



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

June 28, 2026 ❖ 11:00am

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Prelude in B Minor, Op 28 no. 6

Frederic Chopin

*HYMN 498

Jesu, Jesu Fill Us With Your Love

CHERPONI

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Kat E. Woodard

There is nowhere we can go where our God is not,
On the sidewalk and in our sanctuary,

God is alive and working.

In the gaze of a stranger and the embrace of a friend,

God is near and welcoming.

At the bedside of the sick and the feast of the rejoicing,

God is patient and listening.

Let us take heart,

for our God is with us on the journey.

*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-ample, all are wel-come in this place. All are blest with heav'n-ly grace." The melody is simple and accessible, with a mix of quarter and eighth notes.

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WELCOME

ANTHEM

You Are Welcome Here

Marty Parks

Come, you wounded, weakened, and weary,
you are welcome here.
Come, discouraged, come, broken-hearted,
you are welcome here.

*This is a refuge for grace; this is a harbor of mercy.
So come, you wounded, weakened, and weary,
you are welcome here.*

Come, you wanderer, spent from the journey,
you are welcome here.

Come with every burden you carry,
you are welcome here.

Come, enter love's embrace;
receive amazing grace here in this place.

Come, you hungry; come, all you thirsty,
you are welcome here.

Come for healing, strength, and forgiveness,
you are welcome here.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Jackson Alan Nolan

Child of Sara and Charles Nolan

Sibling of Harriet

Godchild of Virginia Nolan and Emma Hoffman-Davies

PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTION

Ashley J. Popperson

LITANY OF BAPTISM

We are gathered to present Jackson Alan Nolan to the Church and to dedicate him to God.
What can we affirm about him?

He is a child of God, made in God's image.

As Jackson grows and matures, how will he know he is a child of God and how will he learn
of the Christian story?

**We will tell him about Abraham and Sarah, the parents of our faith; about Moses
and Miriam who led our ancestors out of bondage; about Mary and Joseph's
openness to mystery; about the Savior, Jesus.**

In turn, what will we expect of him?

We look forward to sitting with him at the Lord's Table, sharing with him the costs and joys of discipleship, learning and growing with him in the Christian pilgrimage, and declaring with one voice our faith in God and God's son, Jesus.

Do you, Sara and Charles, parents, assume your primary responsibility for fulfilling these expectations by growing with Jackson in the Christian faith, helping him to become a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, and by offering him the nurture and support of the Christian church? And will you, Virginia and Emma, godparents, agree to guide Jackson into becoming an engaged and complete human being, teaching him about personal sacrifice for a greater good, about grace and reconciliation at times of human weakness, and the power of unconditional love for all people?

Parents/Godparents: We happily and genuinely accept this serious duty.

And Old South Church, do you pledge to maintain a nurturing & challenging Christian environment for Jackson?

We do, for he belongs to us as well.

Then, may God be with us.

God help us. Amen.

BLESSING THE WATER

BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

Nancy Lane, *Baptismal Deacon*

We rejoice in God's empowering love, freely given to each and all. We welcome you, Jackson, newly baptized, into the circle of love in Christ's Church. We promise to pray for you, to seek the depths of faith with you, to support you, and to love you. We covenant with you to love God with all our hearts, minds, souls, and strength, and our neighbors as ourselves. Amen.

BAPTISMAL RESPONSE 351

**I Was There
to Hear Your Borning Cry**

BORNING CRY

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE Matthew 10:40-42 Betsy Ragan
*Following the reading, children who wish to may meet childcare staff
in the Chapel entrance and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SERMON Sacred Encounter Amanda Grant Rose

*HYMN 539 **Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?** SERVANT SONG

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

Rain Down

The image shows two staves of musical notation for the prayer response 'Rain Down'. The first staff is in 3/4 time and contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: 'Rain down; rain down; rain down your love on your peo - ple.' The second staff is in 3/4 time and contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: 'Rain down; rain down; rain down your love, God of life.' The lyrics are written below the notes.

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

Gathered As One

Deanna R. Light and Paul A. Tate

Many faces, the young and the old—
gathered as one in our God!
Throughout history the story's retold—
gathered as one in our God!

Many pilgrims, sharing at feast—
gathered as one in our God!
All are welcome: the greatest and least,
gathered as one in our God!

Like those come before us, we listen and learn;
we remember the promise
and await your return.
So without hesitation, a new generation
proclaims the salvation of God!

Like those come before us...

*Gathered as one in Jesus your Son,
lifting our voices in praise,
we know and believe and long to receive
the bread that is strength for our days,
gathered as one!*

Many voices, raised up in song—
gathered as one in our God!
In one family where all can belong—
gathered as one in our God!

Like those come before us...

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 401

O God in Whom All Life Begins

NOEL

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Amanda Grant Rose

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

Prelude in A Major, Op. 11 no. 7

Alexander Scriabin



Join us for Refreshments & Fellowship
outside under the Portico following the Postlude.

The flowers are given today in celebration of the baptism of Jackson Alan Nolan
by his delighted grandparents Janet and Ed Nolan
and his Godmother Auntie Ginny Nolan.

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

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

GODSPEED KAT WOODARD

August 16, 2026 | First and Festival Worship

☩ August 20, 2026 | Thursday Night Church

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 30, 2026 | First and 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. 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 brass leaves on the church's Memorial Tree.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 1, 2026 | 11AM

In a solemn service of sacred music, we gather to name and remember our own beloved dead who now rest from their labors in the arms of God.

MEETING HOUSE SUNDAY

November 22, 2026 | 11AM

We return to our ancestral home, the Old South Meeting House at Washington & Milk Streets, to give thanks for God's many blessings and the rich history of our faith.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2026

Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM

Lessons and Carols | 8PM

Carols and Communion | 11PM

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., *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

WRITING OUR LIVES: WRITING WORKSHOP

June 28, 10am, Mary Norton Hall

We all have stories. We have thoughts and ideas, experiences and tales of love, hate, woe and triumph. How do we tell these stories? Together, we will explore poetry, short stories, biographies, histories and use a variety of styles 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.

TOUR OF BUILDING AREAS NEEDING RENOVATION

Thursday, July 2 at 7:00pm; Sunday July 12 at 10am; and Sunday July 19 at 12pm

Questions? Email Rebecca Pasipanodya at rebecca@oldsouth.org

Meet in the elevator lobby and join Lois Corman, Chair of the Operations Committee, on a unique walkthrough of the building. She will take you to places you probably haven't seen before: the basement and the roof. Learn about the maintenance renovations we plan to tackle over the next 10 years. Bring binoculars if you wish and please wear flat shoes (no heels allowed on the roof.)

RUCKUS! FIRST LOOK: THE ENCORE

Thursday, July 2, 7pm, Old South Meeting House

To get your tickets or invite guests contact development@revolutionaryspaces.org

Excitement is building at the Old South Meeting House where an exciting new immersive experience **Ruckus!** will debut in July. Revolutionary Spaces invites Old South Church members and friends to an opening celebration. Be among the first to see **Ruckus!** a 25-minute immersive experience that uses projected animation, dramatic lighting, and surround sound to tell Boston history in a completely new way. The evening will include food, drinks, music, and a toast to America's 250th anniversary. Tickets are free (donation optional), and you're welcome to bring guests.

CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

First Sundays, 10am, in the Columbarium, next session July 5

Need some space to breathe? Time to rest in the spacious silence of God's presence? Please join us for Contemplative Prayer. Questions? Email ashley@oldsouth.org.

MEMORIAL SERVICE FOR ED PAZZANESE

5pm This Sunday, June 28, at Community Church of Boston, 565 Boylston Street

Please join Ed's extended community to celebrate his life at the Community Church of Boston. Ed was a member of Old South, an artist, disability rights activist, and a friend to all he met.

ONLINE SMALL GROUP

July 5 at 7:30pm, and every first Sunday of the month

Go to tinyurl.com/2025OSCOOnlineSmallGroup password 684963 to join

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.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMON CATHEDRAL LUNCH

Sunday July 12, 2026

This is a great opportunity to volunteer to help our local community. Join us for any part of the day. All are welcome, including families.

- Make Bag Lunches in OSC Mary Norton Kitchen 9:00 -10:30 AM
- Meet at Boston Common (near Park St. Station) to unload and hand out lunches to the Common Cathedral congregation and join for lunch 11:45-1:00 PM
- Attend outdoor Common Cathedral service 1:00-2:00

Please contact Mary Thurston at Mthurston3@outlook.com if you would like to participate in any of these activities.

BUILDING BELONGING TOGETHER:

LISTENING SESSIONS WITH ROESHANA MOORE-EVANS

New Dates June-July on Zoom. Go to tinyurl.com/46uzb3bs to see dates and RSVP

Roeshana Moore-Evans, Old South's Ministry Consultant for Congregational Belonging, is hosting Zoom listening sessions with congregational members to hear reflections, experiences, and hopes related to belonging, connection, and community life at Old South. Whether you are a longtime member, newer to the church, or still finding your place, your voice and perspective are valued.

THEOLOGICAL BOOK GROUP SUMMER READ

We are delving into a different kind of book! *"For Such A Time As This; An Emergency Devotional"* (paperback) provides key insights on how not only to survive, but to actively flourish in these turbulent times. In brief meditations, biblical reflections and historical analysis, Dr. Hanna Reichel, Professor of Theology at Princeton Theological Seminary, guides us into a fullness of life, as Christians, that both challenges and transcends authoritarianism of all kinds. For those who wish, there will be a one session zoom meeting in the fall to discuss the book. No need to join anything!! Questions? Contact Don Wells granwell@comcast.net.

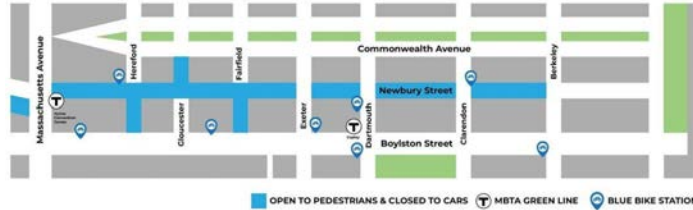
NEWBURY STREET CLOSED ON SUNDAYS

10am—6pm, July 12, 19, and 26
and most Sundays through October 11,

Plan more time to find on street parking or park at the Back Bay Garage

tinyurl.com/opennewbury2026 for dates and more info

Whether you're shopping, dining out, or just going for a walk, pedestrian-only days on Newbury Street are a Boston summer staple. Newbury Street is a mile-long, eight block stretch of shops, salons, galleries and restaurants. This famous Boston street becomes a pedestrian-only walkway on Sundays in the summer. The street is closed to vehicles to allow the use of the full width of the street, from Berkeley Street to Massachusetts Avenue.



PRIDE AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

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.



CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH WEEKLY PUSHBACK

CAPUCHIN MOBILE MINISTRIES

For more info and to donate: www.capuchin.org/ministries/mobile-ministries

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

As we welcome Amanda Grant Rose, Director of Stewardship and Engagement for Capuchin Mobile Ministries, as our guest preacher this Sunday, Old South is grateful to deepen our connection to their work through worship, learning, and a \$1,000 Weekly Pushback grant. A long-time partner of Old South, Capuchin Mobile Ministries seeks to bring the welcome of Christ to people experiencing homelessness in the greater Boston area. Several days a week, their outreach van travels to places where unhoused neighbors gather, offering food and drink, emergency supplies, spiritual resources, and connection to social services. Vitally, their ministry combines practical support with steady, relationship-based care, and we are grateful to support this work of presence and relief, especially in these hot summer days.

GREEN TIP: Plastic Free July—Bring Your Own Utensils

Learn more at www.plasticfreejuly.org/

It's estimated that 40 billion plastic utensils are thrown away every year in the US and this is usually after one use. Keep your own reusable utensils with you (in your desk, your car, your purse). Anytime you're tempted with disposable cutlery, refuse and use your own.

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