

Old South Church Copley Square, Boston A Congregation of the United Church of Christ Gathered 1669

February 26th, 2023

The First Sunday in Lent

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 Trio on "Attende, Domine" Sarah MacDonald

*HYMN 198 Lift High the Cross CRUCIFER

*CALL TO WORSHIP adapted from Psalm 16 Katherine A. Schofield

One: Protect me, O God — for in you I take refuge.

Many: I say to the Holy One, "You are my God, my only source of good.

One: You are my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot."

Many: I bless the One who gives me counsel and instructs my heart.
One: I keep my God ever before me, always at hand; I shall not be moved.
Many: Therefore my heart is glad, my soul rejoices, my body rests secure.

One: For you do not give up your faithful ones to temptation.

Many: Show me the path of life, and the fullness of joy in your presence.

^{*} Indicates all who are able may stand

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*SUNG RESPONSE Come Bring Your Burdens to God

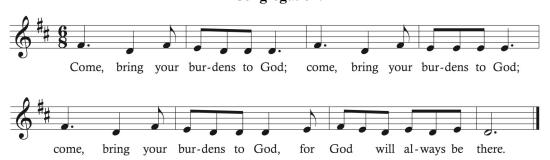
Soloist, Choir:

Come, bring your burdens to God;

Come, bring your burdens to God;

Come, bring your burdens to God will always be there.

Congregation:



Text: South African; English trans. Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro, and Martine Stemerick, 2008

Tune: WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO,
South African melody; arr. Welile Sigobi, 2008

WELCOME

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 4:1-11

Paula Hammond

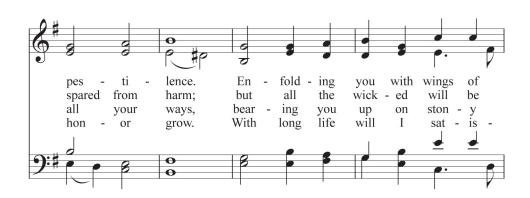
During the Psalm, children that wish may meet childcare staff in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.













Seeing by the Light of Burning Questions

Richard E. Spalding

*PSALM 32

Happy Are Those Who Are Forgiven

BROTHER JAMES' AIR





RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Howard Cha-Young Kim

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift our hearts to God. One: Let us pray. *Please be seated.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our God of loving kindness and tenderness, 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

Al Shlosha D'varim

Allan E. Naplan

Al shlosha, al shlosha d'varim haolam kayam, al haemet v'al hadin v'al hashalom, hashalom.

The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace.

GODSPEED TO HOWARD CHA-YOUNG KIM



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

II. "How Long?" from I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes

Adolphus Hailstork

How long, O Lord? How long?
How long, O Lord, will thou forget me?
How long will thou hide thy face from me?
How long?
How long must I suffer anguish in my soul and grief in my heart?
How long, O Lord?
Look now and answer me, O Lord.
Give light, O Lord; give light to my eyes,
lest I sleep the sleep of death.

I will lift up mine eyes to the hills from whence cometh my help.

—adapted from Psalms 13 and 121

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Katherine A. Schofield

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Our communion table is open to all. Communion is served by intinction.

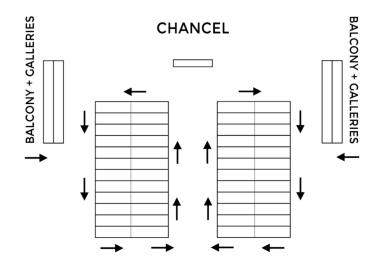
Please come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive a piece of bread.

Dip the bread into the cup and partake. The cups contain non-alcoholic grape juice.

Gluten-free crackers are available at a separate station.

If you are unable to come forward, please signal an usher and the elements will be brought to you.

When leaving your pew at the direction of the ushers, please approach the chancel by the center aisle from wherever you are sitting, walking a FULL CIRCLE to return to your pew.



MUSIC FOR DISTRIBUTION

Come Before the Table

Karen Marrolli

Come before the table, O come before the Lord, O come and share the love.

O come and share the love that makes us one.

O come, come with one spirit, come with one hope, come with one song.

Come, come as you are, knowing we all belong.

Come and share the blessing, O come and share the promise, O come and share the love.

O come and share the love that makes us one.

O come, come with one mission, come with one love, come with one voice.

Come all, all near and far, let all the world rejoice!

Come before the table, O come before the Lord, O come and share the love.

Thee we adore, O hidden Savior, thee, who at the blessed feast art pleased to be.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*HYMN 205 Forty Days and Forty Nights

HEINLEIN

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Kyrie, Gott heiliger Geist, BWV 671

J. S. Bach



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

The flowers today are in loving memory of Ruth Ann Strong by the Palmer Strong Fund.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary, begins immediately following worship at the front of the Sanctuary. Led by docent Kate Silfen.



NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

Old South's Lenten series delving into the Psalms is the outgrowth of conversations which began around the publication of a new metrical Psalter by the distinguished hymn writer and author Carl P. Daw Jr., now-retired Lecturer of Hymnology and Curator of the Hymnological Collections for Boston University's School of Theology. Daw served as Executive Director of The Hymn Society in the United States and Canada from 1996 to 2009, during which time the organization was headquartered at BU. It's hard to overstate Daw's impact on congregational song in the modern era — his texts are widely printed within hymnals of every denomination, and composers frequently set his texts as choral anthems. As an example, last Sunday's Festival Worship service included two texts by Carl Daw: our opening hymn, "We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding" (1988), and "Sing of God Made Manifest" (1990), set as an anthem for choir by composer Bruce Neswick. Moreover, it is hardly uncommon to hear multiple Daw texts within a season (or, as we've seen, a single morning), so comprehensive and artful are his contributions to the genre. New Century Hymnal alone, by one measure, contains 9 of his texts, all of which date to before 1995 when it was published. One wonders how many of the texts since written might make it into a Newer Century Hymnal!

Just as it's not really possible to overstate Daw's contributions to congregational song generally, the same could be said for his achievement in compiling his new Psalter [Praise, Lament, and Prayer — A Psalter for Singing]. This is a seminal achievement by one of the great hymn writers of our era, and insight after insight springs forth from Daw's re-weaving of these ancient songs for our 21st century ears (and tongues). This has in part to do with Daw's deft handling of the pairing of text to music: here, Daw has prioritized familiar tunes, often with connotations or overtones which suggest a kinship. Thus, Psalm 100, described in its Hebrew subscription as "a psalm of thanksgiving," is paired with the tune ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR ("Come Ye Thankful People Come"), given its strong associations of gathering for a service of corporate thanksgiving.

We'll have an opportunity to sample Dr. Daw's Psalter over the next several weeks in worship, and even to hear from the man himself during Community Hours on March 19 and 26 (please plan to attend! — you won't want to miss Carl Daw at Old South Church!). Rather than speak for him anymore than I've already done, I include now Dr. Daw's own commentary on the Psalms we sing today in worship.

-Mitchell Crawford, Minister of Music

Psalm 91: You that take shelter with the Most High

About one-fifth of the biblical psalms (34 out of 150) lack a Hebrew superscription, and Psalm 91 is one of them. In this case there are no internal clues regarding the identity of the psalmist or the date of the psalm. Stanza 1: The opening of the psalm establishes that the person being addressed has found sanctuary in the Temple. The essential thrust of the psalm provides assurance that faith in God allows the literal protection of this sacred space to be extended into a sense of God's protective presence in daily life. Stanza 2: The two greatest unpredictable threats to life in the ancient world were war and disease, which are used here to epitomize the dangers from which God provides protection. Stanza 3: By this point in the psalm the language about God as "dwelling place" is not so much a physical reality as a spiritual one, and this enduring spiritual reality is given priority over considerations of temporal existence. (The word translated as "home" here is actually "tent" in Hebrew, which is not chronologically compatible with the existence of the Temple. More likely it represents an archaic idiom adopted as a religious convention.) Stanza 4: In contrast to the earlier portions, which describe God's activity, the conclusion of the psalm is cast in God's own voice. The well-known Genevan Psalm tune RENDEZ Á DIEU effectively supports the confidence and assurance of this psalm.

Psalm 32: Happy are those who are forgiven

Traditionally attributed to David, this is one of thirteen psalms identified as a *maskil*, a word whose precise meaning is unclear, though its related roots suggest combined elements of artistic skill and spiritual understanding. This is also the second of the seven penitential psalms of Christian tradition. *Stanzas 1–2:* These two stanzas need to be considered together in order to appreciate how they reflect the organization of the psalm. The first two lines of Stanza 1 and the last two lines of Stanza 2 make general statements. These general statements are illustrated and confirmed by the narrative of the psalmist's experience described in the last four lines of Stanza 1 and the first four lines of Stanza 2. *Stanza 3:* This stanza continues to address God, celebrating God's protection and wisdom. *Stanza 4:* The final stanza offers words of wisdom to the faithful and encourages them to sing grate-fully for the gift of forgiveness. Although it is classified as a penitential psalm, Psalm 32 is primarily concerned with the joy of being reconciled with God after acknowledging one's sins. For this reason, it is the only paraphrase of a penitential psalm in this collection that is set to a tune in a major rather than a minor key, BROTHER JAMES' AIR.

—The Rev. Dr. Carl P. Daw, Jr.

Old South Church in Boston invites you to its Signature Services during the coming year.

HOLY WEEK 2023

Palm Sunday — April 2nd, 2023 | 11AM Maundy Thursday — April 6th, 2023 | 7PM Good Friday — April 7th, 2023 | 12PM & 7PM Easter Sunday — April 9th, 2023 | 9AM & 11AM

Marathon Sunday — April 16, 2023 | 9AM & 11AM

Each year hundreds of marathoners join us for worship, where we pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special "Blessing of the Athletes."

Phillis Wheatley Sunday — May 14th, 2023 | 9AM & 11AM

Old South honors and learns from one of the saints of this church who was stolen from Africa, suffered the Middle Passage, was sold into slavery, and triumphed through her awesome wit and the mighty power of her pen.

All Saints Sunday — November 5th, 2023 | 11AM

In a solemn service of sacred music, we gather to name and remember our own beloved dead who now rest from their labors in the arms of God.

Meeting House Sunday — November 19th, 2023 | 11AM

We return to our ancestral home, the Old South Meeting House at Washington & Milk Streets, to give thanks for God's many blessings and the rich history of our faith.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE — December 24th, 2023

Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM Lessons and Carols | 8PM Carols and Communion | 11PM

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 <u>katherine@oldsouth.org</u>

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 <u>www.oldsouth.org/calendar</u> 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!

Excerpts from Carl Daw's "Praise, Lament, and Prayer — A Psalter for Singing" copyright © 2018 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188.

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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

Ashley J. Popperson, Associate Minister * 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.





GODSPEED HOWARD!

Howard Cha-Young Kim joined our Staff last January as a part-time Pastoral Resident, under the auspices of the Urban Ministry Pastoral Residency Program at City Mission. In these 13 months he has helped to lead worship, preached, supported our community of young adults, and led many hours of Bible Study. Since Shawn



Fiedler's departure, Howard has coordinated our weekly Jazz Worship, and helped us through this time of transition in so many other ways. Now, as City Mission begins to phase out the Residency Program, Howard will be moving on to another ministry setting at the end of this month. Join us to express our gratitude and and wish him Godspeed this week at Jazz Worship on Thursday and both of our Sunday services. **Thank you Howard!**

353rd ANNUAL MEETING OF OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON

Sunday, March 5th, 12:15 p.m., Mary Norton Hall tinyurl.com/OSC2023AnnualMeeting for the Zoom link

The 353rd Annual Meeting of Old South Church in Boston includes lunch and the following agenda:

- Act of Memorial of Members who Have Died
- Acceptance of the minutes of the 352nd Annual Meeting
- Receipt of the Annual Report
- Reports of the Treasurer and Board of Trustees
- Report of the Leadership Committee & Elections
- Farewell to & Installation of Officers & Leaders
- Any other business as may properly come before the Membership.

For more information, the proposed slate of officers, and to read the annual report, go to oldsouth.org/annual-meeting.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to our members born in the month of February. Join us for cake and singing at Coffee Hour following Festival Worship.

OLD SOUTH FORUM

Sundays, 10 a.m., 2nd Floor Mary Norton Hall,

and on Zoom, at <u>tinyurl.com/OSCForums</u> password: Community

This casual, no-commitment, come-when-you-can forum hosts series on a variety of topics. Clergy, congregation members, and special guests share in leading sessions.

GBIO Housing Justice Teach In! THIS SUNDAY

This past Fall, the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization (GBIO) adopted a multi-faceted, statewide Housing Justice Campaign focused on public housing, affordable rental and homeownership opportunity, and housing access. We define Housing Justice as the ability for all people to have safe, healthy, and clean places to live in their communities. We are seeking to improve housing access and quality for groups that have been unfairly denied it and to support financing, zoning, and ownership policies that help to close racial and class disparities in the housing market.

Old South at the Oscars The Fablemans March 5th

Everything Everywhere All At Once March 12th

Join us the first two weeks in March as we explore an Oscarnominated 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!





LENTEN DEVOTIONAL AVAILABLE

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCLentenDevo2023 to sign up

Would you like to have a weekly devotional to help center you during the season of Lent? We've purchased a set of weekly devotionals from the good folks at Illustrated Ministries that centers on the Psalms that we would love

for you to use at home individually or with your family. These Psalms do not line up with our texts in worship -- but will be complimentary. If you register -- you will receive a weekly Sunday morning email with that week's devotion. Devotions come with optional links to a youtube version of the centering Psalm and a coloring page (for children or adults!).

GREEN TIP: Creation Caring Lent

Join the Climate Crisis Task Force in observing a Creation-Caring Lent, by fasting from overconsumption and living more simply. We've created commitment cards (fill yours out online at *tinyurl.com/CreationCommitLent2023*) to serve as a reminder as you work to build greener habits this season.



HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS FOR APRIL, MAY, AND JUNE

Go to tinyurl.com/Spring2023Hosp to sign up by March 12th

Old South is known for its extravagant welcome to visitors and members alike. We need you to help create this experience. Sign up to Usher, Welcome, and bring food or serve at Coffee Hour. Help bring a smile to someone's day!

WEARE HIRING

Work with us! Old South Church in Boston is seeking a full-time Church Administrator to oversee and coordinate the administrative life of this active congregation. Spread the word and learn more at <u>oldsouth.org/careers</u>.



MASS AND CASS STORYTELLING PROJECT GRADUATON

In-person, Tuesday, February 28th, 6:45 p.m.

You are invited to attend the graduation ceremony for the Mass and Cass Storytelling Project at an informal celebration. Graduates will share their stories and refreshments will be served.

YOUNG ADULT AFTER-JAZZ DINNER

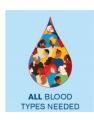


Next Dinner March 2nd, email sarahcowles17@gmail.com with any questions
Join us for a casual hangout with other 20s and 30s Old Southers. We meet in
the chapel after Jazz service at 6:45pm on the first Thursday of every month.
We grab take out food in the area or bring food from home and gather in the
Tower room to catch up, meet new folks, and enjoy a meal together.

HEALING WORSHIP

Sunday, March 12th, 5pm on Zoom, go to tinyurl.com/OSCHealing to join

Please join us to take a moment for rest and renewal in the presence of God and other spiritual companions gathering by Zoom. All are welcome to share this quiet space and lift up our concerns, our losses, our hurts, and our celebrations in the Healing Presence of God and one another.



COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, March 15th, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall
The Red Cross continues to experience a severe blood shortage. Want to help out?
All blood types needed! Donate blood to help end the critical shortage. Go to https://tinyurl.com/BloodDriveOldSouth or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) for an appointment.

SPOTLIGHT ON RUSSELL HENRY STAFFORD

Go to oldsouth.org/spotlight-russell-henry-stafford to read the full blog by Old South Historian Kate Silfen He is the pastor who transformed Old South into the active, democratic community that it is today and rose to the challenge of preaching during the Great Depression and World War II.



SENIOR MINISTER SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCFebSearchUpdate to learn more

After months of preparation and diligent review of profiles and letters of interest, the Search Committee has spent the last six weeks in the joyful work of meeting candidates in virtual interviews. Now we begin the difficult work of discerning – with God's help – a smaller group of candidates that we will invite to Boston this spring for deeper mutual exploration. We hope to be ready to extend invitations for in-person interviews to a small group of candidates by the end of February.

LENT AND HOLY WEEK 2023

Palm Sunday — April 2nd, 2023 | 11AM Maundy Thursday — April 6th, 2023 | 7PM Good Friday — April 7th, 2023 | 12PM & 7PM Easter Sunday — April 9th, 2023 | 9AM & 11AM

WEEKLY WORSHIP
Join us in person, on Vimeo,
Facebook, and YouTube
JAZZ Worship, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
HEALING Worship,

the second Sunday at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom



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.

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.