



## MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. SUNDAY

January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2023

*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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand  
Sayida Rivers Farmer, *soloist*

Thomas A. Dorsey

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

When my way grows drear, Precious Lord, linger near,  
When my life is almost gone,  
Hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

*\* Indicates all who are able may stand*

When the darkness appears and the night draws near,  
And the day is past and gone,  
At the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:  
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

\*HYMN 471 **What a Covenant** LEANING

\*INVOCATION Katherine A. Schofield

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”*

WELCOME

ANTHEM Dwell in the House Gale Jones Murphy  
OLD SOUTH GOSPEL AND FESTIVAL CHOIRS  
Tim Harbold, *director* • Jordan Pettis, *soloist*

One thing have I desired of the Lord, and that will I seek after:  
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life!  
To behold the beauty, the beauty of the Lord!

*Dedicated in loving memory of  
the Rev. Elinor Lockwood Yeo (1934-2023),  
Chaplain Emerita to the Old South Festival Choir*

## **LISTEN**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE Matthew 3:1-6, 13-17 Eliette Hilaire

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

\*HYMN

**Take Me to the Water** *Traditional Spiritual*



1. Take me to the wat - er,	Take me to the wat - ter,
2. When I get to heav - en,	When I get to heav - en,
3. Je - sus is my Sav - ior,	Je - sus is my Sav - ior,
4. I know I got the Spir - it,	I know I got the Spir - it,
5. Take me to the wat - er,	Take me to the wat - er,



Oh, take me to the wat - er	to be bap - tized.
Oh, when I get to heav - en,	I shall see God.
Oh, Je - sus is my Sav - ior	for - ev - er - more.
Oh, I know I got the Spir - it,	I' been born a - gain.
Oh, take me to the wat - er	to be bap - tized.

REFLECTION

Debby and Paul Kuenstner

\*HYMN

**Lord, I Want to Be a Christian** *Traditional Spiritual*



1. Lord, I want to be a Christ-ian in my heart, in my heart.	Lord, I
2. Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart, in my heart.	Lord, I
3. Lord, I want to be more giv - ing in my heart, in my heart.	Lord, I
4. Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart, in my heart.	Lord, I



want to be a Christ-ian in my heart. _____	In my heart, _____ in my
want to be more lov - ing in my heart. _____	In my heart, _____ in my
want to be more giv - ing in my heart. _____	In my heart, _____ in my
want to be like Je - sus in my heart. _____	In my heart, _____ in my



heart, _____	Lord, I want to be a Christ-ian in my heart. _____
heart, _____	Lord, I want to be more lov - ing in my heart. _____
heart, _____	Lord, I want to be more giv - ing in my heart. _____
heart, _____	Lord, I want to be like Je - sus in my heart. _____

## RESPOND

### \*CALL TO PRAYER

June R. Cooper

One: God be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

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

**Many: Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.**

One: 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.**

### PRAYER RESPONSE

First Song

Charlie Haden

THE WILLIE SORDILLO ENSEMBLE

### CALL TO THE OFFERING

Donald A. Wells



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

We Shall Overcome

*arr.* Paul S. Morton

OLD SOUTH GOSPEL AND FESTIVAL CHOIRS

Tim Harbold, *director* • Sayida Rivers Farmer, *soloist*

We shall overcome, we shall overcome, we shall overcome some day.  
But in my heart I do believe we shall overcome some day.

### \*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 593	<b>Lift Every Voice and Sing</b>	LIFT EVERY VOICE
*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION		Richard E. Spalding
POSTLUDE	Ella's Song Jordan Pettis, <i>soloist</i> , with Sayida Rivers Farmer and Geoffrey O'Hara	Bernice Johnson Reagon

*Refrain:*

*We who believe in freedom cannot rest.  
We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes.*

Until the killing of Black men, Black mothers' sons  
Is as important as the killing of White men, White mothers' sons

To me young people come first, they have the courage where we fail  
And if I can shed some light as they carry us through the gale

Not needing to clutch for power, not needing the light just to shine on me  
I need to be just one in the number as we stand against tyranny

I'm a woman who speaks in a voice and I must be heard  
At time I can be quite difficult, I'll bow to no man's word

*We who believe in freedom cannot rest.  
We who believe in freedom cannot rest until it comes.*



Today's Band  
Willie Sordillo, *sax*  
Tim Harbold, *piano*  
Doug Rich, *bass*  
Phil McGowan, *percussion*

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

The flowers today are given  
by Beth Luckenbach and Kathleen Carey  
to be a message of hope and life for those struggling in darkness.

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



## **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 [katherine@oldsouth.org](mailto: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](http://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit) or see the front desk.

## **LEARN MORE**

Check out the church website at [www.oldsouth.org/calendar](http://www.oldsouth.org/calendar) for a calendar of events, and the general website [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org) for more on the history and other information about this storied ship of faith!

CCLI #2802138 ❖ CCS #12028 ❖ OneLicense #A-700000

## 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*  
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, & David Brode, *Sextons*  
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*  
Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, & 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  
SOUTH  
CHURCH  
*in* BOSTON



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **MLK SERVICE OPPORTUNITIES** *This weekend*

One way to mark the Martin Luther King, Jr federal holiday is to spend time that day in service to others. Here are some ideas for you and your loved ones. If you DO volunteer - please send Jamie Garuti at [jamie@oldsouth.org](mailto:jamie@oldsouth.org) and let us know where you volunteered!

### **Boston Cares**

has compiled several options: <https://www.bostoncares.org/mlkvolunteer>

### **Cradles to Crayons**

is hosting an entire Weekend of Purpose, with at-home practices for Friday - Sunday, and in person on Monday. Go to [www.cradlestocrayons.org/boston/take-action/mlk2023/](http://www.cradlestocrayons.org/boston/take-action/mlk2023/) for more info or to register.

## **IT'S JANUARY. THINK STEWARDSHIP!**



**FAITHFUL BELONGING**  
Stewardship 2023

The month we associate with the Epiphany - the manifestation of God's transformational love in Jesus - is also the month when this congregation thinks, communally and individually, about our commitment to the manifestation of that love that we call Old South Church, at work in the world. We'll be hearing biblical stories of Jesus's stepping into his ministry, and fellow Old Southerners reflecting on how they, and all of us, step into *our* ministry. This is such an important year for us, stewardship-wise! Go to <https://oldsouth.org/stewardship> to learn more - and, if you haven't yet received a pledge card, ask an usher - so you can make a pledge in time for Consecration Sunday, January 29<sup>th</sup>.

## **RSVP FOR THE CONSECRATION SUNDAY LUNCHEON**

Go to [tinyurl.com/OSC2023StewardshipLunch](http://tinyurl.com/OSC2023StewardshipLunch) or sign up at the Front Desk

You're invited to Old South's Consecration Lunch following Festival Worship on January 29<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the abundance of generosity in our congregation. After hearing church members reflect on what Old South means to them and why they support it financially all through January, we'll formally dedicate our financial commitments to our church's ministries during the final week of the month at our regular services - and then, that Sunday, we feast: a great meal, wonderful music, and joyful celebration! Please let us know you're coming.

## **OLD SOUTH FORUM**

*Sundays, 10 a.m., 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Mary Norton Hall,*

*and on Zoom, at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86944345274> 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. This Winter we'll hear from our clergy leaders and congregation members about their favorite theologians, how the study of theology shapes their ministry work, and what growing edges they're exploring in these areas.

### **Liberation Theology with Rev. Bill Ragan**

*January 15<sup>th</sup>*

The theme of liberation is central to our understanding of the gospel and our calling to fight faithfully for social justice and transformation in the world. Martin Luther King Jr. embraced many of the teachings of liberation theology, which inform our current day work as anti-racists.

### **'Condemned or Beloved' with Rev. Donald A. Wells**

*January 22<sup>nd</sup>*

Join our Theologian in Residence for an exploration of theories of blessing and atonement: from original sin/original blessing, through the touchpoints of Celtic Christianity, "and goodness knows what else."

## **MASS AND CASS STORYTELLING PROJECT**

*Tuesday Evenings beginning January 24<sup>th</sup>, go to [tinyurl.com/MassandCassStories](https://tinyurl.com/MassandCassStories) to register*

Join us for a free 6-week storytelling workshop with Lani Peterson, Psy.D., psychologist ([lanipeterson.com](http://lanipeterson.com)), and story coach. By focusing on the power of stories to change and heal, we will learn how to tell a personal story for impact, and most importantly, learn how to support others with lived experience to find and tell their stories in a way that leads to growth and change. This piloted program will be accessible to 20 individuals – housed and unhoused who will all commit to using these skills at both Mass and Cass as well as with all unhoused in the Boston area.

## **CONGREGATIONAL CARE AND SUPPORT**

With the aid of many hands, the Congregational Care and Support Team reaches out with a pastoral ministry of prayers, love and support for members and friends of Old South Church in times of need. If you, or someone you know, could use a card, a meal, a ride, a prayer or a listening ear, don't hesitate to reach out to [care@oldsouth.org](mailto:care@oldsouth.org).

## **SMALL GROUP SIGN UPS**

*Fill out the interest form at [tinyurl.com/OSCSmallGroups2023](https://tinyurl.com/OSCSmallGroups2023)*

Do you seek to deepen your experience of community at Old South Church, cultivate spiritual friendships, and grow in your faith? We are currently forming groups for the spring season (Jan through May). Groups meet online, in-person, and hybrid.

## **THEOLOGICAL BOOK GROUP STUDYS 'THE UNIVERSAL CHRIST'**

*Beginning Monday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, attendees will be sent Zoom link and reading assignments*

*Email Don Wells at [granwell@comcast.net](mailto:granwell@comcast.net) to sign up.*

The Theological Book Group will begin a new book: Richard Rohr's 'The Universal Christ'. Rohr, a Franciscan, and the author of several books on Christian spirituality, uses scripture, history and spiritual practice as he sets forth a view of Jesus Christ as a portrait of God's constant and unfolding work in the world. His life was meant to declare that humanity has never been separated from God. The group is limited to 18-20 participants to insure maximum time for discussion. An openness to the challenge of new ways to see theological concepts is an important part of the group process. Group members must purchase their own copy of the book.

## **THROUGH THE BIBLE**

*Thursdays, 7 p.m., 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Phillis Wheatley Room and on Zoom*

Join us as we journey at a reflective and thorough pace through the Hebrew Bible. We are excited to welcome a new Bible Study Instructor to lead this group. Andrew Vosburgh, a student at Harvard Divinity School, has a deep appreciation of biblical hermeneutics and is well versed in ancient languages so will bring many gifts to the group.

## **SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY**

*Sundays, 10 a.m. 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Phillis Wheatley Room, and on Zoom*

Delve into the day's scripture passage heard in worship. This no-homework Bible study delights in taking a scholarly look at ancient texts. Don't leave your questions at the door; we need them. For more information contact Katherine Schofield at [katherine@oldsouth.org](mailto:katherine@oldsouth.org).

## **GREEN TIP: MASSACHUSETTS CLEAN ENERGY AND CLIMATE PLANS**

The Massachusetts Clean Energy and Climate Plan for 2050 (2050 CECP) and the Secretary's letter outlining emissions limits are now available at [www.mass.gov/2050CECP](http://www.mass.gov/2050CECP). The Massachusetts Clean Energy and Climate Dashboard is also now available, which provides key performance indicators to track the implementation progress of Massachusetts' Clean Energy and Climate Plans.

## A REVOLUTIONARY PORTRAIT

Go to [oldsouth.org/revolutionary-portrait](https://oldsouth.org/revolutionary-portrait) to read the full blog

Old South Historian Kate Silfen describes how the dedication of the Phillis Wheatly Room at Old South was a historic occasion in more ways than one. It marked the first time one of the church's public spaces had been named for a woman of color. But it also celebrated the arrival of a portrait that was revolutionary for its time.



## DONATE FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Go to [tiny.oldsouth.org/Flowers2023](https://tiny.oldsouth.org/Flowers2023) to sign up for a Sunday, dates are filling quickly

Would you like to give the flowers one Sunday - in memory or in honor of a special person or event? I find it quite meaningful every Sunday to read the flower message. The price is \$100. Please send you message along with your payment. You can drop it off, send a check, or go to [tinyurl.com/DonateOSC](https://tinyurl.com/DonateOSC) and make your gift online. **Sundays April 30<sup>th</sup> and May 21<sup>st</sup> are still available.**

## 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 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

Join us to end homelessness

Sunday, February 12th

Sign up today!

Visit Winterwalk.org

#Endhomelessness  
#WinterWalk23



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.