



May 11, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

## Phillis Wheatley Sunday

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

### GATHER

PRELUDE

Prelude on MARYTON

Dale Wood

\*HYMN 303

**Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing**

DARWALL'S 148TH

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Gracie Paterson

Who trod the wine-press of Jehovah's wrath?

**Who taught us prayer, and promised grace and faith?**

Who but the son, who reigns supremely blest,

**Ever and ever in eternal rest.**

Immanuel on the cross those pains did bear;

**Will the Eternal our petitions hear?**

Ah! Wondrous destiny his life he laid,

**"Father forgive them", thus the savior prayed.**

*–Phillis Wheatley, 1767*

\*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

Thank You, Thank You, Jesus  
THE OLD SOUTH GOSPEL AND FESTIVAL CHOIRS  
Eren Brooks, *soloist*

Percy Gray

Thank you, thank you Jesus, for all you've done for me.  
Thank you, thank you Jesus. You've been so good to me.  
My soul looks back in wonder, how you brought me over,  
I just want to say, thank you.

When I was lost, you found me.  
When I was sinking, you rescued me.  
When I was out, you pulled me in.  
You've been there with me through thick and thin.

That's why I give you praise.  
You keep on making a way.  
I just want to say, thank you.

When I was sick, you healed me.  
When I was hurt, you comforted me.  
When I didn't know what to do, I trusted you.  
And you pulled me through.

That's why I give you praise.  
You keep on making a way.  
I just want to say, thank you.

Thank you, thank you Jesus.  
My soul looks back in wonder, how you brought me over,  
I just want to say, thank you.

# LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Deuteronomy 18:15-20

Pam Roberts

\*HYMN 578

***Profetiza, Pueblo mío***

PROPHECY

(You Shall Prophesy, All My People)

*You are invited to sing the Spanish or English Text.*

*We sing verses 1 and 2 only.*

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

SCRIPTURE

Acts 5:27-32

SERMON

Getting it More Right

John M. Edgerton

\*HYMN 224

**When I Survey the Wondrous Cross**

HAMBURG

*Verses 1, 2, and 4 only*

# RESPOND

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Ashley J. Popperson

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

Ride Up in the Chariot Joseph Joubert, *arr.*  
THE OLD SOUTH GOSPEL AND FESTIVAL CHOIRS  
Ida Kamrara, *soloist*

Gonna ride up in the chariot, soon a-in the morning,  
ride up in the chariot, soon a-in the morning,  
ride up in the chariot, soon a-in the morning,  
and I hope I'll join the band.

Oh Lord, have mercy on me,  
Oh Lord, have mercy on me,  
Oh Lord, have mercy on me,  
and I hope I'll join the band.

Gonna walk and talk with Jesus...

Gonna chatter with the angels...

Ride in the chariot, oh my Lord.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Gracie Paterson



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

If you're new to Old South,  
scan the QR code with your  
smartphone camera  
to tell us more about yourself.



OFFERTORY

Band of Angels

André J. Thomas, *arr.*

Evening sun is sinking fast, race is almost run.  
Trials now are past: triumph is begun.

*Oh, the band of angels, band of angels,  
band of angels over in Jordan.  
Band of angels, band of angels—  
how I long to see that day!*

All night, all day, angels watching over me, my Lord.  
All night, all day, angels watching over me.

*Oh, the twelve white horses, twelve white horses...  
...how I long to see that day!*

*Gonna hitch 'em to the chariot, hitch 'em to the chariot...  
...how I long to see that day!*

Oh, write my name; Oh, write my name;  
the angels in the heaven gonna write my name.

Write my name when you get home!  
(The angels in the heaven gonna write my name.)  
Write my name with a golden pen.  
(The angels in the heaven gonna write my name.)

Oh, come, angel band,  
come and around me stand.  
Bear me on snowy wings to my immortal,  
to my immortal home, my home!

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 514

**Over My Head**

AFRICAN AMERICAN TRAD.

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Band of Angels (*reprise*)



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

The flowers today are given by Betsy Roberts  
in happy memory of her Mom, Emmy Lou Stark,  
and in memory and celebration of every other Mom worldwide.

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



## **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 serve as a sanctuary in the city of Boston.

### **NEW AT OLD SOUTH?**

Welcome! We are so glad you're here! Please take a moment to fill out a friendship pad so that we can be in touch with you. If you have any questions or would like to talk to a minister to learn more about the church, contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson at [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).

Children are welcome in all aspects of worship. We also offer childcare from 8:20am-12:30pm every Sunday and Church School at 10am. For questions about our children's and family ministries, email [children@oldsouth.org](mailto:children@oldsouth.org).

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

An accessible, single-stall restroom is available near Reception. More restrooms are available, ask at the reception desk.

### **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 & concerts). For more information check out [www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit](http://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit) or see the front desk.

### **LEARN MORE**

Check out the church website [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org) for more on the history and ministries of Old South. See [www.oldsouth.org/calendar](http://www.oldsouth.org/calendar) for a calendar of current events.

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, *Associate Minister for Transformation*  
Gracie Paterson, *Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellow* ❖ Kat Woodard, *Seminarian*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*  
David F. Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Kenneth H. Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*

James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*  
Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Thursday Night Church*  
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* ❖ Juniper Mai, *Children's Choir Accompanist*

Amelia Gerrard, *Director of Administration* ❖ Rebecca Pasipanodya, *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, & William Wei, *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Donna Matson, *Treasurer*  
Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*  
Rebecca Bowen & Laurie Stickels, *Senior Deacons*

### 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

## CELEBRATING PHILLIS WHEATLEY

### CALLING ALL CUPCAKE MAKERS & BUYERS

Sunday, May 11, sign up at [tinyurl.com/2025OSCCupcakes](https://tinyurl.com/2025OSCCupcakes)

Please sign up to bring cupcakes to share on Sunday May 11 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.

### CELEBRATING PHILLIS WHEATLEY WITH A PLAY, CASTLE OF OUR SKINS PERFORMANCE, & CAST DISCUSSION

Free Admission, Sunday, May 18, 2:30pm, in the Gordon Chapel,

go to [tinyurl.com/OSCPhillisPlay](https://tinyurl.com/OSCPhillisPlay) to register,

watch online [tinyurl.com/PhillisLivestream](https://tinyurl.com/PhillisLivestream).

Old South's (G)RACE Speaks Committee teams up with local playwright Debbie Wiess to present A Revolutionary Encounter in London, her hour-long one-act play about the little-known meeting in London summer 1773 of two of Boston's Colonial icons: enslaved African Poetess Phillis Wheatley and American Founding Father Benjamin Franklin. Witness these two important figures in Old South's history converse in their spiritual home, 252 years after their famous encounter when she travelled to London for the publication of her book of poetry there several months later. With music performed by Castle of Our Skins inspired by the words of Phillis Wheatley, Sojourner Truth and other women of color. All followed by a discussion with the performers & refreshments to enjoy. You don't want to miss it!

### VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP

Next Service, Sunday, May 11, 5pm on Zoom, [tinyurl.com/OSCHealing](https://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.

### VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH *common cathedral* LUNCH

Sunday, May 18, from 9am-2pm, various locations All are welcome, including families.

There are many ways to participate! Join us for any part of the day:

- 9-10:30am —Make bag lunches in OSC Mary Norton kitchen.
- 12-1pm—Meet at Boston Common (near Park St station) to unload and hand out lunches to the Common Cathedral congregation. Join for lunch
- 1-2pm—Attend outdoor Common Cathedral service.

Contact Carolyn Clark at [carolyneclark@comcast.net](mailto:carolyneclark@comcast.net) if you would like to participate in any of these activities. See [commoncathedral.org](https://commoncathedral.org) for more about this organization's important work. Old South Church provides funds to *common cathedral* each year.

### **GODSPEED TO GRACIE PATERSON**

*Sunday, May 18*

This academic year, Old South has been blessed by Gracie Paterson, our Nancy S. Taylor Fellow. We are grateful for their leadership and contributions to Old South. Gracie's last Sunday will be May 18. Come celebrate with us and bless them on their way!

### **VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH *common cathedral* LUNCH**

*Sunday, May 18, from 9am-2pm, various locations All are welcome, including families.*

There are many ways to participate! Join us for any part of the day:

- 9-10:30am—Make bag lunches in OSC Mary Norton kitchen.
- 12-1pm—Meet at Boston Common (near Park St station) to unload and hand out lunches to the Common Cathedral congregation. Join for lunch
- 1-2pm—Attend outdoor Common Cathedral service.

Contact Carolyn Clark at [carolyneclark@comcast.net](mailto:carolyneclark@comcast.net) if you would like to participate in any of these activities. See [commoncathedral.org](http://commoncathedral.org) for more about this organization's important work. Old South Church provides funds to *common cathedral* each year.

### **GEORGE SARGEANT PRESENTS AN EASTERTIDE ORGAN CONCERT**

*Friday, May 16, 12:15pm, Trinity Church in Copley Square*

Old South's former Associate Organist returns to Boston to play a concert of Eastertide organ music. All are invited to this free event.

### **SUMMER CHOIR**

Contact Mitchell Crawford at [mitchell@oldsouth.org](mailto:mitchell@oldsouth.org) for more information

Continuing from May 25 through Labor Day, Festival Choir will suspend Thursday rehearsals, inviting all who wish to join us Sunday mornings at 10am to rehearse music for that day's 11am Festival Worship.

### **GODLY PLAY FOR FAMILIES**

*Sunday, May 18; 10am, 3rd floor, May 18*

Our family-based church school gathering returns! Families of preschoolers, infants, and toddlers are invited to our once a month class during the 10am hour in the regular childcare room on the 3rd floor. We'll hear a Godly Play story together, wonder a bit about the story, and then have work time to play around with the ideas and stories we heard. Families of any age are welcome - though this is geared towards preschool age 4 and under. In addition -- parents are not required to attend, but we suspect most will want to.

## **FORUMS AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH**

*Sundays, 10 am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall*

Join us for the final two forums of the spring. Our Community Hour Forums return in the fall.

### **RECONCILING GENDER | MAY 18**

Gender is a crucial factor that determines our concept of self, and influences how we experience our lives and the world around us. But what is gender, really? This workshop is a safe space dedicated to tap into our sacred internal world and explore and reconcile our gender identities. Through meditative exercises and reflections, we will deconstruct what genders have been, and reconstruct what genders can be.

### **PILGRIMAGE OF TRANSFORMATION WITH REV JUNE | May 25**

Registration opens soon for the next opportunity to go on Pilgrimage with Rev June to the American South, visiting places of significance in the story of the Civil Rights movements. Come to hear more about this experience, hear testimonies from previous pilgrims about what they learn and how this experience has changed them and stuck with them.

## **BOSTON HANDBELL FESTIVAL**

*Tuesday, May 20, 7:30pm, in the Sanctuary, free admission*

Come hear five amazing bell choirs present a wide array of handbell music. This year's special conductor is Old South Ringers' very own Peter Coulombe! The Boston Handbell Festival is the continuation of a musical tradition of handbell performance at Old South Church that stretches back almost a century. A goodwill offering is taken to provide a local school with a set of hand chimes.

## **SACRED REBELLION EXHIBIT PRIVATE TOUR**

*Saturday May 10, 1:00 p.m. (1 spot left)*

*Saturday June 7, 2:00 p.m. (14 spots left)*

*Contact Kate Silfen at [ksilfen5@gmail.com](mailto:ksilfen5@gmail.com) to sign up*

Join Old South Historian Kate Silfen for a private tour of the Congregational Library & Archives' new in-person exhibition, Sacred Rebellion: Congregationalists in Revolutionary Massachusetts. The exhibition highlights the stories of Massachusetts Congregationalists drawn from the CLA's important collections -- including some Old South Church stories!

## **RETIRED AND READY VISIT THE ATHENAEUM**

*June 3, 11am, 101/2 Beacon Street,*

*RSVP by June 1 to Charlotte Simpson at [char.r.simpson@gmail.com](mailto:char.r.simpson@gmail.com)*

Have you had a visit to the Athenaeum on your bucket list but never followed through? If so, here's your opportunity. Join us on June 3rd at 11 AM for a self guided tour. It is located at 10-1/2 Beacon Street, very close to the Park Street and Government Center T stops on the red and green lines. Tickets are \$10. Lunch will follow at the Beacon Hill Books and Cafe. Please let me know no later than June 1 if you plan to participate.

### NEW TO OLD SOUTH?

Come to our Connections Lunch on June 8th at 12:15pm. Connections lunches are great places to get to know other newcomers, learn more about Old South, and get more deeply connected. If you would like to join us for lunch or are interested in joining Old South as a member, please email [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).

### FLOWER DEDICATIONS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

To sign up or to get more info reach out to Amelia Gerrard at [amelia@oldsouth.org](mailto:amelia@oldsouth.org),

The cost is \$100 which can be paid via check, cash, or online [tinyurl.com/OSCGivingPortal](https://tinyurl.com/OSCGivingPortal)

Are you interested in honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion with a beautiful flower dedication? By You can dedicate the flowers on a date that is meaningful to you. Each dedication includes a flower bouquet and a special message in the Sunday bulletin.

### JOIN OUR USHER TEAM

Go to [oldsouth.org/hospitality](https://oldsouth.org/hospitality) to sign up. Email [hospitality@oldsouth.org](mailto:hospitality@oldsouth.org) for more info.

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.

### GREEN TIP: Bring Reusable Bags

Reusable Bags We use and discard nearly 1 trillion plastic bags a year! Plastic bags are not good for the environment and are often unnecessary. Taking reusable cloth bags to the store is one of the easiest steps you can take to reduce waste and care for the planet. The best part, everyone can do it!

---

### WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Facebook, and YouTube

Thursday night church, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.

FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.

VESPER HEALING Worship, Second Sundays at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom



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

If you're new to Old South, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to tell us more about yourself.



---

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.

---

Old South Church in Boston ❖ 645 Boylston Street, Boston 02116 ❖ [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org)