



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

April 28, 2024 ♦ 11:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Be Thou My Vision

Healey Willan

*HYMN 400

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

REGENT SQUARE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Madison T. Chau

Come: you joyful ones, cups overflowing

Come: you who mourn, weary and heavy laden,

Come: you living in fear, unsure of where to turn,

Come: you full of faith, songs of praise on your lips,

Come, God has prepared a place for you,

Come, we have prepared a place for you.

Come, for here there is healing. Here there is freedom.

Come, all who seek the peace of Christ, come in. Come in.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

WELCOME

ANTHEM Let the People Sing Praise Unto the Lord Lena J. McLin

Let the people sing praise unto the Lord.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Praise God with the psalter and the harp.
Praise God with the sound of the trumpet!
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!

Let all the people sing praise to the Lord,
sing praise to the Lord.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord!

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE Acts 16:13-15, 35-40 Pam Roberts

*HYMN 349 I Come with Joy DOVE OF PEACE

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

SERMON Come and Stay Ashley J. Popperson

*HYMN 533 Children of God WELWYN

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Rachel J. Barton

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Be Thou My Vision Tedd Smith & Donald Hustad

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Madison T. Chau



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

With a Voice of Singing

Martin Shaw

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard: Alleluia!
 Utter it even unto the ends of the earth:
 the Lord hath delivered his people, Alleluia!
 O be joyful in God, all ye lands,
 O sing praises to the honor of God's name,
 Make God's praise to be glorious.
 With a voice of singing...

*Though often ascribed masculine or feminine pronouns in prose and poetry,
 God is unbound by human concepts of gender.*

*DOXOLOGY

A - dor-ing prais-es let us bring and with the host of heav-en sing,
 “Christ has tri-umphed! Al - le - lu - ia!” Praise God, Cre - a - tor, praise the Son,
 praise Ho - ly Spir - it, Three - in - One! Yours the glo - ry nev - er end - ing,
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Composite (P. Z. Strodach; W. H. Draper [after Assisi]), alt.
 Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN, *Geistliche Kirchengesäng*, 1623, alt.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 393

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

DENNIS

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Ashley J. Popperson

POSTLUDE

Fanfare

William Mathias



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

The flowers today are given by Diane Palmer,
in loving memory of David Scott Palmer.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,
begins immediately following worship at the front of the Sanctuary.
Led by docent Morgan Spaulding.



JOINING OLD SOUTH THIS WEEK

At Twilight Worship

Maria Anzalotti found Old South this year as a Freshman at Emerson College, and has been delighted to discover a faith home that makes her feel wholly herself. She is studying Interdisciplinary Music and Storytelling, and spends most of her time at school or in various performance and production groups- musicals, acapella, movies, etc ;) She loves reading and writing, exploring the city, and has recently become fascinated with college hockey! She still calls Chicago home when she's not at school, but loves her Boston community. She is honored to officially put a name the feeling of family she has discovered here!

At First Worship

John MacDuffie is an ordained UCC pastor, MDiv from Oberlin Graduate School of Theology 1957 (Bates College 1953). Served two churches in Ohio and seven in Maine, also served as Manager of Pilgrim Lodge, the camp and conference center of the Maine Conference UCC for a decade. He is an avid and life-long small boat sailor, rower, and power dory owner. Married and built a wonderful life for their four kids with his first wife Marilyn for 56 years. After Marilyn's passing he found a loving partner in Betsy. In retirement they share various church and community volunteering opportunities. They love attending Old South remotely and enjoyed an in-person visit in March 2023.

Joshua Perry-Barillas grew up in Jamaica Plain and has lived in various parts of Massachusetts since then, only leaving to attend Union College in NY and now calls Hudson home, where he lives with his spouse Elizabeth, 13 month old baby Flick, cat Sir Aaron Purr and dog Baron Von Stroopwoofel. He loves reading books and manga, listening to audiobooks and music, watching movies/TV/anime and also running and enjoying nature with his family and friends. He has been looking for a church that feels like home and has found that at Old South.

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**. For more information, contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson at ashley@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 or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of 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

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 Claflin, *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.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Old South Church in Boston ❁ Week of April 21, 2024

THE COMMUNITY HOUR FORUM

Sundays, 10am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall,
tinyurl.com/OSCFForums for Zoom link, 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.

SUNDAY FUN DAY: Come Play with us! - Sunday, April 28

This Sunday we invite you to join members of the Christian Formation committee for a relaxed, informal time to play board games together. Yes, that's right. We're just going to play games. Bring your favorite one, or play ours! (No Zoom this week!)

OLD SOUTH @ THE MOVIES - Sunday, May 5

Join Old South member Tish Dragonette for a discussion about Boston based movies The Holdover and American Fiction. We'll look at the beauty of the flawed main characters and our own beautiful flawed Boston as well. (Both movies are available for streaming online)

FAITH LEADERS FOR HOUSING JUSTICE STORY TELLING & STORY LISTENING FOR SOCIAL IMPACT AND CHANGE TRAINING

Saturday, April 27, 9am-4pm

Space is limited sign up now, go to tinyurl.com/AprilFLFHStory to sign-up/select a date A full day workshop to develop storytelling and story listening skills with Lani Peterson, Psy.D., psychologist and story coach. We will focus on the power of stories to change and heal, 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 safe way that leads to personal growth and social change.

EXPERIENCE A RESTORATIVE JUSTICE CIRCLE

Monday, April 29, 6 to 7pm, followed by Q&A,
registration at <https://bit.ly/MockCircle>

Contact Charlotte Simpson at char.r.simpson@gmail.com for info

Circle Process can be used to build community and resolve conflicts in neighborhoods, schools, faith communities, and workplaces. The Peacemaking Circle creates a container strong enough to hold anger, fear, joy, and pain. **Mock Circle Scenario:** A church council has decided that the best way to balance the budget is to cut the music budget in half. How does the church move through the conflict that has become painful, build trust, and move forward in a positive direction? **Circle Keeper:** Rev. Mark Seifried - Haydenville Congregational church, MA





PHILLIS WHEATLEY SUNDAY

Sunday, May 12, First and Festival Worship
To sign up go to tinyurl.com/OSC2024Cupcakes

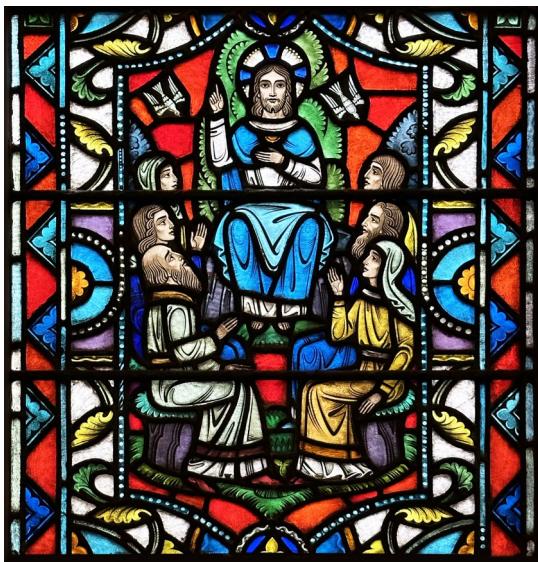
Calling all cupcakes makers and buyers -- please sign up to bring cupcakes to share on Sunday May 12th as we celebrate historic OSC member Phillis Wheatley. Cupcakes will be served after we promenade to Phillis' statue at the Women's Memorial on the Commonwealth Ave mall. Please direct all questions to Kate Nintcheu at children@oldsouth.org,

VOLUNTEER FOR COMMON CATHEDRAL LUNCH

Sunday, May 19, 8:30am — 2:30 stay as long as you can
For info or to commit to any part of the day,
email Carolyn Clark at carolyneclark@comcast.net



The Christian Service and Outreach Committee is assembling a team of volunteers to help prepare lunches in the Old South Church kitchen and serve them to the common cathedral homeless congregation on the Boston Common. The prep work for making 120+ sandwich lunches will begin at 8:30am, transported to the Boston Common by 12:00 noon, and served to guests at 12:30pm. The outdoor Common Cathedral service begins at 1:00pm and lasts until around 2:30pm. Visit commoncathedral.org to learn more about this organization's important work. Common Cathedral is one of Old South's annual grantees.



JOIN THE MARY NORTON SOCIETY

Sincere thanks to all of you who have included Old South Church in your estate planning. That makes you a member of the Mary Norton Society, which now numbers more than 115 people. Invitations to our annual members' gathering were sent this week. Please contact Amelia Gerrard at amelia@oldsouth.org if:

- You are already a Mary Norton Society member and have not received any recent communications from us.
- You want to make a bequest to Old South Church in your retirement or estate plans, and have not done so already. We look forward to welcoming you.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sundays, 10am, 4th Floor Phyllis Wheatley Room

Go to tinyurl.com/OSC23-24BibleStudy to Zoom, password: BibleStudy

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.

THROUGH THE BIBLE

Thursdays, 7pm, 4th Floor Phyllis Wheatley Room

Go to tinyurl.com/23-24ThroughBible to Zoom. Password: Psalter

Join us as we journey at a reflective and thorough pace through the Hebrew Bible. We are studying the Book of Jeremiah.



HEARD IT AT COUNCIL

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCCouncilApril2024 to read the report.

April brought discussions about church finances, the Assistant Minister Search Committee, Council goals for the future, and staff evaluations. Find out what happened in this month's Heard it at Council report by our church historian, Kate Silfen.

JOIN THE OLD SOUTH FORUM (Google Group)

Ever find yourself thinking, "Old Southerners should know about this!", but not sure how to spread the word? The Old South Forum is an informal email listserv that members and friends use to share relevant events, information and ideas. To join, visit groups.google.com/g/old-south-church-forum and click "Join group".

JOIN OUR USHER TEAM

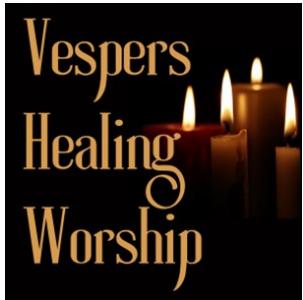
Go to oldsouth.org/hospitality to sign up

Looking to meet more people at Old South? Wondering how you can contribute to our wide open door? Think about serving as an usher! Ushering is an easy way to get more involved at Old South. Everyone is welcome, and you only need to be friendly and willing to help. Email hospitality@oldsouth.org for info.

become
an
usher
at
Old
South
Church

help make our welcomes
wider and our doors more
open





VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP:

*Next service Sunday, May 12, 5 p.m. on Zoom,
tinyurl.com/OSCHealing to join*

Please join us to take a moment for rest and renewal in the presence of God and other spiritual companions gathering by Zoom. All are welcome to share this quiet space and lift up our concerns, our losses, our hurts, and our celebrations in the Healing Presence of God and one another.

TWILIGHT WORSHIP

REACH OUT YOUR HAND: BECOMING THE EARLY CHURCH

Thursdays, 6pm, in the Gordon Chapel

When Jesus appeared to his astounded disciples, he told Thomas to reach out his hand and touch his side. Join us in Eastertide for a series focused on folks who did just that: reached out their hands in faith to build something creative, diverse, and new together. We'll learn from Thomas, Phoebe, Lydia and other people and teams who reached out - to God, to others, and to the world - so that all might encounter the living God who is love. Email Rachel Barton with any questions.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Vimeo, Facebook, and YouTube

TWILIGHT Worship, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

VESPERS HEALING Worship, the second Sunday at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom



*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.