



January 31, 2016
**Fourth Sunday
 after Epiphany**
 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?

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

Jesus Shall Reign
 Old South Ringers; Peter Coulombe, Director

Patricia Sanders

*HYMN 575

O for a World

Azmon

*CALL TO WORSHIP (1 Corinthians 15, adapted)

Nancy S. Taylor

One: Behold, I show you a mystery!

Many: We shall not all sleep, but we shall all be changed.

One: In a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, at the last trumpet,

Many: For the trumpet shall sound, and the dead will be raised incorruptible.

One: When this perishable body puts on imperishability, and this mortal body puts on immortality, then the saying that is written will be fulfilled.

Many: 'Death has been swallowed up in victory.'

'O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory?'

* *Indicates all who are able may stand*

*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

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Anthony Gerald Degnan

Child of Nicole Michelle Degnan and Brian John Degnan
Godparents are Elizabeth Kas Degnan and Michael James Parker

INTRODUCTIONS AND ADDRESS

John M. Edgerton

LITANY OF BAPTISM (responsively)

One: We are gathered to present Anthony to the church and to dedicate him to God. What can we affirm about him?

Many: They he is a child of God, made in the image of God.

One: As Anthony grows, how will he learn who he is?

Many: We will give him our love and include him in the life and ministry of this church.

One: How will he learn of the Christian faith?

Many: As Old South Church, we vow to teach him about Abraham and Sarah, Moses and Miriam; about Mary and Joseph’s openness to mystery and about the Savior, Jesus.

One: What will we expect of Anthony?

Many: We look forward to sharing with Anthony the costs and joys of discipleship, and learning and growing together in the Christian pilgrimage and faith.

One: Do you, Brian and Nicole, parents, and Elizabeth and Michael, Godparents, assume your primary responsibility for fulfilling these expectations by growing with this child in the Christian faith, helping him to become a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, and by offering him the nurture and support of the Christian church?

Parents/Godparents: With the help of God, we happily and genuinely accept this serious duty.

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

Many: We do, for he belongs to us as well.
One: Then, may God be with us.
Many: God help us. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF BAPTISM

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME (unison)

David Becker, 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.

ANTHEM

God Is Love

Bruce Saylor

*God is Love, let heaven adore Him; God is Love, let earth rejoice;
Let creation sing before Him and exalt Him with one voice.
God who laid the earth's foundation; God who spread the heavens above,
God who breathes through all creation: God is Love, eternal Love.*

*God is Love; and Love enfolds us, all the world in one embrace:
With unfailing grasp God holds us, every child of every race.
And when human hearts are breaking under sorrow's iron rod,
Then we find that self-same aching deep within the heart of God.*

God is Love, so Love must reign.

*God is Love; and though with blindness sin afflicts all human life,
God's eternal lovingkindness guides us through our earthly life.
Sin and death and hell shall never o'er us final triumph gain;
God is Love, so Love forever o'er the universe must reign.*

*God is Love, so Love forever
O'er the universe must reign.
God is love.*

—Timothy Rees (1874-1939)

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Emma Brewer-Wallin

*HYMN

O Splendor of God's Glory Bright *Puer Nobis Nascitur*

(Children and teachers may leave for choir and childcare.)



1.O splen - dor of God's glo - ry bright, from
 2.O true Sun, fi - ery star, let fall per -
 3.O fash - ion us to do your will, our
 4.Make ho - ly this and ev - ery day: let



light e - ter - nal bring - ing light; O
 pet - ual bril - liance on us all; The
 en - vious thoughts and ac - tions still; In
 mod - es - ty greet morn - ing's ray; And



light of light, light's liv - ing spring, O
 Ho - ly Spi - rit's ra - diant beam up -
 ev - ery chal - lenge may we find the
 faith - ful love, the noon - day light; and



day of days, il - lu - min - ing.
 on our earth - ly sens - es stream.
 grace which guides both heart and mind.
 hope, the sun - set calm and bright.

SERMON

Eulogy for One Unknown

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 99

Abide with Me

Eventide

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

*CALL TO PRAYER

Nancy S. Taylor

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. (The congregation may be seated.)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

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

Ubi caritas et amor

Maurice Duruflé

Where true charity and love dwell, God is there.

*Since the love of Christ has joined us in one body,
Let us all rejoice and be glad now and always.
And as we hear and love our Lord, the living God,
So let us in sincerity love all people.*

Where true charity and love dwell, God is there.

—ancient Latin hymn

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Amelia W. Nugent

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

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Highland Cathedral Michael Korb and Ulrich Roever
arr. Julie Turner and Kevin McChesney
Old South Ringers

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 350 Now in the Days of Youth *Diademata*

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE *A Triptych of Fugues* Gerald Near
III. Broadly



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

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 outfit itself for mission and ministry in the 21st century as a thriving urban church in the heart of Boston. Join us immediately following worship for fellowship and refreshments in the Gordon Chapel.

Front page illustration by Pam Roberts, former church moderator, the first woman in Old South Church's history to hold that position.

Our scripture reader, Emma Brewer-Wallin, is a peace and justice studies major at Wellesley College.

Today's flowers are given by Kay Davis in memory of Dr. Jean M. Jackson.

SUNDAY FLOWERS The Sunday Flower Calendar for 2016 is up in the first floor elevator lobby on the bulletin board. APRIL 17 AND 24TH STILL AVAILABLE! Donating Sunday flowers is a special way to remember loved ones and special events. The cost is \$50. Put your name by the date you want and send the message you wish to appear in the bulletin to helen@oldsouth.org. Please note that more than one person can sign up for any one Sunday.

Name tags facilitate community and help newcomers feel welcomed. If you don't see a tag with your name on it, let us know.

Parents are free to wander when restless. Audio of the service is available across the Narthex in the Gordon Chapel.

For LARGE print bulletins or hearing assistance devices 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):

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).

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

The Scripture reading this morning is taken from the 13th chapter of 1st Corinthians – the so-called “love chapter”, familiar to any who have ever attended a wedding. Although it has been associated for so many centuries with the binding of two hearts in Christian marriage, in fact it serves as the ideal recipe for living out the Golden Rule in loving your neighbor as yourself.

One of the most beautiful paraphrases of this beloved text is the ancient Latin hymn, *Ubi caritas et amor* (Where true charity and love dwell, God is there). The medieval Gregorian plainsong with which it is paired was harmonized by French composer Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986) for a *cappella* choir in 1960 in a set of *Quatre motets sur des thèmes grégoriens*, op. 10. This sublime setting has been a perennial favorite of choirs the world over since its composition, and will be sung as the prayer response by the Old South Choir today.

The first anthem, “God Is Love”, reminds us that all love originates from and is nourished by God. This hymn-anthem was written in 1999 by New York composer Bruce Saylor (b. 1946), and is based on the original hymn-tune *Caprio*, written by Saylor in memory of the late organist John-Michael Caprio. The gently undulating lyricism of the tune gradually builds and weaves with the immortal theme of Beethoven’s *Ode to Joy*. Following a triumphant climax the anthem slowly winds down to a final whispered, “God is love”. Dr. Saylor’s compositional input, in addition to a vast canon of sacred and liturgical works, has included music for the 1995 papal visit of John Paul II to New York City, President Bill Clinton’s second inauguration in 1997, and many collaborations with the great American soprano Jessye Norman.

The Old South Ringers will be heard during the prelude and offertory today. “Jesus Shall Reign” melds the popular hymn-tunes *Duke Street* and *Coronation*. “Highland Cathedral” will be familiar to those who have attended our annual Marathon Sunday services, when it is played by Scottish bagpiper Dave Methven to herald the Blessing of the Athletes. Its melody was composed by German musicians Ulrich Roever and Michael Korb in 1982 for a Highland games held in Germany. However, its popularity is such in Scotland that it has been proposed as the national anthem for that country!

The postlude is the last of a set of three fugues composed by Gerald Near (b. 1942). Dr. Near has held posts as organist, choirmaster, and composer-in residence in a number of American Episcopal churches and cathedrals, and is currently choral director and cantor at Holy Faith Episcopal Church in Santa Fe, New Mexico.

—Harry L. Huff, Minister of Music

CALENDAR

Sunday, January 31	<p>8:30 am First Worship Choir</p> <p>9:00 am FIRST Worship, Amelia W. Nugent preaching</p> <p>9:45 am Old South Café in the Gordon Chapel</p> <p>10:00 am Community Hour: <i>Sunday Morning Bible Study</i> <i>Godly Play</i> <i>Islam 101</i> <i>Choir Rehearsal</i></p> <p>11:00 am FESTIVAL Worship, John M. Edgerton preaching</p> <p>12:15 pm Fellowship Hour in the Gordon Chapel</p> <p>12:30 pm Christian Service and Outreach Committee</p> <p>6:00 pm EVENING Worship <i>our final gathering</i></p>
Monday, February 1	<p>6:00 pm Theological Book Group</p>
Tuesday, February 2	<p>5:30 pm Old South Ringers Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 pm Christian Formation</p>
Thursday, February 4	<p>6:00 pm JAZZ Worship</p> <p>6:30 pm Old South Choir Rehearsal</p> <p>7:00 pm Young Adult Book Group</p> <p>7:00 pm Through the Whole Bible Book Group</p> <p>7:00 pm Contemplative Prayer Book Group</p>
Friday, February 5	<p>7:30 pm Symphony Nova Woodwind Quintet</p>
Annual Meeting Sunday Sunday, February 7	<p>9:00 am Adult choirs rehearse</p> <p>10:00 am ALL CHURCH WORSHIP Godly Play classes</p> <p>11:00 am Children's choirs rehearse</p> <p>11:15 am 356th ANNUAL MEETING</p> <p>12:30 pm ALL CHURCH BRUNCH <i>following Annual Meeting</i></p>

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

Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister ❖ Harry L. Huff, Minister of Music
John M. Edgerton, Associate Minister ❖ Anthony T. Livolsi, Associate Minister
James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus
Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children and Family Ministries
Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence ❖ June Cooper, Theologian in the City
Calvin Genzel, Wedding Outreach Minister ❖ Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister
Jackie Geilfuss, Youth Leader ❖ Amelia Nugent, Field Education Intern
Carolyn Davis, Director, Old South Preschool
George Sargeant, Associate Organist and Choirmaster
Laurel Leslie, Choir Director, First Worship ❖ Willie Sordillo, Music Coordinator, Jazz Worship
Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers ❖ Amy Budka, Children's Music Leader
Linda O'Donnell, Director, Children's Choirs ❖ Timothy Harbold, Director, Gospel Choir
Deb Washington, Moderator ❖ Lisa Mahnke, Clerk ❖ David Vogan, Treasurer
Phil Stern, Chair, Board of Trustees ❖ Emily Click, Historian
Debbie Leonard, Senior Deacon ❖ Vicki A. Newman, Pledge Secretary
Helen McCrady, Senior Church Administrator ❖ Amy Perry, Communications
Rebecca Bowler, Administrative Assistant ❖ Linda Van Praet, Accounting and Human Resources
Janet Butler, Wedding Coordinator
Elias Perez, Senior Sexton ❖ Ozo Nwodo and Oponng Serebour, Sextons
Corey Spence, Rubia Reyes, and Lena Rojas Receptionists
www.oldsouth.org ❖ CCLI License #2802138

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
645 Boylston Street
Copley Square
Boston, MA 02116-2882
(617) 536-1970



ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY AT OLD SOUTH: January 31, 2016

First Worship Choir rehearses at 8:30 am to learn a simple song. Come-as-you-can. Lleslie@tuftsmedicalcenter.org

Community Hour at 10 am offers a variety of educational opportunities for children, youth, and adults between the morning services, including **Islam 101**.

ANNUAL MEETING SUNDAY

The 346th Annual Meeting of the Members of Old South Church in Boston will be held on Sunday, February 7th at 11:15 am. This year will entail a different Sunday schedule in the hopes that everyone will attend:

10:00 am **All Church Worship** (Sanctuary)

11:15 am **Annual Meeting** (Sanctuary)
with a performance by a combined children's choir

Following Annual Meeting
All Church Brunch (second floor)

Childcare will remain available uninterrupted beginning at 8:40 am through Annual Meeting on the third floor. **Godly Play** will be held at 10 am as usual, plus a *special children's activity* will follow at 11 am on the third floor.

VALENTINE'S DAY DANCE

You are invited to kick up your heels (or subtly shift side to side) on Sunday, February 14th following Festival Worship to help celebrate that which makes Old South Church different - the LOVE! We will gather in Mary Norton Hall from 12:30 - 2:30 pm for a **Valentine's Dance** with music, snacks, and excellent fellowship. *This will be a party for the ages! And for all ages!*

Please bring a picture of your loved ones – be they two-legged, furry, or stuffed – to help decorate our space. **To help with refreshments**, email Kate Nintcheu at children@oldsouth.org.

SEASON OF LENT

THURSDAY LOVE FEASTS

We invite all friends and members of the community who are able to fast (refrain from eating) each Thursday in Lent and then break the fast together in special **'love feast' services** at 6 pm in place of Jazz Worship, as we worship the way the first Christians did: at table, over a shared meal.

As you can imagine, preparing these meals will be a labor of love. Would you consider volunteering a little of your time? **Here's how you can lend a hand:**

Meal Captain: Choose the recipe, create a list of ingredients, and 'run' the meal preparation on one of six Sunday afternoons.

Grocery Shop: Old South Church bears the cost. You commit only to shop for and cart the groceries needed for one of the six weekly meals.

Kitchen Help: Arrive between 12:30 and 2:30 pm on any Sunday in Lent to chop, dice, sauté, or stir as instructed. Beginners are welcome.

Thursday Set Up: Arrive by 4 pm on any Thursday in Lent to help set tables, heat the meal, and prepare the buffet spread.

To volunteer, email Amelia Nugent, amelia@oldsouth.org.

COMMUNITY HOUR SERIES

In this season of spiritual deepening, Old South Church will practice the ancient discipline of **Sabbath-keeping**. Beginning Sunday, February 14th, Rev. Emily Click will facilitate 10 am Community Hour sessions, and with her, we will choose new ways to "practice" Sabbath. This will enable us to unpack our preconceptions about Sabbath – does it mean more than simply 'not doing' something? – and wonder together how we might enrich our regular rhythms of Sunday worship and rest.

ASH WEDNESDAY

Simple services of prayer, silence, confession, and the imposition of ashes will be held **February 10th at 12 noon and 6 pm**. Clergy will be available for the imposition of ashes from 8 am - 8 pm, outdoors, except during worship time.

COMMUNITY HOUR, Sundays 10-11 am

FOR CHILDREN

Infants through grade 2 are welcome in our **childcare ministries** beginning at 8:40 am. Care is available uninterrupted through First Worship, Community Hour, and Festival Worship.

Our Montessori-style **Godly Play** program invites children to see themselves as active participants in the story of faith. **Today's** story for the Preschool and Early and Older Elementary Classes: Parable of the Good Samaritan.

FOR YOUTH

The **Youth Group** for students in grades 7-12 explores issues of life and faith Sundays from 9:45 - 11 am with Youth Leader Jackie Geilfuss, jackie@oldsouth.org.

FOR ADULTS

Study and reflect on the today's preaching text (1 Corinthians 13:1-13) at **Sunday Morning Bible Study** at 10 am in the fourth floor Sam Johnson Room.

Today, we conclude our three-week series **Islam 101**. Warm thanks to our friends from the Islamic Society of Boston Cultural Center who have guided us on this exploration of Islam.

ADDICTION AND RECOVERY CONFERENCE

On February 6th, 9 am - 3 pm, Bethel AME Church (38 Walk Hill Street, JP) will host a day of film screenings (*The House I Live In* and *The Anonymous People*), roundtables, and panels on the **journey from addiction to recovery**. Free event. Lunch will be served.

AN EVENING WITH JOHN PHILIP NEWELL

John Philip Newell, teacher of Celtic spirituality and former Warden of the Iona Abbey, will lead **public prayer** on February 5th at 6 pm at Trinity Church Boston, followed by dinner and discussion. This event is co-sponsored by Old South Church. To register for the dinner and discussion portion, email lauren897@mac.com.

SERVICE

The Rolling Food Drive is collecting canned tuna. For February, we will collect *microwaveable* meals and side dishes to be distributed in special “motel families” baskets by the Allston-Brighton Food Pantry. Collection in the stone entryway.

BOOK GROUP

Contemplative Prayer Book Group continues. In our world of noise, screens, and ever multiplying tasks it can be difficult to find time to center, slow down, and reconnect with ourselves and God. Join in reading Thomas Merton’s short book *Contemplative Prayer*, and then spend the first part of each Thursday gathering at 7 pm discussing the book followed by 20 minutes of contemplative prayer and meditation. For details, email Amelia Nugent, amelia@oldsouth.org.

WORSHIP

After three and half years, Old South Church will end Sunday **Evening Worship**. It is a beautiful and profoundly meaningful service, but has been unable to gain traction or grow to a reasonable size. Tonight will be the last service. We created a gem. It lived beautifully for the space of more than three years. Thanks be to God for that.

Jazz Worship: Thursdays, 6 pm. With soul and sax.

First Worship: Sundays, 9 am. Informal and vibrant.

Festival Worship: Sundays, 11 am. Our “signature” service - grand and expressive.

Healing Worship: 2nd Sundays, 10 am. Gentle and tender.

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 in the Sanctuary, for any length of time.

OLD SOUTH CHURCH *in* BOSTON
Boylston & Dartmouth Sts. at the Copley T
(617) 536-1970 OldSouth.org

