All Church Worship — Old South Church *in* Boston

January 3, 2021 ❖ 10:00 a.m.

Epiphany Sunday

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	*Prélude sur l'Introit de l'Épiphanie, Op. 13*	Maurice Duruflé
WELCOME	oldsouth.org/Sundays	Nancy S. Taylor
PASSING THE PEACE		

Welcome to worship!
Introduce yourself and connect with us by signing our
Virtual Fellowship Pad

HYMN **The First Nowell** THE FIRST NOWELL

The first Nowell the angel did say was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
in fields where they lay keeping their sheep, on a cold winter's night that was so deep:

refrain:
"Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel."

Then they looked up and saw a star, shining in the east, beyond them far;
and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night: (*refrain*)

This star drew nigh to the northwest; o'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay: (*refrain*)

Then let us all with one accord sing praises to our heavenly Lord,
that hath made heaven and earth of naught, and with his love our life hath sought: (*refrain*)

INVOCATION Shawn M. Fiedler

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Shawn M. Fiedler, Helen McCrady, Nancy S. Taylor
(cameo appearance by Corey Spence)

Attend

SCRIPTURE Matthew *2:1-12* Emily

REFLECTION Stewardship: An Epiphany Tim Longman & Tracy Keene

HYMN **Of the Parent's Heart Begotten** DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

Of the Parent's heart begotten, when the worlds were yet to be,
One there was with no beginning, One who is eternally—
Source and Ending of all things that have been,
and all things that are to be, evermore and evermore.

By this Word was all created, by this Word were all things done:
Land and air and deepest ocean, harmony of three in one,
And all growing in the luminance
shed forth from the moon and sun, evermore and evermore.

Now behold the One whom prophets have foretold for ages long
On the faithful page of scripture, seers and sages in their song;
Now the Promised One shines forth!
Let all earth its praise prolong evermore and evermore.

PASTORAL PRAYER Reamogetje S. Ngoepe

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Ever-loving and Holy God, hallowed be your name, your reign come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give this day our daily bread and forgives us our debts as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For yours is the reign, the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE Star in the East William Walker

Hail the blest morn, see the great Mediator,
Down from the regions of glory descend!
Shepherds, go worship the babe in the manger;
Lo, for his guard the bright angels attend.

Brightest and best of the stars of the morning;
Dawn on our darkness and lend us thine aid;
Star of the East, the horizon adorning,
Guide where our infant Redeemer is laid.

Respond

CALL TO THE OFFERING oldsouth.org/Sundays Katherine A. Schofield

Go to the above site to donate online
and find all things Sunday!

OFFERTORY Bethlehem Down Peter Warlock
Paul Soper, *baritone* • Larry Mynatt, *accompanist*

When he is King they will give him the King's gifts,
Myrrh for its sweetness, and gold for a crown,
Beautiful robes, said the young girl to Joseph,
Fair with her first-born on Bethlehem Down.

Bethlehem Down is full of the starlight
Winds for the spices, and stars for the gold,
Mary for sleep, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

When he is King they will clothe Him in grave-sheets,
Myrrh for embalming, and wood for a crown,
He that lies now in the white arms of Mary
Sleeping so lightly on Bethlehem Down.

Here he has peace and a short while for dreaming,
Close-huddled oxen to keep Him from cold,
Mary for love, and for lullaby music
Songs of a shepherd by Bethlehem fold.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN **Go, Tell It on the Mountain** GO TELL IT

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. (*refrain)*

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. (*refrain)*

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. (*refrain*)

BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION Nancy S. Taylor

POSTLUDE *Lucis Creator* Dorothy J. Papadakos

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In lieu of flowers a gift has been made to the Allston Brighton Food Pantry
by Linda and Jim Crawford in memory of their son Benjamin.

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A Note on Today's Music from
George Sargeant, Associate Organist and Choirmaster:

Dorothy J. Papadakos was the first woman to be appointed organist at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. John the Divine in New York, the largest Gothic cathedral in the world, and held the position from 1990 through 2003. Since leaving the Cathedral she has pursued a career as a silent film accompanist, composer, playwright, and author.

Lucis Creator (O Blessed Creator of the Light) was written for the dedication of the Festival Trumpet stop at St. Matthew's Episcopal Cathedral in Dallas. It takes as its theme a Gregorian chant commonly sung at Vespers, though it is equally appropriate for the Feast of the Epiphany, which celebrates the ancient seers' visit to the infant Jesus and the revealing of Christ's light to the world. It is quite the romp; its rapidly shifting meters and jazzy rhythms and harmonies are far removed from the simplicity of plainsong!

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INFORMATION ABOUT OLD SOUTH

Check out the church website at
www.oldsouth.org/Sundays for everything Sundays,
www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of virtual events,
and the general website 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

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister* ❖ James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus*
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister* ❖ Shawn M. Fiedler, *Acting Associate Minister*
Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
Reamogetje S. Ngoepe, *Pastoral Resident*
David Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*
Martha Schick, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader*
Thomas A. Mitchell, *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*

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Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*
Shirley Bivins, Rubia Reyes, George Sargeant, & Vernon Walker, *Evening & Weekend 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.

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