

Old South Church *in* Boston
July 13, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

Sixth Sunday after Pentecost

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Voluntary in C

William Boyce

*HYMN 400

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

REGENT SQUARE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel J. Barton

The authorities of nations disappoint and disturb,

but God is ruler of all.

Praise God, the giver of life!

The mountains may tremble, the oceans may roar,

but God's love is unshakable, abiding all things.

Come into God's presence,

for God is among us now.

O God, show us your glory;

we seek your ways and your wisdom.

Come to the Rock, the God of life,

for God is present now and always, persisting in love.

Alleluia! Amen.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

*SUNG RESPONSE

Come, bring your bur-dens to God; come, bring your bur-dens to God;

come, bring your bur-dens to God, for God will al-ways be there.

Text: South African; English trans. Barbara Clark, Mairi Munro,
and Martine Stemerick, 2008

Tune: WOZA NOMTHWALO WAKHO,
South African melody; arr. Welile Sigobi, 2008

WELCOME

ANTHEM

If You Only Had Faith

Caribbean Pentecostal chorus;
Jorge Lockward, *transcr., harm.*

If you only had faith, just like a little seed of mustard:
this is what Jesus has said.

You would be able to tell this mountain:
Move away! Move away!

And then the mountain will move away,
will move away, will move away.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Charlotte Jo Walsh

Child of Michela and Gregory Walsh

Godchild of Emily Hancock and Michael Walsh

BLESSING THE WATER

John M. Edgerton

PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTION

LITANY OF BAPTISM

We are gathered to present Charlotte Jo Walsh to the Church and to dedicate her to God.
What can we affirm about her?

She is a child of God, made in God's image.

As Charli grows and matures, how will she know she is a child of God and how will she learn of the Christian story?

We will tell her about Abraham and Sarah, the parents of our faith; about Moses and Miriam who led our ancestors out of bondage; about Mary and Joseph's openness to mystery; about the Savior, Jesus.

In turn, what will we expect of her?

We look forward to sitting with her at the Lord's Table, sharing with her the costs and joys of discipleship, learning and growing with her in the Christian pilgrimage, and declaring with one voice our faith in God and God's son, Jesus.

Do you, Michela and Greg, parents, assume your primary responsibility for fulfilling these expectations by growing with Charlotte in the Christian faith, helping her to become a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, and by offering her the nurture and support of the Christian church? And will you, Emily and Michael, godparents, agree to guide Charli into becoming an engaged and complete human being, teaching her about personal sacrifice for a greater good, about grace and reconciliation at times of human weakness, and the power of unconditional love for all people?

Parents/Godparents: We happily and genuinely accept this serious duty.

and Old South Church, do you pledge to maintain a nurturing and challenging Christian environment for Charli?

We do, for she belongs to us as well.

Then, may God be with us.

God help us. Amen.

BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

John Clark, *Baptismal 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.

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Luke 7:1-10

David Story

*Following the reading, children who wish to may meet childcare staff
by the ushers and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SERMON

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 164

Arise, Your Light Is Come

FESTAL SONG

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Ashley J. Popperson

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

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

For the trou - bles and the suf - ferings of the world,
Lend an ear to the ris - ing cry for help

God, we call up - on your mer-cy: the whole cre - a - tion's
from op - pressed and hope - less peo-ple: come, has - ten your sal -

1. la - bor - ing in pain! 2. love! We pray for
va - tion, heal - ing

peace, the bless - ed peace that comes from mak - ing jus - tice.

Un - til your King - dom come, have mer - cy on us, God.

Text: Rodolfo Gaede Neto, 1998; trans. Simeio Monteiro, et al., alt.
Tune: PELAS DORES DESTE MUNDO, Rodolfo Gaede Neto, 1998

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rachel J. Barton



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

The Solid Rock

Camp Kirkland, *arr.*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his love support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 49

Ask Me What Great Thing I Know

HENDON

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John Edgerton

SUNG RESPONSE *see next page*

(Introduction)

Go now in peace, ne-ver be a-fraid;
 God will go with you each hour of ev-'ry day. Go now in faith,
 stead-fast, strong and true, know God will guide you in all you
 do. A - men, a - men, a - men.

Text: Don Besig and Nancy Price, 1988
 Tune: Don Besig, 1988; adapt. Mitchell Crawford, 2022



Join us for Refreshments & Fellowship
 at Café Perez under the portico following the Postlude.

The Flowers today are givenby Marcia Imbrescia
 in memory of her mom, Norma Lee Carlson

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



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, *Director of Audio*
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



NEWBURY STREET CLOSED ON SUNDAYS

10am—8pm, through September 21, see above map to help you plan,
tinyurl.com/OpenNewbury2025 for more info

Whether you're shopping, dining out, or just going for a walk, pedestrian-only days on Newbury Street are a Boston summer staple. Newbury Street is a mile-long, eight block stretch of shops, salons, galleries and restaurants. This famous Boston street becomes a pedestrian-only walkway on Sundays in the summer. The street is closed to vehicles to allow pedestrians the opportunity to use the full width of the street, from Berkeley Street to Massachusetts Avenue.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR RALPH WATSON

Saturday, July 26, 11am, Gordon Chapel,
 repast at noon in Mary Norton Hall

Ralph was well-known and extremely active in our community. A leader in outreach and service, he was the chef behind our large all-church meals, the heart of our Mobile Soup Kitchens, and the Coordinator for our partnership with Snowden International High School. He was thoughtful and generous, always thinking of others.



MONDAY NIGHT SMALL GROUP READS *THE BOOK OF JOY*

Meet in person one day only July 28, 7pm, Crawford Library

Join The Monday Night Small Group for a summer read of *The Book of Joy*. We will discuss the Book of Joy, with a subtitle of Lasting Happiness in a Changing World. It is a discussion with and between His Holiness the Dalai Lama and Archbishop Emeritus of Southern Africa Desmond Tutu, with Douglas Abrams. These two incredible figures from very different worlds, share what they have learned and witnessed in their long lives. Every day is a new opportunity to begin again. Every day is your birthday. May this book be a blessing for all sentient beings, and for all of God's children—including you. This is written as a conversation and reads quickly. If you would like to join us, email Jennifer Keenan at JenniferHKeenan@gmail.com.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH

THE WEEKLY PUSHBACK - Supporting Casa de Venezuela

Go to tinyurl.com/casadevenezuela to learn more about their mission

Have other weekly action ideas? Email outreach@oldsouth.org

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 to an organization or individual who is serving the gospel in a world of bad news. The reality of immigration detention has encroached into the daily lives of our neighbors and communities are being torn apart. With an unprecedented increase in ICE funding and loosened civil rights protections, it has never been more important for Old South to stand in solidarity with our neighbors. Old South is donating \$5,000 this week to Casa de Venezuela, a local nonprofit that Old South members have been supporting over the past several years. They are providing discounted services and support for immigrants applying for Asylum or other federal protection programs, given the looming expiration of TPS on September 10. To learn more or get involved, email member Margaret Sablove at mfsablove@gmail.com.

THEOLOGICAL BOOK GROUP SUMMER READ—Get your book now!

There is no sign up! Just get a copy of Liz Walker's book

"No One Left Alone: A Story of How Community Helps Us Heal" and read.

In September, there will be a one time hybrid session (date TBD) for a discussion of the book.

Questions? Contact Don Wells granwell@comcast.net.

Old South's Theological Book Group is having a 'Summer Read', and it is open to all! The book: Liz Walker's No One Left Alone: A Story of How Community Helps Us Heal. Many will remember her as Boston's first woman and first Black news anchor. After 19 years in broadcasting she went to seminary and became a Presbyterian Minister. Her book is a story of helping her congregation develop 'soft spaces' for people to gather for prayer and a renewed sense of community. This was especially important for those who had experienced grief and loss within the Black community. As those spaces were created, she helps distinguish between just 'hearing' and really 'listening'. She invites her readers to consider where those 'soft spaces' are in the context of their own lives. It is a book worth reading!

SANCTUARY AUDIO SURVEY

Go to tinyurl.com/sanctuaryaudiosurvey to take part

Do you sometimes struggle to hear portions of our in-person worship service? With the help of our Director of Audio, Ava Welling, the Operations Committee is hoping to better understand what the barriers are for all of our congregation to be able to hear the entire worship service without issues. Please take a minute to fill out this survey so we can work on improving the overall audio experience of our worship services.

TEACHERS SOUGHT

Our Church School classes are looking for some new teachers! We need a few more volunteers, could that be you? We try to form teams of 3 or 4 people who teach an average of 2 times a month. We have several openings, most require some preparation and training. All require submitting to a background check. Does this sound interesting? Let Kate at children@oldsouth.org know, we'd love to see if this is the right fit for you!

GOD'S BIG BOOK OF FAITH ZOOM BIBLE STUDY DELVES INTO THE LIVES OF THE PROPHETS

Study continues Wednesdays, 7pm, on Zoom,

Interested? Contact Rich Nelson at richnelson28@gmail.com for link

Each week we take a look at one of the prophets (there are 16 of them) and focus on a substantial part of his (yeah, they were all guys) writings. Each study is complete so you can miss a week and not be lost when you return – plus there is a print version of all the studies to help you keep track. The sessions usually run an hour, give or take, depending on the conversation.

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!

VOLUNTEER TO READ SCRIPTURE

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCScriptureSummer2025 sign up

Reading the Bible in community is an essential Christian spiritual practice. Each week at Festival Worship a volunteer reads scripture before the sermon. People of all ages are encouraged to volunteer! Questions? Email ashley@oldsouth.org.

GREEN TIPS: Avoiding Microplastics - Plastic Tea Bags

Steeping a single plastic tea bag at brewing temperature can release high numbers of microplastics and nanoplastics into your hot tea. It's easy to find tea packaged in non-plastic tea bags or switch to using loose-leaf tea in a metal tea strainer or a reusable cotton tea bag. Click here to learn more. Learn more at tinyurl.com/nrdcmicroplasticthreat.

FIFTH THURSDAYS: A TNC OPEN MIC NIGHT

Thursday, July 31, 7pm, Gordon Chapel

After Thursday Night Church, join us for our TNC Open Mic Night. All are welcome to gather after worship for supper club and an informal sharing of poetry, music, story, and art hosted by our Creative Director, Audrey Woodhams. Contact Audrey at audrey@oldsouth.org to sign up, or just show up and there's a spot for you!

THURSDAY NIGHT CHURCH AND SUPPER CLUB

Thursdays, 6pm Worship, 7pm Supper

Thursday Night Church is a worship service where the music is contemporary, the space is open-hearted and in-the-round, and the preaching is focused on how we can be the church together in the world. After worship, join us for Thursday Night Supper Club. Each week, folks can gather after worship for dinner and an informal small group hosted by some of our friendly and hospitable lay leaders.

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP:

Next service Sunday, July 13, 5 p.m. on Zoom, 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.

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.

VESPERS 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