hastens God's will to make known.
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to God's name; She forgets not Her own.**

**Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining the pathway divine;
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, God, wast at our side, all glory be Thine.**

**We all do extol Thee, Thou leader triumphant,
And pray that Thou still our defender wilt be.
Let Thy congregation escape tribulation;
Thy name be ever praised! O God, make us free!**

*CALL TO PRAYER

Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister*

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Let us give thanks to God, the Creator of all things visible and invisible, powerful beyond measure, good beyond all understanding.

Many: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: Let us pray. *You may be seated.*

LITANY OF CONFESSION AND THANKSGIVING

One: We give hearty thanks, O God, for divine gifts granted to us and to this earth, gifts that are greater than we can ask for or understand.

Many: Thanks be to You, O God.

One: We remember those coming to these shores seeking freedom to worship and to build a community with You at its heart. With poignancy, pain, and regret, we remember native inhabitants of this land, ranging from coast to coast, now diminished—victims of those claiming to “build a city on a hill.”

Many: Have mercy on us, O God.

One: We sorrowfully recall oppression visited over the centuries upon African Americans, immigrants, women, the poor, and persons of differing sexual orientations and gender identities, oppressions enshrined in law and blessed by the church.

Many: Forgive us, O God.

One: In a season in which war, incivility, terror, the plight of refugees and asylum seekers, and economic chaos wreak havoc with human lives; as hunger and epidemics afflict hundreds of millions of our dear kindred and as Your good earth suffers at human hands—we beg You:

Many: Have mercy on us, O God.

One: God of grace and God of glory, we ask Your forgiveness and pray we may recast our priorities to more nearly coincide with those of Your Son: healer of the ill, feeder of the hungry, lover of the outcast, welcomer of the stranger, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace.

Many: Have mercy on us, O God, and hear our earnest desire to serve You and Your realm all the days of our lives.

One: Thank You, O God, for bestowing forgiveness on those who seek it and who express a readiness to repent and radically change their ways.

Many: Thanks be to You, O God.

One: Thanks indeed be to You, O God, forgiver of our sins and provider of all the good gifts of the earth.

Many: Thanks be to You, O God.

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

Come Thankful People
THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS
Peter Coulombe, *director*

Tim Waugh

CALL TO THE OFFERING

June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*

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



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smartphone camera.*

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OSC to make a gift*

OFFERTORY

The Battle Hymn of the Republic Peter J. Wilhousky, arr.

When directed by the Minister of Music, you are invited to rise and sing the final refrain.

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord;
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored;
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword:
God's truth is marching on.

*Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! God's truth is marching on.*

I have seen Him in the watchfires of a hundred circling camps;
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps;
I can read His righteous sentence in the dim and flaring lamps,
God's truth is marching on.

In the beauty of the lilies, Christ was born across the sea,
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me:
As he died to make us holy, let us live to make all free,
While God is marching on.

*Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! Glory! Glory! Hallelujah!
Glory! Glory! Hallelujah! God's truth is marching on.*

Amen! Amen!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET

**Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices,
Who, from our parents' arms, hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**

**O may this bounteous God through all our lives be near us,
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us full of grace, and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.**

**All praise and thanks to God, our Maker now be given,
To Christ, and Spirit, too, who reign in highest heaven.
The one eternal God, whom Earth and Heav'n adore,
For thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE

The Gladiator

John Philip Sousa



In accordance with Old South's COVID-19 protocols,
you are invited to take a celebratory cookie as you depart,
partaking of it outside.

Old South's Ministers and staff wish you and yours a happy Thanksgiving.
Just a reminder that Old South Church will be closed November 25th and 26th.

All-Church Worship returns to 645 Boylston Street on Sunday, November 28th
and Jazz Worship resumes December 2nd.

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 and Carolyn Davis, *Co-Directors, 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
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