

One: With the church throughout the world,

Many: We gather to worship God.

One: O God, make our hearts places of peace:

Many: Sew in our souls true love for you and for one another.

One: Root deeply within us friendship and unity, concord and reverence:

**Many: That we may grant to one another peace,
and receive it beautifully.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."

*RESPONSE

Gathered in God's Name

Solo: *Gathered in God's name 'round the living Word.
Gathered as one family in the name of love.*

Congregation:

Gath-ered from near and far, gath-ered in this ho - ly place,
gath-ered as stran-gers and friends, gath-ered and gift - ed by grace.
Gath - ered in God's name, 'round the liv - ing Word.
Gath - ered as one fam-'ly in the name of love,
slowing
in the name of love, in the name of love.

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Dona Nobis Pacem
THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS
Peter Coulombe, *director*

Kevin McChesney

ATTEND

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

*HYMN 449

Softly and Tenderly
Verses 1, 2, and 4 only

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

*During the hymn, children who wish to may meet childcare staff
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SERMON

EMBRACING
See insert for Rembrandt's "Return of the Prodigal Son"

Nancy S Taylor

SCRIPTURE

Luke 15:11b-24

Jack Millard

*HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy
See insert

ST. HELENA

*CALL TO PRAYER

Katherine A. Schofield

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: We lift our eyes to the hills—from where will our help come?

Many: Our help is from God, who made heaven and earth.

One: Let us pray. *Please be seated.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Creator, 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

No More
a Stranger or a Guest

David Ashley White, *arr.*

My Shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name;
In pastures fresh he makes me feed, beside the living stream.
He brings my wandering spirit back, when I forsake his ways;
And leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death thy presence is my stay;
One word of Thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;
My cup with blessings overflows, thine oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;
O may thy house be my abode, and all my work be praise.
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;
No more a stranger, nor a guest, but like a child at home.

*(Though often ascribed masculine or feminine pronouns in prose and poetry,
God is unbound by human concepts of gender.)*

RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

jessica young chang



*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

Amazing Grace

Jay Rouse, *arr.*

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound, that saved a sinful wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found; I once was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and by God's grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear, the very hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares we have by faith already come:
'Tis grace that brought us safe thus far, and grace will surely lead us home.

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound!

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 459

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

NETTLETON

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Nancy S Taylor

TAYLOR TRAILERS:

Kate Rogers Kennedy & Amelia Edson-Nugent

CELEBRATING NANCY'S MINISTRY

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Jacques-Nicolas Lemmens



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

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,
begins following Worship at the front of the Sanctuary.
Led by docent David Story.

The **flowers** today are given
in loving memory of her mom, Emmy Lou Stark
by Betsy Roberts.



NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

J.S. Bach's *O Lamm Gottes, unschuldig* (*Lamb of God, Pure and Sinless*) comes from *Das Orgelbüchlein* (*A Little Organ Book*), a set of 45 brief chorale preludes meant as instruction pieces for beginner organists and likely composed while he was in prison. In 1717, he wished to leave the service of his royal employer, the Duke of Weimar, in order to accept a similar position in the court of the Prince of Anhalt-Cöthen. The Duke was none too pleased about this, and when Bach pressed the issue, the Duke had Bach imprisoned for a month before agreeing to let him go. The chorale is a Lutheran paraphrase of the "Agnus Dei" from the Roman Catholic Communion liturgy. The melody appears as a canon of the fifth between alto and bass while the soprano and tenor counterpoint features Bach's appoggiatura-based "sighing" motif.

—George Sargeant, *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*

David Ashley White composed his setting of "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" for the Mississippi Conference on Church Music and Liturgy. Generally, hymns and anthems take as their title the first line of the text, so it is interesting and revealing the White has titled the piece "No More a Stranger or a Guest," a reference to the last line of the poem. White's title changes the emphasis from one of expectation to effect, and in this context, heightens its transcendent aspect, since the "home" to which the author refers later in the line is the heavenly one. A sense of peace and tranquility pervade the setting, which sets overlapping melodic entries against a wandering solo obbligato. In the hypnotic central section, the accompanying handbells

alternate warm harmonies beneath statements from the choir. Dr. White is C. W. Moores, Jr. Endowed Professor of Music in the Moores School of Music at the University of Houston and Composer-in-Residence at Houston's Palmer Memorial Episcopal Church. White, a seventh-generation Texan, earned degrees from the University of Houston and the University of Texas at Austin.

Eschewing the familiar melody until the conclusion, composer **Jay Rouse** instead pairs John Newton's familiar poetry with the English melody *O Waly Waly* (variously known as "The Water is Wide," or "The Gift of Love", etc.) in the setting of "Amazing Grace" featured during this morning's offertory. The long-drawn phrases are richly harmonized, with suspensions and passing tones which heighten the music's sensuousness. Beginning in a contemplative, atmospheric vein, it nevertheless culminates with a thundering final verse that brings a touch of Tchaikovsky to the piano's suddenly concerto-style accompaniment.

—Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*



TODAY'S CALENDAR

8:45 a.m.	Childcare 3 rd flr (<i>available through 12:30 p.m.</i>)
9:00 a.m.	FIRST Worship
9:45 a.m.	Coffee Hour in Gordon Chapel
10:00 a.m.	Community Hour: The Forum, 2 nd flr
10:00 a.m.	Festival Choir Rehearsal
10:00 a.m.	Drop-In Bible Study, 4 th flr
10:00 a.m.	Youth Group
10:00 a.m.	Church School
11:00 a.m.	FESTIVAL Worship
12:15 p.m.	Coffee Hour in Gordon Chapel
1:15 p.m.	O.W.L. Program (<i>offsite</i>)



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.
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.

Name tags facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know—there will be one waiting for your next Sunday!

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!

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Our Holy Week services will be both in-person and streamed online.

PALM SUNDAY | APRIL 10th | 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.
We mark Jesus' triumphal entrance into Jerusalem as our shouts of Hosanna fade to the drama of the coming week.

MAUNDY THURSDAY Service of Tenebrae | APRIL 14th | 7:00 p.m.
This service of Tenebrae (Latin for Shadows) tells the story of Jesus' last days. Led by the Willie Sordillo Ensemble, we journey from the Communion Table to the Cross as the light around us dims.

GOOD FRIDAY | APRIL 15th | 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.
On the most somber day of the Christian year, we gather in prayer and song to reflect on the last hours of Christ, and mourn the death that changed the world.

EASTER SUNDAY AND BLESSING OF THE ATHLETES
APRIL 17th | 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m. and 1:00 p.m.
The triumph of the Christian story of resurrection informs a service of worship that is characterized by joyous celebration. Trumpet and organ, voice and timpani combine to bring us to the empty tomb, to peer inside, to see it is empty, to give God wild thanksgiving for the hope of everlasting life. This year's Easter service coincides with our Marathon Sunday service, for double the celebration and grandeur.

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*
Howard Cha-Young Kim, *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, *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.

Rembrandt's *Return of the Prodigal Son*



The painting depicts the son having returned home in a wretched state from travels in which he has wasted his inheritance and fallen into poverty and despair. He kneels before his father in repentance, wishing for forgiveness. His father receives him with a tender gesture and welcomes him unreservedly.

Historian Kenneth Clark claims it to be the greatest picture ever painted.

Art historian H. W. Janson writes it "may be [Rembrandt's] most moving painting. It is also his quietest—a moment stretching into eternity."

Rembrandt scholar Rosenberg calls the painting "monumental", writing: "it interprets the Christian idea of mercy with extraordinary solemnity, as though this were his spiritual testament to the world. It represents a symbol of homecoming, of the darkness of human existence illuminated by tenderness, of weary and sinful humankind taking refuge in the shelter of God's mercy."

THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY



There's a wide - ness in God's mer - cy like the wide - ness
There is no place where earth's sor - rows are more felt than
For the love of God is broad - er than the mea - sure



of the sea; there's a kind - ness in God's jus - tice,
up in heav'n; there is no place where earth's fail - ings
of the mind; and the heart of the E - ter - nal



which is more than lib - er - ty. There is wel - come
have such kind - ly judg - ment giv'n. There is plen - ti -
is most won - der - ful - ly kind. If our love were



for the sin - ner, and more grac - es for the good; there is mer - cy
ful re - demp - tion in the blood that has been shed; there is joy for
but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word; and our life would



with the Sav - ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.
be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

LENTEN JAZZ WORSHIP

Thursdays, 6:00 p.m., Gordon Chapel, more info at oldsouth.org/jazz

During this season of Lent, Jazz Worship at Old South Church features a selection of contemplative reflections and practices, in addition to the nourishing reflections and the rousing music we love every week. Join us for the opportunity to invoke your body, your voice, your silence, and your community as part of Jazz worship this season. From a labyrinth practice to Taize, from a blessing of our space to a contemplation of handwashing, we are engaging Jazz Worship in a meaningful, memorable way. However you join us, in Gordon Chapel, or by tuning in online, don't miss it!

GRAND REOPENING of 20s and 30s After-Jazz Dinner

Thursday, April 7th, after Jazz Worship, about 6:45 p.m.

Join us for a casual young adult small group following Jazz Worship on the first Thursdays, starting in April. Meet in the chapel, get dinner in the area (OSC will pay in April), and break bread together in the 4th floor Tower Room! Newcomers and old friends welcome—no monthly commitment required. Email Sarah (sarahcowles17@gmail.com) or Abby (smith.abigail.k@gmail.com) with any questions.

SAVE THE DATE FOR A PARTY WITH THE PASTOR!

Saturday, April 30th, 11:00 a.m., to 1:00 p.m. Lars Anderson Park in Brookline

Children and Families are invited to join Pastor Nancy for a special farewell get-together. More details to come. FMI: Kate Nintcheu children@oldsouth.org

EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS

Due by Tuesday, April 12th, requested contribution \$20

You can go to tinyurl.com/OSCDonate2022 and choose "Easter Flowers" to make your gift. Messages in honor or memory of loved ones or special occasions can be entered on the second page of the donation screen or you can give anonymously. The list of messages will be in the bulletin and online on Easter Sunday, April 17th. Contact Helen McCrady at helen@oldsouth.org with questions.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

One Great Hour of Sharing, as part of Our Churches Wider Mission, is the special mission offering of the United Church of Christ that carries God's message of love and hope to people in crisis. The UCC works with international partners to provide sources of clean water, food, education and health care, small business micro-credit, advocacy and resettlement for refugees and displaced persons, and emergency relief and rehabilitation. OGHS also supports domestic and international ministries for disaster preparedness and response. **To participate, please use the envelopes provided.** Thank you!

UKRANIAN REFUGEE SUPPORT

Donate at <http://tinyurl.com/OSC-online-giving> or reach out to Helen@oldsouth.org

Old South launched a matching campaign to support Ukrainian refugees. We are partnering with Marborough UCC and the Diakonia of the Lutheran Church in Poland (www.diakonia.org.pl). They are helping both refugees that fled to Poland (mainly women and children) and the Diakonia of the German Lutheran Church in Ukraine, centered in Kharkiv that is being bombed as we speak. Help is given by Diakonia to people regardless of their religion or lack thereof. The Outreach Committee is donating \$2000 and we would love to mobilize more congregational support as well.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY HOUR FORUMS: OLD SOUTH AT THE OSCARS

Sundays, 10:00 a.m., 2nd Floor Mary Norton Hall and on Zoom, go to tinyurl.com/OSCForum to join

Join us each week as we explore an Oscar-nominated film through the lens of Christian faith. Come, having seen the movies, and channel your inner Siskel (or Ebert) ... or just be prepared for spoilers!

- **3/27 "Encanto"** The Madrigals are an extraordinary family who live hidden in the mountains of Colombia in a charmed place called the Encanto. The magic of the Encanto has blessed every child in the family with a unique gift -- every child except Mirabel. However, she soon may be the Madrigals last hope when she discovers that the magic surrounding the Encanto is now in danger. Music by Lin-Manuel Miranda. Available on Disney+.
- **4/3 "CODA"** As a CODA (Child of Deaf Adults) Ruby is the only hearing person in her deaf family. When the family's fishing business is threatened, Ruby finds herself torn between pursuing her love of music by wanting to go to Berklee College of Music and her fear of abandoning her parents.

GREEN TIP

A CREATION-CARING LENT: WEEK FOUR - TRANSPORTATION

Transportation and energy use are the biggest contributors to most people's carbon footprint. 1/3 of U.S. air pollution comes from petroleum-powered transportation. IF YOU CAN ONLY DO ONE THING, avoid driving and walk or use public transit as often as possible. Go to tinyurl.com/OSCGreenLent2022-3 for this week's full reflection on Water, and to mark your commitment to a greener life go to tinyurl.com/OSC2022LentCommitment.

HOLY WEEK 2022

Palm Sunday | April 10th, 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m.

Maundy Thursday Service of Tenebrae | April 14th 7:00 p.m.

Good Friday | April 15th, 12:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Easter Sunday and Athlete Blessing | April 17th, 9:00 a.m., 11:00 a.m., and 1:00 p.m.

MONDAY NIGHT BOOK GROUP

Mondays, 7:00 p.m. in the Crawford Library

The Black Church: This is Our Story, This is Our Song by Henry Louis Gates, Jr.

Join the Monday Night Book Group and learn about the emergence of the Black Church over more than five centuries, from the intersection of Christianity and the transatlantic slave trade to today's political landscape. For more information contact katherine@oldsouth.org.

GRANT OPPORTUNITY - FAITH JOURNEYS: YOURS AND OURS

As a part of our collective commitment to be a Teaching Church, the Christian Formation Committee announces the opening of a small grants program intended to support Old South members on our faith journeys and encouraging us to bring our own learning back to the community. Grants of up to \$3,000 will be awarded to Old South members to support experiences leading to personal spiritual growth and faith formation (such as attendance at a conference or enrollment in a course, participation in an advocacy or service learning endeavor, leadership development or training, or immersion experiences that enable intersectional relationship-building). Awardees will be expected to bring their experience back to the church to enable others to learn and grow in some way. Go to oldsouth.org/faithjourneys to learn more or apply.

LENTEN DEVOTIONAL: VINCENT VAN GOGH AND THE BEAUTY OF LENT

Access the devotional at tinyurl.com/2022SaltDevotional

Gather at the Forum on Palm Sunday, April 10th, at 10:00 a.m. to discuss

Vincent van Gogh devoted his life to light. In just ten years of his short life, from age 27 to 37, he created more than 2000 luminous works of art – go to tinyurl.com/SaltVanGoghLinks see some of his paintings – shimmering with vitality, with passion, and above all, with light. The word “Lent” refers to the “lengthening” light, the growing days that, in time, will coax the sunflowers to open, the wheat fields to rise again, and the irises to bloom. This Lent the Christian Formation Committee invites you to dive weekly into the words of Scripture and the paintings and letters of Vincent van Gogh such that each will shine light on the other and point toward simple, powerful practices you can try yourself, or with your family or friends.

THROUGH THE BIBLE

Thursdays, 7:30 p.m., on Zoom at tinyurl.com/OSCThroughBible

Join us as we journey at a reflective and thorough pace through the Hebrew Bible. We're currently reading through Psalms. For more information and the Zoom link, email Howard Cha-Young Kim.

COVID PRECAUTIONS

- Masking is OPTIONAL (except for Church School teachers and children in classrooms)
- Masks are available at the front desk for those who choose to wear one
- We strongly encourage everyone to be fully vaxxed and boosted, to attend to handwashing, and to refrain from entering the building if you have so much as a sniffle.

A LABOR OF LOVE:

Adulting when it comes to Wills, Healthcare Proxies (for you and your loved ones), and What to Do When Someone Is Sick

Sunday, May 1st at 10:00 a.m., 2nd Floor or Zoom at tinyurl.com/OSCLaborofLove

Your Planned Giving Committee cares about you (you of all ages) and is eager to help you think about some important and very personal matters. We will have OSC experts to present briefly on each topic with time for Q & A. Some 70% of Americans die without a will. Don't be one of those. You're smarter than that! And, while you're at it, if you want to name Old South Church in your planned giving, that would make us happy, too, but our greatest happiness will be in knowing you are planning ahead with your head and your heart.

PASTORAL TRANSITION CELEBRATION TEAM

The Celebration Team is planning ways to celebrate the tenure of Reverend Nancy Taylor. In the coming weeks we will announce ways you can participate in celebrating and honoring Nancy, up to and including her final Sunday on May 22nd.

MAY 22nd SCHEDULE

All-Church Worship 10:00 a.m. | **Light Lunch** 11:00 a.m. | **Celebration** 12:00 p.m.

HONORING NANCY | THE NANCY S. TAYLOR LEADERSHIP FELLOWSHIP

Old South Church in Boston has long been a teaching church. Rev. Taylor's commitment to nurturing, guiding and mentoring seminarians and new ministers is a hallmark of her tenure at Old South Church. To honor and preserve this legacy, the Celebration Team announces the creation of the Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellowship. This program will be funded through an endowment and offered annually to a seminary student. The "Taylor Fellow", in addition to the seminarian Old South already supports, targets seminary students in their third or final year. To learn more about the fellowship visit oldsouth.org/nancy. To contribute to this endowment, visit oldsouth.org/donate.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Vimeo, Facebook, and YouTube

JAZZ Worship, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST Worship Sunday at 9:00 a.m.

FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

HEALING Worship, the second Sunday at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

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 the Sanctuary, for any length of time.
