

# with Blessing of the Athletes

Sunday, April 14th at 9 am & 11 am

THE CHURCH OF THE FINISH LINE

# Marathon Sunday

Take heart: it is not too late to build a better world.

# GATHER

PRELUDE	Praise to the Lord, the Almighty	Calvin Hampton, arr.
*HYMN	Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You	нуми то јоу
Joy - ful, joy - ful, All your works with You are giv - ing	we a - dore you, God of glo - r joy sur-round you: earth and heaven r and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - in	re - flect your rays;
Mor - tals, join the hearts un - fold like stars and an - gels well - spring of the bound - less love is	might - y cho - rus which the morn - in flowers be - fore you, o - pening to sing a - round you, cen - ter of joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth reign - ing o'er us, rec - on - cil -	the sun a - bove. un - bro - ken praise. of hap - py rest!
Melt the clouds of Field and for - est, Lov - ing Spir - it, Ev - er sing - ing,	sin and sad - ness, drive our fear a vale and moun-tain, bloom-ing mead - o Fa - ther, Moth-er— all who love	nd doubt a - way;
U	w - ing foun - tain teach us what our re each oth - er, by that love our	light of day. praise should be. joy re - new. song of life.

\*Indicates all who are able may stand

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt. Tune: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842; alt.

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

Let us be at peace among ourselves. Let us urge on the idlers, and encourage the faint-hearted. Let us help the weak, and be patient with all people. See that no one repays evil for evil, but always seek to do good to one another and to all. Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for all of us.

#### \*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."

#### WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM	<i>Jambo Kila Bwana Asifiwe</i> [Welcome everyone, sing!]	D. Farrell and Shelley J. Smith	
	Unto the one above the skies,		
	lift up your voice, our songs arise.		
	He gives us life, he gives us peace,		
	and our songs will never cease.		
	Come and sing and clap your hands,		
	everyone, in every land.		
ATTEND			

#### CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

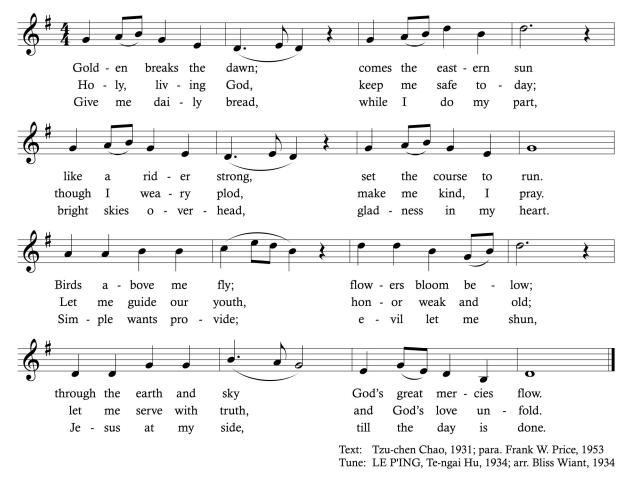
1 Thessalonians 5

Julia M. (9 a.m.) Madison T. Chau (11 a.m.) \*HYMN

Golden Breaks the Dawn

le p'ing

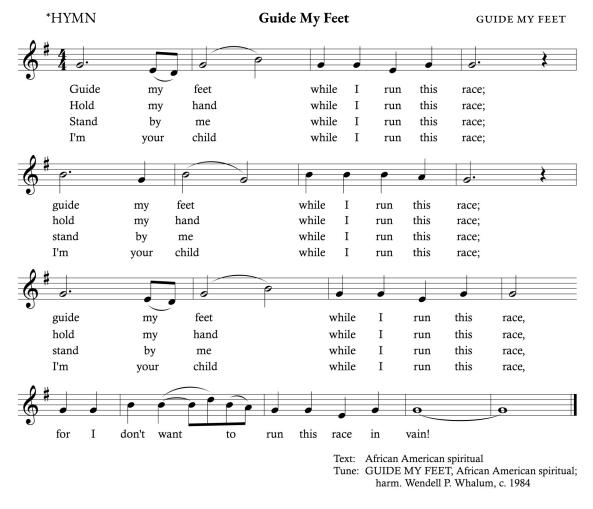
During the hymn, children who wish to may meet childcare staff in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor to play.



SERMON

Endurance

John M. Edgerton



Rachel J. Barton

\*CALL TO PRAYER

God be with you. **And also with you.** 

May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts.

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

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.

ANTHEM

The Runner

Joshua Rist

The ground fits her foot perfectly as she runs, each breath fits her lungs. The earth pushes back with its slow spin. While she crosses the golden field of barley, it seems, to her, her body will burst into song.

### RESPOND

#### CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ashley J. Popperson



To give via ApplePay, GooglePay, or with a Credit Card, scan the QR cde with your smartphone camera. You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.

OFFERTORY

In His Care-O

William Dawson, arr.

One day as I was a-walkin' down the lonesome road, well the spirit spoke unto me and it filled my heart with joy! I thank the Lord, I'm in his care-o.

Now, let me tell you now, once I'm in his care — hallelujah, Lord! — a-in a-my Savior's care, now, let me tell you now, once I'm in his care — sing it over, Lord! — a-in a-my Savior's care, Oh! Jesus got his arms all around me, no evil thoughts can harm me, for I am in his care-o. I would not live a sinner, Lord, I'll tell the reason why: well, I'm 'fraid my Lord might call me, and I wouldn't be ready to die. I thank the Lord, I'm in his care-o.

Oh, well, Daniel, he was a good man, Lord, he prayed three times a day, well the angels hist\* their windows just to hear what Daniel had to say. I thank the Lord, I'm in his care-o.

\*raised

## **BLESSING OF THE ATHLETES**

**GREETING AND INTRODUCTION** 

John M. Edgerton

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Strong and faithful God, we ask your blessing on these athletes
who have come to race and compete.
Keep them safe from injury and harm.
Instill in them respect for each other.
Give them the endurance to compete well.
Reward them for their discipline and perseverance.
May you mount up with wings like eagles;
may you run and not grow weary;
may you walk and not faint. *Isaiah 40:31*May God touch you with a wind that keeps you strong, for all the days to come.
God bless you. God be with you. Amen.

PROCESSION	Highland Cathedral	Michael Korb
	David Methven, bagpipe	and Ulrich Roever

#### \*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

Alec Wyton

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You may exit the Church at either the front or back of the Sanctuary.

Leading worship in the Chapel is Theologian in Residence Donald A. Wells.

Our processional banner bearers are Phil Dearing and Madison Chau (9am) and Phil Stern and Abby Smith (11am).

> The flowers today are given by Tom Ralston, in remembrance of the tragic events of April 15th, 2013, and with wishes for peace to all those affected by them which was Everyone!

> > \*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

# **INFORMATION ABOUT OLD SOUTH**

Visit <u>oldsouth.org/Sundays</u> for all things Sunday; <u>oldsouth.org/Calendar</u> for a calendar of events; and the general website <u>oldsouth.org</u> for historical and other information about this storied ship of faith!

CCLI #2802138 \* CCS #12028 \* OneLicense #A-700000

Old South Church *in* Boston invites you to its *Signature Services* during the coming year.

#### Phillis Wheatley Sunday — May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 9AM 양 11AM

Old South honors and learns from one of the saints of this church who was stolen from Africa, suffered the Middle Passage, was sold into slavery, and triumphed through her awesome wit and the mighty power of her pen.

#### ALL SAINTS SUNDAY — November 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 | 11AM

In a solemn service of sacred music, we gather to name and remember our own beloved dead who now rest from their labors in the arms of God.

#### MEETING HOUSE SUNDAY – November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 | 11AM

We return to our ancestral home, the Old South Meeting House at Washington & Milk Streets, to give thanks for God's many blessings and the rich history of our faith.

#### CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE – December 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024

Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM Lessons and Carols | 8PM Carols and Communion | 11PM

#### HOLY WEEK 2025

Palm Sunday – April 13 | 9AM & 11AM Maundy Thursday – April 17 | 7PM Good Friday – April 18 | 7PM

### Easter <sup>&</sup> Marathon Sunday — April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 | 9AM, 11AM, <sup>&</sup> 1PM

The triumph of the Christian story of resurrection informs a service of worship that is characterized by joyous celebration. Our celebration continues with hundreds of marathoners joining us for worship, where we will pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special "Blessing of the Athletes."

#### OLD SOUTH CHURCH in BOSTON - MINISTERS, OFFICERS, & STAFF

John M. Edgerton, *Senior Minister* Ashley J. Popperson, *Associate Minister* Rachel J. Barton, *Assistant Minister & Nancy S. Taylor Fellow* 

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* & June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City* David F. Story, *Wedding Minister* & Kenneth H. Orth, *Healing Worship Minister* Madison T. Chau, *Seminary Fellow* 

James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus 🛠 Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister Emeritus

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music* George Sargeant, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster* Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* & Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers* 

> Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children & Family Ministries Summer Marsh, Director, Old South Preschool Aislin Kate Anderson, Children's Choir Director

Amelia Gerrard, Church Administrator \* Tim Claffin, Director of Operations Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, Administrative Assistant \* Kathleen Steen, Staff Accountant Emily Ross, Archivist \* Karen Hand, Wedding Coordinator

Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director* Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* & Ava Welling, *Sound Technician* 

Elias Perez, Senior Sexton \* Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, Sextons Corey Spence, Weekday Receptionist Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, & George Sargeant, Evening & Weekend Receptionists

Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ◆ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ◆ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer* Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ◆ Kate Silfen, *Historian* Christine Del Favero & Laurie Stickels, *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.

