



Old South Church
In Boston

Pride Sunday

June 14, 2026
11:00am

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

*HYMN 84

This is the Day

THIS IS THE DAY

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

All who delight in the Sacred, all who yearn for justice,

come and worship the Creator!

God lifts up the lowly and blesses the peculiar.

The Holy One rejoices in the particular and delights in difference.

Blessed are they who seek the divine in the outcast, the oppressed, and the queer.

Blessed are they who seek the fullness of God's glory beyond binaries,

For the wisdom of God shall be found beyond human categories.

The sacred is with us, let us worship and be transformed.

*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

Open Door Welcome

Tim Harbold

The musical score is written on five staves in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: "No mat-ter who you are, no mat-ter who you love, you are wel-come in this place. No mat-ter how you look, no mat-ter what you be-lieve, all are blest with heav'n-ly grace. We are stand-ing up for jus-tice! We're lift-ing hands in praise. We try to fol-low Christ's ex-am-ple, all are wel-come in this place. All are blest with heav'n-ly grace." The melody is simple and melodic, with a final double bar line at the end of the fifth staff.

© 2024 Tim Harbold (www.timharbold.com) All rights reserved.

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Lift Up Your Voice

Robinson McClellan

Lift, lift up your voice!
Shout and cry for joy!
We will work for liberty and justice.
Never quit or cry surrender.
Shout, we'll shout for joy!

- *With* -

Love Is Love Abbie Betinis

“This song is dedicated to the victims, and survivors, of hate crimes everywhere, and specifically for those at the Pulse nightclub in Orlando on June 12, 2016.” —AB

Love is love is love is love.

Love, love, love. All we need is love, love, love.

Ubi caritas et amor— where there’s love, love is love.

ATTEND

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 49:8-18

Ashton Gregor

Following the reading, children who wish to may meet childcare staff at the Chapel entry doors and proceed to the 3rd floor.

SERMON

Ms. Penny Cost

*HYMN 4

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

HYMN TO JOY

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

John M. Edgerton

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

Rain Down

Musical notation for the prayer response 'Rain Down'. It consists of two staves of music in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (Bb). The lyrics are: 'Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your people.' and 'Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.'

Text: Jaime Cortez, 1991
Tune: RAIN DOWN, Jaime Cortez, 1991; arr. John Carter, 2001

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Kat Woodard



*To give online,
Scan the QR code*

*If You're new to Old South,
scan the QR code
to tell us more about yourself.*



OFFERTORY

I Choose Love

Mark A. Miller

In the midst of pain, I choose love.
In the midst of pain, sorrow falling down like rain,
I await the sun again, I choose love.

In the midst of war, I choose peace.
In the midst of war, hate and anger keeping score,
I will seek the good once more, I choose peace.

When my world falls down, I will rise.
When my world falls down, explanations can't be found,
I will climb to holy ground, I will rise.

In the midst of pain, I choose love...

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 391 *Verses 1-3, 5* In the Midst of New Dimensions

NEW DIMENSIONS

BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Ms. Penny Cost

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

POSTLUDE

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

The Flowers today are given
by Candace Belanof in fond memory of Ruby and Pat.
And a Very Happy Pride to all!

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



UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

JUNETEENTH

June 18, 2026 | Thursday Night Church

Juneteenth is an annual holiday commemorating the emancipation of enslaved African Americans and serves as a celebration of Black culture, heritage, and freedom.

GODSPEED KAT WOODARD

August 16, 2026 | First and Festival Worship

Join us as we wish godspeed and blessings to Kat Woodard who has served as our Taylor Fellow for Mission in the City.

MIDDLE PASSAGE SUNDAY

August 23, 2026 | First and Festival Worship

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. Since 2015 the church has held an annual Sunday of remembrance in which the names of African members from the 1600s, 1700s and early 1800s are read aloud and their lives remembered. The names of these members (few of whom were buried in marked graves) are etched onto leaves on the church's Memorial Tree.

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 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

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.

GARAGE PARKING VALIDATIONS

We have arrangements for discounted parking with two nearby garages for Old South Church for Sunday worship services only. 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, *Taylor Resident for Mission in the City*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*

James Harrison Jr. & 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*

Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*

Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Thursday Night Church*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*

Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*

Jamie Chelel, *Children's Choir Director* ❖ Yuexuan Joyce Wang, *Children's Choir Accompanist*

Rory Razon, *Youth Group Co-Leader*

Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Director of Operations*

Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*

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, Richard Serebour, & MD Rahman, *Sextons*

Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist* ❖ Shirley Bivins, Anna Pratt, Shelia Randolph, & Zach Zang *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 & guide.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRIDE SUNDAY

June 14, 9am and 11am, in the Chapel

On the second Sunday in LGBTQ+ Pride Month, we will fill the chapel with song, prayers, praise, and worship of the God who loves and embraces all. This year, Drag Queen Ms. Penny Cost will preach at both services. After First Worship, we'll gather in Mary Norton Hall for Pride Coffee Hour, featuring delicious treats, glitter tattoos, and community joy.

A TIP OF THE HAT TO REV. DAVID STORY

June 14th, 12pm, Mary Norton Hall

As Rev. David Story retires from his role as Wedding Minister at Old South Church, please join us for a special Coffee Hour to celebrate him and his many years of faithful ministry among us.

SUMMER WORSHIP IN GORDON CHAPEL

Starting Sunday, June 14

Join us in the air conditioned splendor of the Gordon Chapel for all three worship services this summer.

JUNETEENTH AT THURSDAY NIGHT CHURCH

June 18, 6pm, Gordon Chapel

On June 18, our Juneteenth Service returns, with guest drummers CHIBUZO DUNUN, spoken word artist Dzidor, and guest preacher Rev. Dr. Theodore Hickman-Maynard. We will also be led in worship by Ida Kamrara and the Old South Gospel Choir. Please join us for this special service celebrating Black liberation & creative excellence. Questions? Email Rachel rachel@oldsouth.org

NEW AROUND HERE?

Sunday, June 21, in Rev. Ashley's office, meet in Elevator Lobby at 10:05am

Join Pastor Ashley and church members for informal conversation and coffee. If you've been coming for one week, or a dozen, or just exploring online, join us to get to know more about the church and to make a friend or two! Questions? Email ashley@oldsouth.org.

OLD SOUTH MUSIC PRESENTS:

DECLARATIONS – A World Premiere Choral Work

Saturday, June 27, 2026, 6:00pm pre-concert discussion, 7pm concert, Sanctuary

Tickets \$20 / \$40 / \$60 available at www.ensemblealtera.com

Ensemble Altera and Christopher Lowrey, director

Music by Piers Connor Kennedy ❖ Libretto supervised by Will Ashford

This June, Ensemble Altera presents a newly commissioned work that reflects on the American experiment 250 years on: where it began, how it has evolved, and what it asks of us today. At a time when the language of the founding feels both distant and urgently present, *Declarations* offers a space to listen with fresh ears, through music, for clarity, complexity, and perhaps even common ground. The texts will be fascinating. Thomas Jefferson in dialog with his own contradictions. Competing views of freedom in dialog with each other. *Declarations* from Langston Hughes, former Poet Laureate Tracy K. Smith, dg nanouk okpik, and others. An unspoken last word for Sally Hemings. Learn about the texts and the musicians at ensemblealtera.com/tickets.

- **6:00 pm Pre-Concert Discussion:** Before the concert, join us for a "Meet the Creators" discussion and exploration of the poems.
- **Complimentary Tickets:** As a concert sponsor, Old South has a limited number of complimentary tickets (B-tier), available to any Old Souther by request. Limit of 2 tickets per requestor. Contact tim@oldsouth.org. To purchase A-tier tickets, or to support Altera financially, you may purchase tickets directly on the Ensemble Altera website.

HEARD IT AT COUNCIL

Read Church Historian Kate Silfen's full report at oldsouth.org/news/heard-it-council-may-2026

This month's Council Meeting included discussions of Rev. Edgerton's appearance on the Rachel Maddow Show, finances, updating the website, hiring a firm to oversee building renovations, and a Settled Associate Minister Search Committee to work with the "Belong" Task Force to find our next Associate Minister.

SUMMER ART INSTALLATION

Jamaica Plain artist activists created an art installation that will be installed on the Dartmouth Street gates of the church this Sunday and remain throughout the summer. The sculptures honor the 123 individuals who have died in ICE detention since 2016, including Dorchester resident Emmanuel Damas. They also pay homage to the 6200 children who have been arrested since 2025, and the untold number of immigrants who have been flown to far-flung countries, far from the US and their native lands.

WRITING OUR LIVES: WRITING WORKSHOP

June 28, 10am, Mary Norton Hall

Us as individuals, our families, our communities, and our ancestors all have stories. We have thoughts and ideas, experiences and tales of love, hate, woe and triumph. It is these stories that give us inspiration, comfort, guidance and a reflective lens for us to view life through. How do we tell these stories? How can we turn our stories into art? This is what we explore this in our Old South Church Writer's Workshop. We explore poetry, short stories, biographies, histories and use a variety of styles including Narrative, Creative, Expository and Descriptive styles to craft our stories. Join us as we dive deep into our creative spirit and bring our stories, experiences and imaginations to life. Questions? email Ashton Gregor at agregor312@gmail.com.

QUEER BOOK GROUP

Do you enjoy reading? Are you interested in LGBTIA literature? If so, please consider joining Old South's Pride Book Club where we pick a book, read a book, and then get together via Zoom to discuss the book. We will pick one book a month and then meet the following month to discuss. This guarantees that everyone has time to finish their book in plenty of time. We will begin with reading *The Sweetness of Water* by Nathan Harris and gather on Zoom for discussion on June 30th. Questions? Email Mary Thurston at mthurston3@outlook.com

RAINBOW STORIES IN THE SANCTUARY

This summer we're sharing stories of our LGBTQIA+ community through an exhibition of tales, photos, poems, and history. Check out our first installation June 11 through 21, and possibly a second iteration in July. Does this inspire you to share a story of your own?

Let us know, it's not too late to be a part of the tale. Kate Nintcheu is curating these items, provided by many of our Old Southerners.

kate@oldsouth.org

GET YOUR PRIDE MERCH NOW!

New pride merch just dropped! Get your shirt, tank, or sweatshirt today and let the world know that God loves trans people Buy yours at tinyurl.com/OSC2026PrideShirts.



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 am 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!

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH WEEKLY PUSHBACK

Massachusetts Bail Fund

For more info and to donate: www.massbailfund.org

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

Old South recently hosted “Boots for Bail,” a queer community line dancing event that brought people together in joy and solidarity while raising funds for the Massachusetts Bail Fund. Led by formerly incarcerated and directly impacted individuals, the Massachusetts Bail Fund works to prevent people from remaining in jail before trial if they cannot afford bail. Since 2013, the fund has helped people stay connected to their homes, jobs, families, and communities while awaiting their day in court, pushing back against a system where freedom too often depends on financial means. This week, the Christian Service and Outreach Committee is further supporting their work through a \$1,000 Weekly Pushback donation.

GREEN TIP: Natural Bug Repellents

Don't let mosquitos and other bugs ruin your outside fun this summer. In many cases, bug spray is the only option that will allow you to stay outside without getting eaten alive, but many bug sprays bad for the environment and your health, too. Thankfully, there are several all-natural bug spray options that will keep the bugs away so you can enjoy the outdoors. Essential oils, certain herbs and witch hazel can all get the job done. Learn more at tinyurl.com/DIY-Bug-Spray

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.

If you're new to Old South,
scan the QR code
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