March 3, 2018 Sunday of the 349th Annual Meeting 11:00 am

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 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us Diane Bish, arr.

*HYMN 372 God, You Have Set Us NATIONAL HYMN

*CALL TO WORSHIP Vard Johnson

One: Heaven is here, and earth,

and the space between them thin.

All: Let heaven and earth cry, Glory!

One: Distance may divide, but God unites

we who are bounded by time

and those who are blessed by eternity.

All: Let heaven and earth cry, Glory!

One: Heaven is here, and earth,

and the Church above and below is one.

All: Let heaven and earth cry, Glory!

One: Peter is here, and Paul,

^{*} Indicates all who are able may stand

Martha and all the Marys, Francis, Theresa and Martin,

Sam, Phillis, Neesima and Eleanor...

the saints far back and those who left us not long ago.

All: Let heaven and earth cry, Glory!

One: Heaven is here and earth,

and the God who made them is present. God inhales the breath of our prayers and spreads a table for our satisfaction.

All: Let heaven and earth cry, Glory!

*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

John M. Edgerton

ANTHEM

OLD SOUTH CHILDREN'S CHOIR Amy Budka, *director*, Ken Budka, *guitar*

Glory, glory hallelujah! When I lay my burdens down.

I feel better, so much better when I lay my burdens down.

I feel like shouting "Hallelujah!" When I lay my burdens down
I get closer to my Jesus when I lay my burdens down

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE Revelation 21:1-4 James W. Crawford

Jim is our Senior Minister Emeritus, having served this church for twenty-eight years, from 1974-2002.

*HYMN 527	We Offer Christ	CHARTERHOUSE
*H Y WHN 52/	we Offer Christ	CHARTERHOUSE

During the hymn children may leave for choir and care.

SERMON Without a Vision the People Perish Nancy S. Taylor

*HYMN 451 **Be Now My Vision** SLANE

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER Tracy Keene

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

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

One: Let us pray. The congregation may be seated.

PRAYER FOR GOD'S GUIDANCE

One: Eternal God, Ancient of Days: You have watched over this congregation through three-and-a-half centuries of tumult and progress;

All: You have guided us through the making of a new nation, through bloody wars, economic crises and struggles for civil and human rights;

One: You have comforted us through storms and illness, and mentored and challenged us at times of great national decision.

All: We give you thanks for forebears whose lives have been true, lovely and brave, whose stories we tell, whose memories we cherish, whose example remains the plumb-line by which our lives are measured.

One: Holy One, God of our mothers and fathers, in these days of strife and trouble, keep our ears tuned to your still-speaking voice, our hearts open to your tip-toed entrance, our souls quickened by your Holy Spirit, our discipleship true to the way and cause of Christ.

All: Enable us to so hear your voice, to so see in our minds' eyes your vision and will for us, that we may arise with courage and conviction, affirming with the prophets of old: "Your will, O God, is our dearest desire. We, your people, are at your divine disposal. Here we are! Send us!" Amen.

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.

ANTHEM

O Savior, Let Me Walk with You Harry Lyn Huff

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

Katherine Schofield

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

OFFERTORY

Jubilate Deo

William Walton

O be joyful in the Lord all ye lands; Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God; it is he that hath made us and not we ourselves; We are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving and into his courts with praise; Be thankful unto him and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious; his mercy is everlasting; And his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 386 The Church's One Foundation

AURELIA

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE Celebrate! Keith Hampton
COMBINED OLD SOUTH FESTIVAL AND GOSPEL CHOIRS
Aislin-Kate Anderson, Evan Shu, and Jordan Pettis, soloists

Oh why don't you celebrate the blessings of the Lord?
Oh why don't you celebrate what God has already done?
You need to thank him for his mighty acts:
How he turned you around so don't look back.
Celebrate the goodness of the Lord. Celebrate!

Have faith in God for he will see you through.
Trust and believe that he's right there just for you.
Through troubled times and pain and despair,
Yes my God will surely be there.
Yes, my God will be there. He'll be there. Celebrate!

For the Lord is high above all the earth:
Thou art exalted far above all gods.
Rejoice in Holy God and give thanks
Yes my God will surely be there.
Yes, my God will be there. He'll be there. Celebrate!

The heavens declare your righteousness, And all of the people see your glory.

Rejoice in the Lord...
The heavens declare...
Let all of the people...
Celebrate the goodness of the Lord. Celebrate!

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Close-Up, a 20-minute tour of the Sanctuary, begins following worship at the front of the Sanctuary. Led by docent Robin Donovan.

In thanksgiving for the ministries of Nancy S. Taylor, John M. Edgerton, Katherine Schofield, the staff of Old South Church,

and the many ordained ministers among our membership who support our ministry; as well as in grateful memory of Elsbeth Melville Percy (BU's Dean Melville), who for many years gave flowers in recognition of the ministerial staff on Annual Meeting Sunday.

Notes on Today's Music

from MITCHELL CRAWFORD

Today's music at Festival Worship showcases nearly the entire music program at Old South, with contributions from the Children's and Gospel Choirs alongside the Festival Choir. Including the appearance by the Old South Ringers last Sunday, Festival Worshipers will thus have had a comprehensive view of our music program and its distinct elements, as well as the range of music these ensembles allow us to survey.

Harry Huff's "O Savior, Let Me Walk with You" was written in 1982 to honor the ordination of his friend, the Rev. Eugene Lowe, Jr. It is among the earliest of Harry's choral anthems, written while Calvin Hampton — Harry's mentor, colleague, and dear friend — was still alive. I note this as, occasionally, the stylistic influence of Hampton is evident, as in the melodic and harmonic contours of the second phrase (Tell me your secret...). Here also, then, is an opportunity to observe Harry (whom most of us remember as larger than life) in a more introspective idiom, as well as to experience his early musical style.

By contrast, the *Jubilate Deo* of **William Walton** (1902–1983) is the later work of a revered — if idiosyncratic — master, one whose personal style was imminently formed by early exposure to the Anglican repertory (about which he nevertheless expressed ambivalence). Walton is somewhat like Herbert Howells in that he seems to have "just missed" being the big thing in 20th century British music, a moniker ascribed to Benjamin Britten instead.

About the *Jubilate*, Walton was disparaging of the text: "not the most inspiring bit of nonsense — in fact the only thing to be said for it is its brevity." But if he was bored by the content of the 100th Psalm, he nevertheless produced a work of great distinction. Its opening, for antiphonal double chorus, is thrilling: the chorus parts overlap one another, calling back and forth overtop a rollicking organ accompaniment. The splashy opening gives way to a series of short solos and semichorus interjections before a confident return of the opening material joined to the final doxological statement. It ends, curiously for a piece in B-flat major, with a blazing cadence in A major, the theoretical aspects of which are somewhat provocative.

WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Welcome! We are a progressive Christian church first gathered in 1669. The Church played a significant role in early American history. We continue to outfit ourselves for mission and ministry in the 21st century as a thriving urban church in the heart of Boston. Join us following worship for fellowship and refreshments in the Gordon Chapel.

Need to stretch your legs during worship? The Chapel has full audio of the service.

Name tags facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know. For LARGE print bulletins or hearing assistance devices ask an Usher.

HEARING ASSISTED DEVICES

Old South has installed a **Hearing Loop** in the Sanctuary, the latest technology in hearing assisted devices.

- 1. If you have a hearing aid: the loop works directly for those whose hearing aids have a "T-Coil."
- 2. If you are hard of hearing but don't use an aid: ask for one the devices that is aired with the loop.

The sound is best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles. The loop does not work in the upper galleries.

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):

- 1. Park at the **Garage @ 100 Clarendon** (behind Back Bay Station), have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and **you** pay the discounted rate of \$7 for up to 3 hours. Old South bears no cost.
- 2. Park at the **Prudential Garage** for up to 5 hours on Saturday or Sunday, have your ticket validated at our Front Desk, and the Prudential Garage will bill **Old South** (costing us \$15k \$20k per year).



On May 12, 1669

the founders of Old South Church first gathered. Their descendants intend to mark the occasion as follows

SUNDAY, MAY 12, 2019

11:00am Anniversary Worship Service

Featuring a hymn commissioned for our anniversary, as well as the

presentation of the Open Door Award.

A Ceremony

Heraldic trumpets, dignitaries, an interfaith blessing.

1:00pm 350th Birthday Party

Cake & ice cream, antique press, magician, games,

reenactors, and dance music.

2:30pm Finale

Benediction followed by the pealing of the Tower Bell.

CALENDAR

Sunday, March 3	9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:45 AM 10:00 AM 10:00 AM 10:00 AM	FIRST Worship, Nancy S. Taylor preaching Children's Choir Old South Café in Gordon Chapel Annual Report Q & A and Coffee Cake with Nancy Taylor in the Gordon Chapel Choir Rehearsal Lectionary Bible Study Church School
	11:00 AM	FESTIVAL Worship, Nancy S. Taylor preaching
	11:15 AM	Children's Music
	12:15 PM	Fellowship Hour
	12:30 PM	349th Annual Meeting of Old South Church
Monday, March 4	6:00 PM 7:00 PM 7:30 PM	Theological Book Group Christian Service and Outreach Spiritual Classics
Tuesday, March 5	6:00 PM 6:15 PM 7:00 PM	Old South Ringers Rehearsal Young Adult Book Group Christian Formation Committee
Wednesday, March 6	12:00 PM 12:00 PM 6:00 PM 6:15 PM 6:30 PM	ASH WEDNESDAY Worship Men's Lunch Hour ASH WEDNESDAY Worship Young Adult Book Group Young Adult Small Group

Thursday, March 7	12:00 PM	Women's Lunch Hour Small Group
•	6:00 PM	JAZZ Worship, John M. Edgerton preaching
	6:30 PM	Choir Rehearsal
	7:00 PM	"Through the Bible" Study
	7:00 PM	Young Adult Book Group
	8:00 PM	Women's Christianity and Civic Life Small Group
Friday, March 8	6:00 PM	Parents Night Out
Sunday, March 10	9:00 AM	FIRST Worship, John M. Edgerton preaching
	9:00 AM	Children's Choir
	9:45 AM	Old South Café in Gordon Chapel
	10:00 AM	HEALING Worship
	10:00 AM	Community Hour, Lenten Study
	10:00 AM	Choir Rehearsal
	10:00 AM	Lectionary Bible Study
	10:00 AM	Church School
	11:00 AM	FESTIVAL Worship, John M. Edgerton preaching
	11:15 AM	Children's Music
	12:15 PM	Fellowship Hour
	12:30 PM	Gospel Choir Rehearsal
	2:00 PM	Interfaith Summit: Climate Change and Vulnerability

OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON MINISTERS, OFFICERS, AND STAFF

Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister

John M. Edgerton, Associate Minister * Katherine A. Schofield, Interim Associate Minister James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus Mitchell Crawford, Minister of Music

Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children & Family Ministries

Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence ***** June R. Cooper, Theologian in the City Calvin Genzel, Wedding Outreach Minister * Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister Martha Schick, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader ❖ Betsy Wooster, Seminarian Carolyn Davis, Director, Old South Preschool

George Sargeant, Associate Organist & Choirmaster

Tim Harbold, Director, Gospel Choir & Willie Sordillo, Director, Jazz Worship Music Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers Amy Budka, Children's Music Leader

Deb Washington, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer* Stephanie LaShoto & Ralph Watson, Senior Deacons Vicki Newman, Pledge Secretary

Helen McCrady, Senior Church Administrator * Jamie Garuti, Communications Administrator Linda Van Praet, Accounting & Human Resources ❖ David Albaugh, Building Manager Allison Albaugh, Wedding Coordinator Emily Ross, Archivist Rebeccca Bowler, Administrative Assistant Elias Perez, Senior Sexton * Ozo Nwodo, Oppong Serebour, & David Brode, Sextons

Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, Receptionists

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.