



SUNG RESPONSE For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits Marty Haugen

**Refrain:** (*choir and congregation*)



*Choir:*

O Lord of Light, our only hope of glory, your radiance shines in all who look to you;  
Come, light the hearts of all in dark and shadow. (*to refrain*)

LIGHTING THE FIRST CANDLE

\*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

\*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

Nancy S. Taylor

ANTHEM

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Harry Lyn Huff, *arr.*

*Veni, Emmanuel! Veni, Emmanuel!*

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Key of David, come, and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;  
bid envy, strife, and discord cease; fill the whole world with heaven's peace.  
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

## ATTEND

SCRIPTURE Matthew 24:36-44 Tracy Keene

\*HYMN 103 **Watcher, Tell Us of the Night** ABERYSTWYTH

*During the hymn children are invited to leave for choir and care.*

SERMON Shawn M. Fiedler

\*HYMN 112 **Keep Awake, Be Always Ready** WACHET AUF

## RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING Amo Ngoepe

OFFERTORY Keep Your Lamps! André J. Thomas, *arr.*

*Keep your lamps trimmed and burning,  
The time is drawing nigh.*

Children, don't get weary 'til your work is done.  
Christian journey soon be over, the time is drawing nigh. (*refrain*)

\*DOXOLOGY DIVINUM MYSTERIUM

**Depths and heights break forth in singing, angels saints make melody,  
All dominions, every power sing, make new psalms of ecstasy,  
Let no heart refrain from praising God,  
celebrate in harmony, evermore and evermore.**

# THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

\*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Nancy S. Taylor

One: God be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**Many: We lift them up to God.**

One: Let us give thanks to God.

**Many: It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

One: ...we raise our voices in song:

\*HYMN 793

SANCTUS

ARGENTINA

**Santo, santo, santo, mi corazón te adora!  
Mi corazón te sabe decir: santo eres Dios!**

**Holy, holy, holy, my heart my heart adores you!  
My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.**

*You may be seated.*

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.**

SHARING THE MEAL

**The Bread**

*Our communion table is open to all. Communion will be served in the pews.*

*The bread will be served first. Please wait until all have been served.*

*We will partake of it together, symbolizing our unity and community as God's people.*

*Gluten-free crackers are available on each paten.*

Savior of the Nations, Come BWV 659

J. S. Bach

## The Cup

*When served the cup, please partake of it immediately,  
symbolizing our solitariness as we each stand alone before our God.  
The cups contain non-alcoholic grape juice.*

“Communion”

Richard Purvis

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

\*HYMN *insert*

**Build a Longer Table**

NOEL NOUVELET

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Shawn M. Fiedler

POSTLUDE

Savior of the Nations, Come BWV 661

J. S. Bach



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

**A 20-minute Tour** of the Sanctuary,  
begins following worship at the front of the Sanctuary.  
Led by docent Dick Yeo.

**Today's flowers** are given  
in loving memory of Clarence Dauber  
by his grandchildren, Pam & Ian Holland,  
& his great-grandchildren, Nolan & Aine Holland.

Lighting the **Advent Wreath** today are representatives of those  
Old South Church members who have—as a chosen family—  
worshiped in or around Pew 99 for many years.  
This family includes Larry Bowers, Janet Butler, Lois Corman,  
Kay Davis, Vicki Newman, Janet Nolan, & David Vogán Jr.



## **WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH**

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins please ask an Usher.  
The Chapel has full audio of the service if you need to stretch your legs.

## **HEARING ASSISTANCE DEVICES**

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 <https://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit> or see the front desk.

## **OTHER INFORMATION ABOUT OLD SOUTH**

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

## **CHRISTMAS AT OLD SOUTH**

### **CHRISTMAS PAGEANT**

*Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 AM*

Be led and inspired by our children as they lead worship through a presentation of their Christmas Pageant - which they have written themselves with Music Leader Amy Budka.

### **BLUE CHRISTMAS JAZZ WORSHIP**

*Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM*

While we're bombarded with words lauding the wonders of the season, many people find the holidays anything but joyful. Blue Christmas provides an opportunity to step away and let go into music and readings that acknowledge your feelings without trying to talk you out of them. Even if you love the holidays, you may find comfort in this special service.

### **CHRISTMAS EVE**

*Tuesday, December 24<sup>th</sup>*

#### **5:00 PM Candlelight Family Service**

Children are invited to participate in an impromptu Christmas pageant, with simple costumes provided. We sing carols to tell the Christmas story together. Childcare provided.

#### **8:00 PM Candlelight Service of Lessons & Carols**

An elegant telling of the Christmas story in carols and readings with music for choir and organ, culminating in the singing of "Silent Night" in our candle-lit sanctuary. Childcare provided.

#### **11:00 PM Candlelight Communion**

A warmly traditional service with festive carol singing, traditional lessons, and communion in our garland-bedecked chapel. We greet the birth of Christ by singing "Silent Night" outdoors by candlelight just after midnight.

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH IN BOSTON  
MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF**

Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister*  
Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister* ❖ Shawn M. Fiedler, *Acting 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*  
Amo Ngoepe, *Pastoral Resident*  
David Story, *Executive Assistant to the Senior Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*  
Martha Schick, *Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader*  
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*  
Randy Billings, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Evan Shu, *Historian*  
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* ❖ Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Administrative Assistant*  
Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*  
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, & Shirley Bivins *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.