



October 5, 2025 ♦ 11:00 a.m.

# World Communion Sunday

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

# GATHER

# PRELUDE

NICA EA

Calvin Hampton, *arr.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Kat Woodard

Let us come into the church of God to meet the Spirit of God.

**Not to give religion an hour, but to live in the eternal.**

Not to maintain a habit, but to humbly seek the presence of the Holy One.

**Not to judge the words of another, but to draw life from the Truth Everlasting.**

Not that our thoughts may escape from the cares of the world,

**But that they may become focused on the one, true God.**

Because our spirits have welcomed God, we are in the presence of God.

**Thanks be to You, O God, for the gift of Your Presence.**

\*HYMN 12

## I Sing the Mighty Power of God

ELLACOMBE

## \*INVOCATION

\*PASSING THE PEACE

*As a sign of our reconciliation with God and each other,  
please greet those around you, saying “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”*

*\*Indicates all who are able may stand*

SUNG RESPONSE

*Please be seated for the Sung Response.*

*Soloist:*

Gathered in God's name, 'round the living Word.  
Gathered as one family in the name of love.

**Congregation:**

Gath-ered from near and far, gath-ered in this ho-ly place,  
gath-ered as stran-gers and friends, gath-ered and gift-ed by grace.  
Gath - ered in God's name, 'round the liv - ing Word.  
Gath - ered as one fam-'ly in the name of love,  
*slowing*  
in the name of love, in the name of love.

Text and Music: Michael Burkhardt, 2021

WELCOME

ANTHEM

*Ngothando*

Mbuso Ndlovu

*Ngothando kuphela, songoba konke,  
izimo zonke, azinakusigwinya,  
Sivul' inhliziyo zethu, singesabi lutho.*

Only through love will we overcome conflict;  
such situations are unable to devour us.  
Let us open our hearts, and let us fear nothing.

## LISTEN

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 23

Paul Brouillette

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

\*HYMN 542

**Born of God, Eternal Savior**

WEISSE FLAGGEN

*During the hymn, children that wish may meet childcare staff  
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:5-13

John M. Edgerton

SERMON

\*HYMN 330

**Let Us Break Bread Together**

LET US BREAK BREAD

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Justin Dickerson

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

## RESPOND

### CALL TO THE OFFERING

Kat Woodard



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

Festival Sanctus

John Leavitt

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus Sabaoth!*

*Hosanna, hosanna Deo, hosanna in excelsis.*

*Benedictus, benedictus qui venit in nomine Domini.*

*Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus, Dominus Deus.*

*Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria, gloria tua.*

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Hosts!

Hosanna, hosanna to God, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God.

Heaven and earth are filled with glory: your [God's] glory.

## THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Ashley J. Popperson & Rachel J. Barton

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...and so with the company of Earth and heaven,  
 we praise your name and join in the unending hymn:  
**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might.**  
**Heaven and Earth are full of your glory.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna in the highest.**

...Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." Great is the mystery of faith.  
**Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

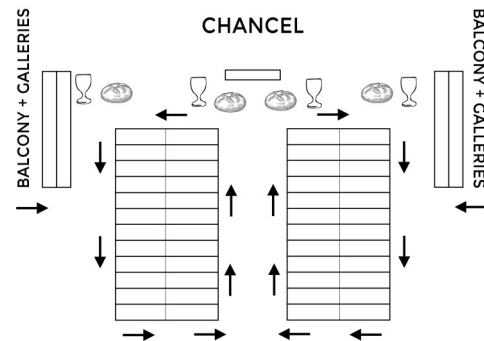
#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

#### SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

***Our communion table is open to all.***  
*Cups contain only non-alcoholic grape juice.*  
*Gluten-free crackers are available*  
*at a station under the pulpit.*

***Communion is served by intinction.***

- ❖ *Come forward at the direction of the ushers to receive a piece of bread.*
- ❖ *Dip the bread into the cup and partake.*
- ❖ *If you are unable to come forward, please signal an usher and the elements will be brought to you.*



#### MUSIC DURING COMMUNION Bread of the World

Calvin Hampton

Bread of the world, in mercy broken;  
 wine of the soul in mercy shed.  
 By whom the words of life were spoken,  
 and in whose death our sins are dead:  
 bread of the world; wine of the soul.

Look on the heart by sorrow broken,  
 look on the tears by sinners shed;  
 and be thy feast to us the token,  
 that by thy grace our souls are fed.  
 Bread of the world. Wine of the soul.

Alleluia, Amen.

#### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Ashley J. Popperson

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 300

**Jesus Shall Reign**

DUKE STREET

\*BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

I Ciel Immensi Narrano [Psalm XIX], S. 618

Benedetto Marcello



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

The flowers today are given by Kay Stamp in memory of David Stamp.

*Close-Up*, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,  
begins immediately following worship at the Pulpit.  
Led by docent George Delianides.



**Highlights of the silver gracing our Communion Table today**

**Second Church & Society Goblet (1844)**

*Presented to the Old South Church by the Second Church and Society,  
“in memorial of their Christian hospitality”*

**The Salem St. Church Breadbasket (1848)**

*Made by Palmer Bachelders, an American silversmith based in Boston.  
Inscribed “I am the living bread which came down from heaven.”*

**Ruth Manning Gordon Beaker (1900)**

*Made by Gorham, an American silversmith, and marked with his Lion Anchor G symbol.  
Donated by Rev. George Warren Field D. D. in honor of Ruth Manning Gordon.*

## **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 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**

Hearing assist devices are available from Ava Welling, our Director of Audio. Please see Ava for a device and instructions on how to use it. For more information or answers to questions, please contact Ava at [ava@oldsouth.org](mailto:ava@oldsouth.org).

### **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*  
Kat Woodard, *Taylor Resident for Mission in the City* ❖ Justin Dickerson, *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*  
Jonathan Reddix, *Collaborative Pianist* ❖ Jan Christoph Hadenfeldt, *Visiting Organist*  
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*  
Rory Razon, *Youth Group Co-Leader*

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*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Tahmina Akter, Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & M.D. Rahman, *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.



OLD  
SOUTH  
CHURCH  
*in* BOSTON



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS

*Sunday, October 5, 9am in the Chapel*

Join us for a special Blessing of the Animals service in the Chapel, where we'll celebrate and bless our beloved pets. Bring your furry friend, your scaly sidekick, a fetching photo, or even a stuffed animal - all are welcome! For those animals that may not do well inside with others, we'll offer a blessing outside following the service.

## CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

*Every First Sunday of the Month, starting October 5, 10am in the Columbarium*

Need some space to breathe? Time to rest in the spacious silence of God's presence? Please join us for Contemplative Prayer. Together, we'll engage in practices of contemplative prayer, share from our hearts, and find strength and solace in God's abiding love. Questions? Email [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).

## GBIO DELEGATE ASSEMBLY

*Sunday, October 5, 7pm at Union Combined Parish*

Across Greater Boston, people of faith are organizing to make a difference in the things that matter the most to us. What is keeping you up at night? What issues are impacting your neighbors, your friends, your own family? The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization is launching hundreds of house-meetings to help organize people to make our community better. Come to the kick-off event for this exciting project on October 5th, where we'll learn organizing skills, build relationships with one another, and grow more powerful. Register at [tinyurl.com/GBIOAssembly](https://tinyurl.com/GBIOAssembly).

## ONLINE SMALL GROUP

*First Sundays starting October 5, 7:30pm EST, join at [tinyurl.com/OSCOOnlineSmallGroup](https://tinyurl.com/OSCOOnlineSmallGroup)*

Gather with other online members and Rev. Ashley for a time of fellowship, communion, and deepening our relationships with one another. Please bring something to eat (bread, cracker, cookie) and something to drink (juice, water, coffee) as your communion elements.

## GODLY PLAY FOR FAMILIES

*Sundays, 10am, October 5, November 9, December 7, in the Green Room*

Families are invited to gather in the regular childcare room on the 3rd floor to hear a Godly Play story together, to wonder a bit about the story, and then to have some work time to play around with the ideas and stories we heard. This is a great way for families who have not yet become regulars at church school to begin hearing the stories and practicing together. Families of any age are welcome - though this is geared towards preschool age 3 and under.

## JOIN GOSPEL CHOIR FOR A WEEK

First Worship: *Sunday, October 19, 8:30am rehearsal*

Thursday Night Church: *Thursday, November 6, 7:00-7:30pm rehearsal*  
*Thursday, November 13, 6pm worship*

Contact Tim Harbold at [tim@oldsouth.org](mailto:tim@oldsouth.org) for details and music in advance. You deserve a week of joyful singing. Please join us!

## JOIN A SMALL GROUP AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Wanting to deepen your relationships at OSC? If you enjoy movies, walking, eating, reading, crafting, studying the Bible or just being in community with others, you're invited to join our growing Small Groups program. We have all kinds of groups doing all kinds of things this fall at Old South Church, and you're invited to join in! Go to [tinyurl.com/OSC2025Groups](http://tinyurl.com/OSC2025Groups) to get more details and to sign up. Questions? Contact Rachel at [rachel@oldsouth.org](mailto:rachel@oldsouth.org).

## BOOK STUDY 7-8PM MONDAY NIGHTS AT OLD SOUTH

*Reading the Bible Again For the First Time: Taking the Bible Seriously But Not Literally* by Marcus J. Borg  
One of the vital challenges facing thoughtful people today is how to read the Bible faithfully without abandoning our sense of truth and history. *Reading the Bible Again for the First Time* provides a much-needed solution to the problem of how to have a fully authentic yet contemporary understanding of the scriptures. Acclaimed author Marcus Borg reveals how it is possible to reconcile the Bible with both a scientific and critical way of thinking and our deepest spiritual needs, leading to a contemporary yet grounded experience of the sacred texts. Discussions and explorations await!

## SOLIDARITY AT MASS AND CASS

*Thursday Mornings from 8:45am -11:00am*

Beloved, if you feel called to embody the presence of God's love, you are invited to join faith leaders from across the city on Thursday mornings from 8:45 to 11am at Mass and Cass. The ministry focuses on praying and, if you wish, working alongside people to care for and clean the streets of the neighborhood. More info: [bostonfaithjustice.org/housing-justice](http://bostonfaithjustice.org/housing-justice) or email [junercooper@comcast.net](mailto:junercooper@comcast.net)



## CELEBRATING 150 YEARS AT BOYLSTON STREET

**Save the date—Saturday, December 6, 7pm**

It has been 150 years since Old South Church moved into its historic building at 645 Boylston Street. Join us for a celebration of the church's storied legacy in the heart of the city with a special concert program *If These Walls Could Talk: A Celebration of Sanctuary in the Heart of Boston*, to be followed by a festive reception in the Chapel. Registration details to follow.

## MEETING THE MOMENT: FALL SERMON SERIES

Go to [oldsouth.org/fall-sermon-series](https://oldsouth.org/fall-sermon-series) to learn more

This fall we delve into a sermon series about "Meeting the Moment". Together we'll find the spiritual strength and virtues we need to face the challenges of our world today. Through love, truth, wisdom, courage, and faith, we're invited to draw from the deep well of scripture and community. Throughout the season we will explore how ancient words speak powerfully into our present moment.

**October 5 at First Worship** *Ashley Popperson*  
Blessing of the Animals | Psalm 148

**October 5 at Festival Worship** *John Edgerton*  
Give us This Day our Daily Bread | Matthew 6:9-13

**October 9 at Thursday Night Church** *Kat Woodard*  
Keeping Watch Together | Job 2:1-13

**October 12 at First and Festival Worship** *Ashley Popperson*  
Dream that Hardens into Deed | Nehemiah 4:1-6

## THE OLD SOUTH COMMUNITY HOUR

*Sundays, 10am, Mary Norton Hall*

- **Deepening Community at Old South Church: Small Groups 101** | *October 5*  
Like walking, cooking, reading, crafting or community? Join us for a peek into our growing Small Groups program. Come hear more about why we're investing in Small Groups as part of our strategic planning work, and learn more about the Small Groups you can join this fall!
- **Old South Pushes Back** | *October 12*  
Phil Dearing (chair of Christian Service and Outreach Committee) will share the story and impact behind Old South's Weekly Pushback, donating \$1000 every week to a local organization.
- **Homelessness 101: Beyond the Label** | *October 19*
- **Homelessness 202: Humanizing Homelessness** | *October 26*  
How does our faith guide us to respond to homelessness? Join Rev. June Cooper and invited guests to learn about Boston's homelessness situation, sharing valuable information, challenging stereotypes, and fostering empathy. In what ways can we respond to Boston's homeless community with dignity and compassion? Join us for both or either session! Questions: email Paul Brouillette at [brouillettepaul@gmail.com](mailto:brouillettepaul@gmail.com).

## CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH

### THE WEEKLY PUSHBACK

To learn more or get involved email [lauren.nackel@gmail.com](mailto:lauren.nackel@gmail.com) or go to [reachma.org/](http://reachma.org/)

Have other weekly action ideas? Email [outreach@oldsouth.org](mailto:outreach@oldsouth.org)

With toxic masculinity surging again in our society, there has never been a more important time to support the work to support survivors of domestic violence. REACH is a local nonprofit that supports survivors on every step of their journey to wellbeing while working with community members to both better support survivors in their lives and change social conditions under which domestic violence thrives. The goal is to end domestic violence, so organizations like REACH no longer need to exist. In the meantime, REACH serves 6,000 people each year through community based advocacy with survivors living in their own homes, an emergency shelter for those who need it, hotline as a resource for anyone experiencing abuse, and a prevention program that helps create systemic change and eliminate abuse through public education, skill building, and engagement. Each year the Christian Service and Outreach Committee awards a special grant in honor of former minister Duane Day to an organization that helps people help themselves. This year, we are delighted to give that \$3,000 award to REACH.

### GREEN TIP: Clean and Store Your Garden Tools

Before winter sets in, it's a good idea to clean and store your gardening tools properly. Make sure they are free of dirt and moisture to prevent rust. This will ensure they're ready to go when spring comes around. But if winter does get the best of your tools, you can find the tools to meet your needs here. Go to [tinyurl.com/FallGardenTips](http://tinyurl.com/FallGardenTips) for more info.

### 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)