



Old South Church *in* Boston
Gathered 1669
August 3, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

I Need Thee Every Hour

Dale Wood, *arr.*

*HYMN 565

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

AUSTRIAN HYMN

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel J. Barton

Beloved, let us love one another because love is from God.

Everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

Whoever does not love does not know God,

Because God is love.

God's love was revealed among us in this way:

God sent Her only Son into the world so that we might live.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another.

No one has ever seen God;

But if we love one another, God lives in us.

*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

Bind Us Together
Congregation: [*refrain*]

Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that
can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,
bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er with love.

The musical notation is written on three staves in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The melody is simple and repetitive, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line.

Choir:

*You are the family of God; you are the promise divine.
You are God's chosen desire; you are the glorious new wine. (**refrain**)*

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Steal Away

Patrick Dupre Quigley, *arr.*

*Steal away, steal away,
steal away to Jesus!
Steal away, steal away home,
I ain't got long to stay here.*

My Lord, he calls me,
he calls me by the thunder;
the trumpet sounds within a-my soul;
I ain't got long to stay here.

Green trees are bending,
and sinners stand a trembling;
the trumpet sounds within a-my soul;
I ain't got long to stay here.

ATTEND

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 20:1-16

Paul Brouillette

*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 451

Be Now My Vision

SLANE

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

Dream On, Dream On

Dream on, dream on, chil - dren of peace,
till on earth God's king - dom come.
Strife and sor - row shall not stop you;
pain and tears shall lose their pow'r.
E - ven when we fall or stum-ble, Gra - cious God re - news our strength:
we will run and not grow wea - ry,
led by jus - tice, hope, and love.

Text: Hae Jong Kim, 1992, alt.
Tune: DREAM ON, Sunkyoung Lee, 2001, alt.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rachel J. Barton

OFFERTORY

Come, Ye Sinners

David Ashley White, *arr.*

Come, ye sinners, poor and needy, weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus ready stands to save you, full of pity, love, and power.

*I will arise and go to Jesus, he will embrace me in his arms;
in the arms of my dear Savior, O there are ten thousand charms.*

Come ye weary, heavy laden, lost and ruined by the fall;
if you tarry till you're better, you will never come at all.

Let not conscience make you linger, nor of fitness fondly dream;
all the fitness he requires is to feel your need of him.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 448

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

VIENNA

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

SUNG RESPONSE

Go Now in Peace

(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
in honor of Elizabeth Pitcher's 88th birthday
by Betty Pitcher and Elizabeth Pitcher.

The flowers today are given
in loving memory of Charlotte Holmes
by Mt. Vernon church.

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



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

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.

RETIRED AND READY OUTING TO THE OTIS HOUSE

Friday, August 22, 11:00am, Otis House, 141 Cambridge Street, Boston

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCRnRtripOtisHouse to purchase tickets,

Be sure to pick the correct date and time slot!

Questions/let us know you are coming contact Dotty Hayes at dotty.hayes94022@gmail.com

We will plan to meet for a 45-minute guided tour of the house followed by lunch at Boston Public Market, 100 Hanover Street near the Orange Line and Green Line Haymarket T stops. Tickets should be purchased in advance as capacity is limited. The Otis House is a registered national historic landmark, designed by Charles Bulfinch, and is the last surviving mansion in Bowdoin Square in Boston's West End neighborhood.

SPECIAL SANCTUARY TOUR

Sunday, August 24, Meet Kathleen Simone in the Sanctuary at 10am

Come explore Old South's sanctuary with member Kathleen Simone on this interactive tour. Learn about the history of the building's art and architecture (what does Gothic Revival mean, anyway?) and how to "read" historic spaces and art (did you know that stained glass artists were story tellers?).

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 Haley House

Go to haleyhouse.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 cuts to food and housing resources, the work of local nonprofit Haley House has never been more important. For over 50 years, they've provided food access, affordable housing, and community gathering space. Old South is donating \$1,000 this week to support their community work. We encourage you to stop by their cafe at 23 Dartmouth street to see their work in action!

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!

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: Avoid Personal Care Products with Microbeads

The fresh, smooth feeling after using exfoliating scrubs may feel great, but many of them contain microbeads, which are smaller than a grain of sand and finer than a human hair. They harm marine life and make their way into the food chain. Just one milliliter of face scrub can contain up to 19,000 microplastic particles. Choose personal care products labeled "microbead-free" or switch to natural exfoliants. You'll get the same skin benefits without contributing to more microplastic pollution. Learn more at tinyurl.com/BadHouseholdHabits.

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.

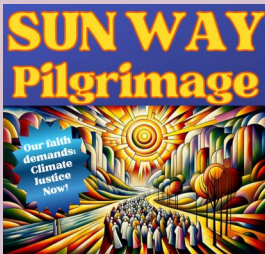
WELCOME BACK SUNDAY WORSHIP & BRUNCH

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!*



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.

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