



Old South Church *in* Boston

Pentecost

Sunday

June 8, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Peace

Horace Silver

*HYMN

Come, Open Spirit, Come

Willie Sordillo

1
Come, oh o - pen spi - rit come, come and o - pen me.

5
Let my o - pen spi - rit come clo - ser un - to thee.

9
Blow through my soul and let your ves - sel be me.

13
Come, oh o - pen spi - rit come.

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

CALL TO WORSHIP *Psalm 19, adapted*

Ashley J. Popperson

The heavens declare the glory of God,
and the sky above proclaims Her handiwork.

**Day to day pours out speech,
and night to night reveals knowledge.**

The law of the Wisdom is perfect,
reviving the soul.

**The testimony of the Divine is sure,
making wise the simple;**

The precepts of the Holy One are right,
rejoicing the heart;

**The commandment of the Merciful is pure,
enlightening the eyes;**

The precepts of the the One whose being is love is true,
and righteous altogether.

**More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold;
sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 11:1-9

Rory Razon

ANTHEM

Babel/Get Together

Harmony Grove
and Chet Powers

THE STORY OF PENTECOST

Pam Roberts

SERMON

Almost the Opposite

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN

We Are One in the Spirit

Peter Scholtes

The musical score is written on five staves in 3/2 time with a key signature of three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat). The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics written below each staff. The lyrics are: We are one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord; we are We will walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand; we will We will work with each oth - er; we will work side by side; we will one in the Spir - it; we are one in the Lord; and we walk with each oth - er; we will walk hand in hand, and to - work with each oth - er; we will work side by side, and we'll pray that all u - ni - ty may one day be re - stored: geth - er we'll spread the news that God is in our land: guard hu - man dig - ni - ty and save hu - man pride: And they'll know we are Chris - tians by our love, by our love; yes, they'll know we are Chris-tians by our love.

Text: Peter Scholtes, 1966
Tune: ST. BRENDAN'S, Peter Scholtes, 1966

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Rachel J. Barton

God be with you.

And also with you.

May the Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on us.

The Holy Spirit guides our way and ignites our hope.

Let us pray. *Please be seated.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF THE OPEN DOOR AWARD

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ashley J. Popperson



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

Send Down the Fire of Your Justice

Marty Haugen

Send down the fire of your justice,
send down the rains of your love;
Come, send down the Spirit,
breathe life in your people, and we shall be people of God.

Call us to be your compassion,
teach us the song of your love;
give us hearts that sing, give us deeds that ring,
make us ring with the song of your love.

Call us to learn of your mercy,
teach us the way of your peace;
give us hearts that feel, give us hands that heal,
make us walk in the way of your peace.

Call us to answer oppression,
teach us the fire of your truth;
give us righteous souls, 'til your justice rolls,
make us burn with the fire of your love.

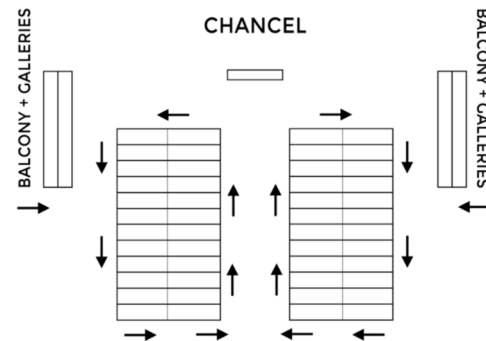
Call us to witness your kingdom,
give us the presence of Christ;
may your holy light keep us shining bright,
ever shine with the presence of Christ.

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION AND WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

Our communion table is open to all. Communion is served by intinction. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive a piece of bread. Dip the bread into the cup and partake. The cups contain non-alcoholic grape juice. Gluten-free crackers are available at a separate station. If you are unable to come forward, please signal an usher and the elements will be brought to you.



MUSIC AT COMMUNION

Recollection

Timothy Waugh

THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS

Peter Coulombe, *director*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & 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.

*HYMN 282

Every Time I Feel the Spirit

African-American Spiritual

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

St. Honesty

Sara Bareilles and Lori McKenna



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

The flowers at the pulpit today are given by Paul Brouillette
in loving memory of his parents, Andrew and Dolores Brouillette

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



OPEN DOOR AWARD



Above our portico are carved the words from scripture--"behold, I have set before you an open door". Old South is committed to keeping our door open to those too often pushed to the margins--particularly the LGBTQ+ community. Each year, we offer the Open Door Award to a person doing good work in that same spirit. This year, we present this award to Dr. Dan McClellan, a scholar of the bible and religion. With a highly popular TikTok account and podcast, Dr. McClellan is the country's most popular biblical scholar. With a razor wit, and his trademark comic-book T-shirts, Dr. McClellan unflinchingly engages in public biblical scholarship normally only encountered in the academy. More than any other figure, Dr. McClellan is helping the public see for themselves that anti-LGBTQ+, white-nationalist, and anti-semitic readings of the bible simply do not stand up to scrutiny.



ABOUT THE JOHNSON FAMILY AND THE SILVER THEY DONATED TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Seven pieces of Old South silver were donated to the church by one family, the Johnsons, who were members of the church through five generations:

The **Alice Robbins Johnson Goblet** (1897)
was donated by her husband, Edward Crosby Johnson.

The **Charlotte A. Johnson Goblet** (1897)
was donated by her oldest son, Samuel C. Johnson.

The **Mary Stoddard Johnson Goblet** (1897)
was donated by her husband, Samuel C. Johnson.

The **Samuel C. Johnson Goblet** (1903)
was donated by two of his sons,
Wolcott Howe Johnson & Arthur Stoddard Johnson



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

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 2, 2025 | 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 23, 2025 | 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, 2025

Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM

Lessons and Carols | 8PM

Carols and Communion | 11PM

HOLY WEEK 2026

Palm Sunday — March 29 | 9AM & 11AM

Maundy Thursday — April 2 | 6PM

Good Friday — April 3 | 7PM

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 2026 | 9AM & 11AM

The triumph of the Christian story of resurrection informs a service of worship that is characterized by joyous celebration.

MARATHON SUNDAY

April 19, 2026 | 9AM & 11AM

Hundreds of marathoners join us for worship, where we will pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special “Blessing of the Athletes.”

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.

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.

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 or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website www.oldsouth.org for more on the history and ministries of Old South. See 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*
Kat Woodard, *Nancy S. Taylor Leadership 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*

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* ❖ Yuexuan Joyce Wang, *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* ❖ Ava Welling, *Sound Technician*
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Quinn Grant, *Communications Intern*

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

PENTECOST SUNDAY OPEN DOOR AWARD & BOOK SIGNING WITH DAN MCCLELLAN

Sunday, June 8, beginning at Festival Worship

Dr. Dan McClellan is the country's most popular biblical scholar. With a million followers on social media, Dan has done amazing work to expand access to rigorous biblical scholarship. He will be honored with the Open Door Award on Sunday June 8 at Festival worship. Following that event, he will hold a book signing and author talk in the sanctuary for his upcoming book: *The Bible Says So: what we get right (and wrong) about scripture's most controversial issues*.



NEW TO OLD SOUTH? COME TO CONNECTIONS LUNCH

Sunday, June 8, 12:15pm

Interested in Joining Old South as a Member?

If you're new to Old South or have been coming for a long time and are ready to make it official, now is your chance! New Members will be joining Old South on June 26th and June 29th. Email ashley@oldsouth.org for more information.

REMOTE SMALL GROUP

Sunday, June 8 at 4pm EST on Zoom, Go to tinyurl.com/OSC2025RemoteGroup to join

Join fellow Old Southerners on Zoom for a time of fellowship and reflection particularly for our members for whom in-person events are not easily accessible. It will be a time of fellowship and conversation, enjoying one another's good company!

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP

Sunday, June 8, 5pm on Zoom, Go to tinyurl.com/OSCH Healing 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.

PRIDE @ OLD SOUTH

BOSTON PRIDE FOR THE PEOPLE

Saturday, June 14

Out of the church and into the streets! Old South will be hosting UCC churches from across the region to march together in Boston's Pride parade. We will gather in Gordon Chapel, beginning at 10:15am. We will travel from there to gather at our designated formation area (TBD) for the parade which begins at 11am. The parade will finish at Beacon St and Park St, between the Public Garden and the Common. Old South Church will host a Hospitality Station under the Portico on Boylston street from 10am-12pm. Volunteer at tinyurl.com/PrideHospitality.

PRIDE WORSHIP WITH RAINBOW DISCO COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, June 15, at First and Festival Worship

Join us for Pride Worship at Old South Church! We will gather as our most fabulous selves to worship the God who made us fearfully and wonderfully. Services at 9am and 11am. Rainbow Disco Coffee Hour at 10am & 12pm.

PRIDE SHIRTS FOR PURCHASE

Go to tinyurl.com/2025PrideShirt to order

Our Queerly Beloved Pride Shirts are now available - made to order and mailed to your home! You can choose from different styles (t-shirts, hoodies, etc.), including youth sizes, and many color options for each style.

MONDAY SMALL GROUP STARTING NEW BOOK

Mondays, 7pm, Gordon Library, for more info contact Jenniferhkeenana@gmail.com

Do you have interest and time, for a pre summer June read?? We're starting a new read for the Monday night Small Group: The Book of Hope, A survival Guide for Trying Times, by Jane Goodall. We'll look at Goodall's take on a world that seems so troubled, how do we hold on to hope? Jane Goodall, the world's most famous living naturalist, and Douglas Abrams, the internationally bestselling co-author of The Book of Joy, explore through intimate and thought-provoking dialogue one of the most sought after and least understood elements of human nature: hope. In The Book of Hope, Jane focuses on her "Four Reasons for Hope": The Amazing Human Intellect, The Resilience of Nature, The Power of Young People, and The Indomitable Human Spirit.



MISSIONARY VISIT TO OLD SOUTH

Forum on Sunday, June 29, 10am, in the Gordon Chapel

Dr. Nathanael Wiles is a physician in Kenya, Africa. Born in Cleveland, Ohio, he is preparing for his second mission to Tenwek Hospital in Bomet, Africa. He was diagnosed with an aggressive brain tumor during medical school but by God's grace, he was able to overcome this seemingly insurmountable challenge. Come, hear him talk about the African people he serves and how he continues to respond to God's calling. He will share slides and details of his ministry. Those interested in getting to know Nathanael in a more intimate setting are cordially invited to a dinner at the home of Esther and Fredrick Seguin here in the Back Bay on Saturday, June 28, at 6pm. Please sign up for the dinner; seating is limited to 10 people email Esther Seguin at ejohannaseguin@gmail.com.

JAZZY JUNE AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Get ready for a Jazzy June during Festival Worship! It will be a feast of swinging, soulful music, brought to you through the combined efforts of the Willie Sordillo Ensemble, Summer Choir, and Gospel Choir. This musical series will be an uplifting way to bid farewell to the Sanctuary before we decamp to the Chapel for July and August. In particular, we're thrilled to bring elements of Old South's groundbreaking Jazz Worship to our Festival service during these weeks. Come prepared to sing some of your favorite tunes, and revel in the artistic chemistry of Willie, Zoë, and the band.

SUMMER CHOIR

Contact Mitchell Crawford at mitchell@oldsouth.org for more information

The Old South Summer Choir is a welcoming and encouraging community of those who love to sing. This ensemble is an integral part of Festival Worship from Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day, gathering at 10am to prepare for the 11am service. Summer Choir is a great opportunity to check out our music ministry, share your love of singing, grow your musical abilities, or try something new. No experience or preparation is necessary. Feel free to join us as your Sunday schedule allows!

GREEN TIP: Ditch the Paper Towels

Did you know that "every day, over 3,000 tons of paper towel waste is produced in the US alone?" When it's time to clean house or wipe up a mess, use reusable rags and just throw into the laundry when the rag is dirty. Opt for a cloth napkin rather than paper. Such an easy swap that will eliminate more of your trash and save you money.

THE WEEKLY PUSHBACK

Bad news comes fast and furious these days--for trans folks, for immigrants, for the disabled. But all across the country, people of goodwill are pushing back. Every week, Old South's Christian Service and Outreach Committee will be giving \$1,000 to an organization or individual who is serving the gospel in a world of bad news. This week Old South Church is excited to donate \$4,000 to support the work of Rev. June and Faith Leaders for Housing Justice. They are working to provide ministry and dignity to individuals struggling with homelessness and addiction. On Friday, June 13th at 11am, they are hosting a memorial service for those lost in the past year. Email Rev. June at junercooper@comcast.net if you want to attend or get involved in other ways.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE SEEKS GRANTEES WE ARE PROUD TO PARTNER WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Email outreach@oldsouth.org to provide your suggestions by June 30

The Christian Service & Outreach Committee (CSOC) continues Old South's history of service by supporting the work of local non-profits through grant giving and connecting our grantees with the human capital our congregation has to offer. Each year, CSOC reviews local non-profit organizations and invites several to apply for consideration for one of our grants or awards. We are soliciting recommendations from the congregation for organizations to consider for 2025. We are particularly interested in learning about Boston-based non-profits that serve the local Boston community and offer hands-on volunteer opportunities.

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