



ANTHEM

Show Me Thy Ways

Mark Patterson

THE OLD SOUTH CHILDREN'S CHOIR

Aislin Kate Anderson, *director* • Juniper Mai, *accompanist*

Show me thy ways, O Lord.  
Teach me thy paths, Lord, and I will follow.  
Show me thy ways, O Lord.

Guide me in your truth, lead me in your love, teach me Lord, I pray.  
Show me thy ways. Show me thy ways.

You are the God of my salvation; you are the hope of my days.  
You are the king of all creation; I long to know your ways.  
May your love go before me; may your Spirit be my guide.  
May your word stand beside me as I serve you, Lord, all my life.

Show me thy ways, O Lord...

WELCOME

## LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 105:37-42

Pam Roberts

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

\*HYMN 451

**Be Now My Vision**

SLANE

SCRIPTURE

Numbers 11:16-23

SERMON

Be Careful What You Ask For

John M. Edgerton

\*HYMN 454

**Lord, I Want To Be a Christian**

TRAD. SPIRITUAL

## RESPOND

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Rachel J. Barton

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

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 My Shepherd Will Supply My Need Calvin Hampton, *arr.*

My shepherd will supply my need, Jehovah is his name;  
in pastures fresh he makes me feed beside the living stream.  
He brings my wandering spirit back when I forsake his ways,  
and leads me, for his mercy's sake, in paths of truth and grace.

When I walk through the shades of death, thy presence is my stay;  
one word of thy supporting breath drives all my fears away.  
Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, doth still my table spread;  
my cup with blessings overflows, thy oil anoints my head.

The sure provisions of my God attend me all my days;  
Oh, may thy house be mine abode and all my work be praise.  
There would I find a settled rest, while others go and come;  
no more a stranger or a guest, but like a child at home.

LAY REFLECTION

Gail Holman

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 & COLLECTION OF PLEDGES

Jacob's Ladder

Calvin Hampton, *arr.*

We are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
we are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
we are climbing Jacob's ladder,  
bearers of the cross.

Every round goes higher, higher...  
...bearers of the cross.

Sinners, do you love my Jesus?...  
...Bearers of the cross.

If you love him, why not serve him?...  
...Bearers of the cross.

Rise, shine, give God glory...  
...bearers of the cross.

We are climbing higher, higher...  
...bearers of the cross.

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN *see next page*

**The Church of Christ  
Cannot Be Bound**

MCKEE

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Music for a Festival

Calvin Hampton



Join us for our Stewardship Celebration Lunch  
in the Gordon Chapel following the Postlude.

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



1 The church of Christ can - not be bound by  
 2 True faith will o - pen up the door and  
 3 True love will not sit i - dly by when  
 4 If what we have we free - ly share to  
 5 The church of Christ can - not be bound by

walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and  
 step in - to the street. True ser - vice will seek  
 jus - tice is de - nied. True mer - cy hears the  
 meet our neigh - bor's need, then we ex - tend the  
 walls of wood or stone. Where char - i - ty and

love are found, there can the church be known.  
 out the poor and ask to wash their feet.  
 home - less cry and wel - comes them in - side.  
 Spir - it's care through ev - ery self - less deed.  
 love are found, there can the church be known.

This text was the winning entry in a hymnwriting competition seeking new texts dealing with poverty and homelessness, but as the stanza sung at the beginning and end of the hymn makes clear, such specific ministries grow out of an understanding of the church as love in action.

TEXT: Adam M. L. Tice, 2005  
 MUSIC: African American spiritual; *Jubilee Songs*, 1884; adapt. Harry T. Burleigh, 1940  
 Text © 2005 GIA Publications, Inc.

## **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's 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**

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](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, *Assistant Minister*  
Gracie Paterson, *Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellow* ❖ Kat Woodard, *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*

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* ❖ Juniper Mai, *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*

Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Ava Welling, *Sound Technician*

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* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer*

Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*

Christine Del Favero & 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

## **OLD SOUTH FORUM: HOLDING UP THE SKY**

*Sundays, continuing through February 9, 10am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall*

Join us for a forum series engaging with the powerful documentary film *Holding Up the Sky*. Each session offers in-person viewing and discussion opportunities, including time with the film's director Bob Nesson. This 55-minute documentary tells the remarkable stories of Ed Jordan and Jimmy Costello, two formerly incarcerated men who, despite contrasting social and family backgrounds and the difficult circumstances of their crimes, found purpose, hope, and success through mentorship and persistence. The film will be screened in three sections, all followed by a two-part exploratory discussion.

- *Feb. 2: Discussion Session 1- Exploring the broken systems exposed by the film*
- *Feb. 9: Discussion Session 2 - Exploring how Old South can deepen its justice work*

If you'd like to screen the film at home, reach out to Kate at [children@oldsouth.org](mailto:children@oldsouth.org).

## **WINTER WALK TO END HOMELESSNESS**

*Sunday, February 9th at 8:30am, Boston Common at the corner of Beacon and Charles Streets*

Our Youth Group is leading Old South's delegation of Winter Walk and people of all ages are invited to join! Winter Walk's mission is to raise awareness and funds towards ending homelessness, and to support organizations that are working on prevention, support, and care for our unhoused community. Join the Old South team as we take this 2 mile walk around Boston Common during the coldest month of the year.

To register, go to [tinyurl.com/WW25OSC](http://tinyurl.com/WW25OSC), click "JOIN OUR TEAM" and select "*common cathedral*" as the recipient organization, then select "I'll fundraise." Your registration fee is already covered because OSC is a sponsor. You may choose to donate extra money if you choose. If you don't want to walk but do want to donate, you can donate at the above link by clicking "Donate Now!" Questions? Email Ashley Popperson at [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).

## **CHURCH VISION AND STRATEGY GATHERINGS**

*February 6 at 7pm, Crawford Library,*

*February, 10, 7:30pm on Zoom at [tinyurl.com/OSC2025StrategyZoom](http://tinyurl.com/OSC2025StrategyZoom), password 664195*

Our Boards and Clergy have been dreaming together about strategic next steps for Old South Church. Please join us for a collaborative session where we'll share the big picture of this exciting and transformative vision, focused on three key pillars:

1. Growing the Church – Expanding our reach and impact.
2. Deepening Relationships – Strengthening our community and connections.
3. Doing Justice – Acting with compassion and advocating for change.

This is the first of many opportunities to hear about our strategic plans and provide your feedback. Everyone is welcome to help us shape the next chapter at OSC.

## BLACK HISTORY MONTH

### PHILLIS WHEATLEY PLAY + CASTLE OF OUR SKINS MUSICAL PERFORMANCE

*Sunday, February 9, 2:30-4:30pm, in the Gordon Chapel and on live stream*

Go to [tinyurl.com/2025PhillisandBen](https://tinyurl.com/2025PhillisandBen) to register, free admission, donations support (G)RACE Speaks  
Old South's (G)RACE Speaks Committee is teaming up with playwright Debra Wiess to present "A Revolutionary Encounter in London", a 70 minute one-act play about the little-known meeting in 1773 between two of Boston's Colonial icons: enslaved African Poetess Phillis Wheatley and American Founding Father Benjamin Franklin. Witness these two important figures in Old South's history converse in their spiritual home, 252 years after their famous encounter. There will also be special music by Castle of Our Skins and refreshments to enjoy. You don't want to miss it!

### (G)RACE SPEAKS ANTI-RACISM LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

*Sunday, February 16, 10 am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall and on Zoom link at [oldsouth.org/sundays](https://oldsouth.org/sundays)*

Join us for the 10 o'clock hour on Sunday Feb 16th as we explore the language of antiracism and align the terminology we use at Old South Church, as we continue our journey to being the anti-racist church we aspire to be. Old South members Amy Coe and Anne Scholder will lead this discussion on behalf of (G)RACE Speaks on the 2nd floor.

### PILGRIMAGE TO SEEK TRUTH AND JUSTICE WITH REV. JUNE

*Sunday, February 23, 10am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall and on Zoom link at [oldsouth.org/sundays](https://oldsouth.org/sundays)*

Join us at the Community Hour Forum to hear from OSC members that participated in a Pilgrimage to Seek Truth and Justice in the fall of 2024. Traveling to Montgomery and Selma, we not only visited the hallowed sites of the civil rights movement, but heard first-hand stories from veteran and current activists. The Pilgrimage was led by our Theologian in the City, Rev. June Cooper. Please join us and be inspired!

### CONNECTIONS CLASS

*Sunday, February 11, 10am*

To be a member of Old South Church is to enter the company of Revolutionary Era heroes, abolitionists, suffragettes, anti-poverty crusaders, and poets. Our saints include Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Phillis Wheatley... and maybe you! Want to learn more about the life of this community of faith and break bread with other newcomers and church members? Join our Connections Info Session! Contact [Ashley Popperson](mailto:AshleyPopperson) for more info.

### FAMILY GAME NIGHT

*Fridays February 28, March 28, and May 9. 6pm - 8pm, in the Guild Room*

Grab your board games and join Old South families for a night of games & pizza. Sponsored by Christian Formation, this relaxed kick off to the weekend is geared towards families, but we welcome any child-at-heart who wants to come. Please RSVP to Hillary Mull ([hillary78@gmail.com](mailto:hillary78@gmail.com)) if you can - so we know how much pizza to order. Donations accepted to offset cost of pizza

## **STEWARDSHIP CELEBRATION LUNCH**

*Sunday, February 2, following Festival Worship in the Gordon Chapel*

Go to [tinyurl.com/2025OSCPledge](https://tinyurl.com/2025OSCPledge) to make your pledge

In this year's Stewardship campaign, we invite you to reflect on how we build community together. Old South is a home, a physical and emotional space constantly being built and rebuilt by our members. It is a special place of community for so many. Join us this year in building our community, sharing the treasures of community, commitment, and collaboration, together. Throughout our stewardship campaign in January, we encourage you to consider intentional giving in the form of an outright commitment or annual pledge.

## **JOIN THE MARY NORTON SOCIETY**

Every one of us, no matter our age or financial circumstances, needs a plan for what will happen to our resources after we pass on. Many members and friends of Old South have included the church in their estate plans - "a way to support Old South from heaven." Here's how Mary Norton Society member, Kate Silfen, describes her reasons for joining the society:

*I had a lot of questions when I first started coming to Old South in the fall of 2001. I knew that I was drawn to Christianity, but I was worried that my liberal understanding of the Bible and Jesus' ministry would put me at odds with the rest of the congregation. Much to my surprise and delight, I soon realized that I had joined a community that welcomed my questions and had plenty of room for a variety of views. I want to make sure that our church's progressive flavor of Christianity continues to thrive, so I am thrilled to have a way to help ensure that it survives well into the future.*

Those who provide for Old South in their estate plans become members of the Mary Norton Society. Won't you join them, as a way of insuring that the things that have mattered most to you will be here for coming generations? Contact [cathryngriffith@mac.com](mailto:cathryngriffith@mac.com) for more information.

## **BANISHED TO THE BALCONY: A TALK ON THE HISTORY OF RACE AT OSC**

*Monday, March 10, 6pm, Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St*

Have you ever wondered what it was like for Phillis Wheatley to worship upstairs at the Old South Meeting House? Or about the worship life of the other members of African descent whose names are etched on the leaves of our Memorial Tree in the Columbarium? Join us as historian Richard Boles, author of *Dividing the Faith: The Rise of Segregated Churches in the Early American North*, talks about the 18th c. circumstances of Native Americans and enslaved African Americans in New England who worshipped, were baptized, and took communion in predominantly white churches with segregated seating and other race-based proscriptions.

The Old South Church community is invited to a wine and cheese reception at 5:15 p.m. prior to Professor Boles' talk. Co-sponsored by Old South Church's Mary Norton Society and by Revolutionary Spaces.

## HAPPY BIRTHDAY JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

*Sunday, February 9, at Festival Worship Coffee Hour*

Join us to celebrate Old South members with birthdays in January and February with singing and cake!

## 2025 NEW NEIGHBOR TASK FORCE INTEREST FORM

With the 2025 Presidential Inauguration comes a test of our faith and a test of our love of our neighbors. Trump has promised to “carry out the largest domestic deportation operation in American history” and his administration plans to use broad federal powers to do so. The time is now to leverage our power as a community to say “NO” to these efforts. In the coming months, the New Neighbor Task Force aims to assert the inherent value of our immigrant neighbors - through housing and accompaniment, financial sponsorship, legislative advocacy, prayer, and more. If you are interested in learning about or supporting this effort in any way, follow the QR Code to fill out this new intake form.



## VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP:

*Next service Sunday, February 9, 5 p.m. on Zoom, [tinyurl.com/OSCHealing](https://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**, the second Sunday 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.



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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.

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Old South Church in Boston ❖ 645 Boylston Street, Boston 02116 ❖ [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org)