### April 6, 2025 **4** 11:00 a.m.

# Fifth Sunday in Lent

Take heart: it is not too late to build a better world.

# **GATHER**

PRELUDE Cantilene F Joseph Rehinberger from *Sonata 11* op.148 (1839 -1901)

Jan Christoph Hadenfeldt, guest organist

VOTUM Rachel J. Barton

Our help is in the name of the Lord,

who made heaven and earth. Amen.

\*HYMN 11 Bring Many Names WESTCHASE

### \*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God, you have searched us and know us.

You know when we sit down and when we rise.

There is nowhere we can go where you cannot find us,

You are with us in the wings of the morning and at the farthest limits of the sea.

You know before we come to you who we are and how we live

Search us, O God, and know our hearts

We confess Holy One,

When it is all too much, we do not always turn to You

We rely on ourselves, and our own ways of knowing,

We seek to satisfy our own needs, to judge with our own scales

We point out the specks in our neighbors' eyes, and do not notice the logs in our own.

\*Indicates all who are able may stand

God, from you nothing can be hidden. Together, we confess our sins and humbly repent. **Search us, O God, and know our hearts.** 

### Silence is kept

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Even before a word is on our tongues, O God, you know it completely. There is nothing we could bring to you that you do not already know, Nothing we could do, that, turning to you, you would not meet with love.

Know this, beloveds: God's works are wonderful, and they include you.

In Jesus Christ, we are all forgiven and made whole.

Let the good news of the mercy of God abide in your spirit, and be freed to live a life that is pleasing to God.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

**ANTHEM** 

Crashing Waters at Creation

RESTORATION,

Southern Harmony, 1835

Crashing waters at creation, ordered by the Spirit's breath, first to witness day's beginning from the brightness of night's death.

Parting water stood and trembled as the captives passed on through, washing off the chains of bondage: channel to a life made new.

Cleansing water once at Jordan closed around the One foretold, opened to reveal the glory ever new and ever old.

Living water, never ending, quench the thirst and flood the soul. Wellspring, Source of life eternal, drench our dryness; make us whole.

# THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

### **Amaia Laurel Meyer Foley**

Child of Erica Meyer and Andrew Foley Godchild of Christy Babiec and Ryan Foley

BLESSING THE WATER

John M. Edgerton

### PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTION

### LITANY OF BAPTISM

We are gathered to present Amaia Laurel Meyer Foley to the Church and to dedicate her to God. What can we affirm about her?

### She is a child of God, made in God's image.

As Amaia grows and matures, how will she know she is a child of God and how will she learn of the Christian story?

We will tell her about Abraham and Sarah, the parents of our faith; about Moses and Miriam who led our ancestors out of bondage; about Mary and Joseph's openness to mystery; about the Savior, Jesus.

In turn, what will we expect of her?

We look forward to sitting with her at the Lord's Table, sharing with her the costs and joys of discipleship, learning and growing with her in the Christian pilgrimage, and declaring with one voice our faith in God and God's son, Jesus.

Do you, Erica and Andrew, parents, assume your primary responsibility for fulfilling these expectations by growing with Amaia in the Christian faith, helping her to become a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, and by offering her the nurture and support of the Christian church? And will you, Christy and Ryan, godparents, agree to guide Amaia into becoming an engaged and complete human being, teaching her about personal sacrifice for a greater good, about grace and reconciliation at times of human weakness, and the power of unconditional love for all people?

Parents/Godparents: We happily and genuinely accept this serious duty.

And Old South Church, do you pledge to maintain a nurturing and challenging Christian environment for Amaia?

We do, for she belongs to us as well.

Then, may God be with us.

God help us. Amen.

**BAPTISM** 

### CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

Richard Ling, Baptismal Deacon

We rejoice in God's empowering love, freely given to each and all. We welcome you, newly baptized, into the circle of love in Christ's Church. We promise to pray for you, to seek the depths of faith with you, to support you, and to love you. We covenant with you to love God with all our hearts, minds, souls, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

# **LISTEN**

**SCRIPTURE** 

Judges 14, Selected Verses

Adriana Repetto

### \*HYMN 9

### We Sing To You, O God

CAMANO

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

SCRIPTURE Judges 16, Selected Verses Pam Roberts

SERMON He Was a Bad Man John M. Edgerton

\*HYMN 494 We Who Would Valiant Be ST. DUNSTAN'S

# **RESPOND**

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Ashley J. Popperson

God be with you.

And also with you.

May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.

Let us pray. Please be seated.

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### 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.

O Savior, let me walk with you in earthly paths of service true; tell me your secret, help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear, winning word of love. Teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me your patience; let me be in closer, dearer company, in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong.

In hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way, in peace that only you can give, with you, O Savior, let me live.

### CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rachel J. Barton



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OFFERTORY Witness Jack Halloran, arr.

Who'll be a witness for my Lord? Oh, I'll be a witness for my Lord.

There was a man of the Pharisees, his name was Nicodemus and he didn't believe. The same came to Christ by night, wanted to be taught out of human sight. Nicodemus was a man who desired to know how a man can be born when he's old. Christ told Nicodemus as a friend, "Man, you must be born again." He said, "Marvel not, man, if you want to be wise, repent, believe, and be baptized."

Then you'll be a witness for my Lord...

You read about Samson, from his birth he was the strongest man that ever lived on earth.

Way back yonder in ancient times he killed ten thousand of the Philistines.

Then old Samson went a-wand'rin' about.

Samson's strength was never found out
till his wife sat upon his knee:
she said, "Tell me where your strength lies, if you please!"
Well old Samson's wife, she talk so fair
Samson said, "Cut off a-my hair!
Shave my head just as clean as your hand,
and my strength will become like a natural man."

Samson was a witness for my Lord...

There's another witness for my Lord! My soul is a witness for my Lord!

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 193 In the Cross of Christ I Glory

RATHBUN

### \*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Nun lob, mein Seel, Johann Gottfried Walther den Herren (1684 - 1748) Jan Christoph Hadenfeldt, *guest organist* 



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

The flowers today are given in thanks for a good life, one day at a time. Elizabeth 43 years and Betty 41 years.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary, begins immediately following worship at the front of the Sanctuary.

Led by docent David Story.



### WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

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 serve as a sanctuary in the city of Boston.

#### **NEW AT OLD SOUTH?**

Welcome! We are so glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out a friendship pad so that we can be in touch with you. If you have any questions or would like to talk to a minister to learn more about the church, contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson at ashley@oldsouth.org.

Children are welcome in all aspects of worship. We also offer childcare from 8:20am-12:30pm every Sunday and Church School at 10am. For questions about our children's and family ministries, email children@oldsouth.org.

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

An accessible, single-stall restroom is available near Reception. More restrooms are available, ask at the reception desk.

#### 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 & concerts). For more information check out www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit or see the front desk.

#### **LEARN MORE**

Check out the church website www.oldsouth.org for more on the history and ministries of Old South. See www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of current events.

CCLI #2802138 CCS #12028 OneLicense #A-700000

### OLD SOUTH CHURCH in BOSTON — MINISTERS, OFFICERS, 단 STAFF

John M. Edgerton, Senior Minister
Ashley J. Popperson, Associate Minister \* Rachel J. Barton, Assistant Minister
Gracie Paterson, Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellow \* Kat Woodard, Seminarian

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* \* June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City* David F. Story, *Wedding Minister* \* Kenneth H. Orth, *Healing Worship Minister* 

James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus \* Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister Emeritus

Mitchell Crawford, Minister of Music

Audrey Woodhams, Creative Director for Thursday Night Church
Tim Harbold, Director, Gospel Choir & Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*Aislin Kate Anderson, *Children's Choir Director* ❖ Juniper Mai, *Children's Choir Accompanist* 

Amelia Gerrard, Director of Administration \* Rebecca Pasipanodya, Director of Operations
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, Administrative Assistant \* Kathleen Steen, Staff Accountant
Emily Ross, Archivist \* Karen Hand, Wedding Coordinator

Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director* Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Ava Welling, *Sound Technician* 

Elias Perez, Senior Sexton · Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, Sextons
Corey Spence, Weekday Receptionist
Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, & William Wei, Evening & Weekend Receptionists

Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Donna Matson, *Treasurer*Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*Rebecca Bowen & Laurie Stickels, *Senior Deacons* 

#### 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 South Church in Boston

# **LENT**

### LAST SUNDAY FOR ALL CHURCH READ

### An Altar in the World, our Lenten All-Church Read

10am Sundays, 2nd floor, or Zoom <u>tinyurl.com/2025ForumOSC</u> password community Join us as we explore the lessons author Barbara Brown Taylor includes in her book An Altar in the World. We'll highlight and discuss some of her teaching each week. Prior reading is not required, you will still learn and be able to participate.

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Join Theologian in Residence, Don Wells, in sharing poems and prose selections that reflect our Lenten and Holy Week journey. This is a new event similar to our annual Advent and Christmas Poetry Fest. To participate, let Don know the title of your selection (<u>granwell@comcast.net</u>). Choose not to read? Come anyway and hear others share their offerings.

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Coffee Hours through April 13

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### SHELTERING OUR NEIGHBORS: SIX HOST HOMES BY EASTER

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### INFORMATIONAL LUNCH FOR POSSIBLE HOSTS AND SUPPORTERS

Sunday, April 13, fourth floor Guild Room RSVP by April 10 at <a href="mailto:tinyurl.com/April13LunchOSC">tinyurl.com/April13LunchOSC</a>
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### ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

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Join us in person, on Facebook, and YouTube
Thursday night church, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
VESPERS HEALING Worship, Second Sundays at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom

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# HOLY WEEK & EASTER 2025

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