

Old South Church *in* Boston ❖ July 27, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Prélude à cinq parties

Jacques Lemmens

*HYMN 42

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Kate M. Nintcheu

Blessed be the name of God
from this time on and forevermore.

**From the rising of the sun to its setting
the name of God is to be praised.**

It is good to give thanks to God,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
**To declare your steadfast love in the morning
And your faithfulness by night.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

SUNG RESPONSE



*Indicates all who are able may stand

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

The Welcome Table

Joel Raney, *arr.*

I'm gonna sit at the welcome table, O Lord;
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days; Alleluia!
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table;
gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

I'm gonna feast on the bread of heaven, O Lord;
I'm gonna feast on the bread of heaven one of these days; Alleluia!
I'm gonna feast on the bread of heaven;
gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

There's a land that is fairer than day,
and by faith we can see it afar:
for our Maker waits over the way
to prepare us a dwelling place there.
In the sweet by and by,
we shall meet on that beautiful shore;
In the sweet by and by,
we shall meet on that beautiful shore.

I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus, O Lord;
I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus one of these days; Alleluia!
I'm gonna share my cup with Jesus;
I'm gonna sit at the welcome table one of these days.

...We shall meet on that beautiful shore.

ATTEND

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Luke 13:1-9

Pam Roberts

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

SERMON

Cultivating Repentance

Ashley J. Popperson

*HYMN 23

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

IN BABILONE

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. Simeí Monteiro, et al., alt.
Tune: PELAS DORES DESTE MUNDO, Rodolfo Gaede Neto, 1998

CALL TO THE OFFERING



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

Christ Has Broken Down the Wall

Mark A. Miller

Christ has broken down the wall:
let us join our hearts as one.

We're accepted as we are:
through God's love all is reconciled.

Cast aside your doubts and fears,
peace and love, freely offered here.

We will tear down the walls!
We will tear down every wall.
God has called us, one and all;
Christ has broken down the wall.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 519

Standing in the Need of Prayer

NEED OF PRAYER

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Ashley J. Popperson

SUNG RESPONSE *see next page*

POSTLUDE

Sortie in F major

Alexandre Guilmant

(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 given by Martha Coleman in loving memory
 of family and friends who are no longer with us. You are missed every day.

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



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

SUMMER CAMP FOR EVERYONE!

Do you miss going to summer camp?

Do you wish you could go to camp WITH your kids? (or without?)

Have your kids grown up and still want to go?

Craigville has a "family camp" week coming up with a few spots left. Anyone can go, with or without children, to spend the week in a beautiful camp, with optional programs like Bible studies, hikes, or crafts.

Check it out here: www.craigville.org/family-camp

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.

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.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH

THE WEEKLY PUSHBACK - Supporting Rosie's Place

Go to rosiesplace.org 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. With summer at full blast, the need for respite from the heat has never been greater. Rosie's Place was founded in 1974 with the support of Old South Members as the first shelter specifically for women. Today they continue to do their essential work of providing day shelter, food, and other services to our most vulnerable community members. Old South is donating \$1,000 to support their work. You can also take a moment after church today to admire the monument next to Old South on Dartmouth St honoring this faith-fueled work.

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 TIPS: Avoiding Microplastics - Don't Use Plastic Cups

All types of disposable cups tested so far—including all-plastic cups and paper cups (which tend to be lined with plastic)—have been found to release microplastics into the beverages they contain. While this is true for both cold and hot beverages, more microplastics are released when plastic disposable cups contain hot beverages or carbonated beverages, particularly when they are acidic, like soda. Learn more at tinyurl.com/nrdcmicroplasticthreat.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to our members and friends with July birthdays! Join us at coffee hour after Festival Worship to celebrate with cake and singing!



SAVE THE DATE

MIDDLE PASSAGE SUNDAY

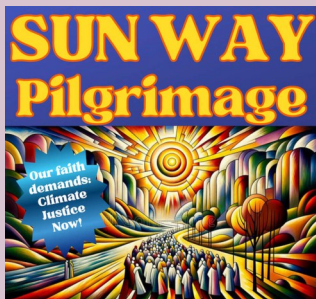
Sunday, August 24 at Festival Worship

Gathered in 1669, Old South Church in Boston continues to research, name and account for a history which includes radical abolitionists and the first anti-slavery tract on this soil (1700) AND many early ministers and members who were enslavers, who benefited from the forced enslavement and unpaid work of countless persons of African descent. We will honor the lives of our African members from the 1600s, 1700s, and early 1800s on Middle Passage Sunday.

WELCOME BACK SUNDAY WORSHIP & BRUNCH

Sunday, September 7

Join us as we kick off the program year and welcome back both familiar faces and those new to church. Worship will feature the Blessing of the Backpacks, a touching tradition that encompasses the hopes and aspirations of students and all who carry life's journey with them. If you are or have a student in your life, be sure to bring a backpack.



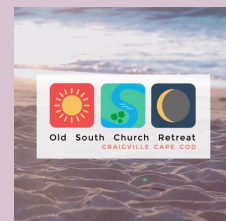
SUN WAY PILGRIMAGE

Sunday, September 21, 1:00pm

Save the Date for the Sun Way pilgrimage from Old South to the Boston Common on. Please plan to join Boston Interfaith Climate Allies (BICA), including the Old South Climate Crisis Task Force, as we "pray with our feet" for climate justice. This public, prayerful, and joyful processional is a part of the wider international action that celebrates solar and wind power and the movement to free our world of fossil fuels. More info to come.

OLD SOUTH'S ALL-CHURCH RETREAT RETURNS TO CRAIGVILLE!

*Friday September 26 - Sunday September 28,
Registration coming in August!*



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, August 10, 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.

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