

August 9, 2026 ❖ 11:00am ❖ Old South Church *in* Boston

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Mélodie, Op. 46, No. 4

Alexandre Guilmant

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John M. Edgerton

O Lord, let my soul rise up to meet you:

as the day rises to meet the sun.

I will bless God at all times;

Her praise shall continually be in my mouth.

Our souls make their boast in our loving God;

let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify our Savior with me

Come, let us sing to our God:

let us shout for joy to the

Rock of our salvation.

—with thanks to
“Common Prayer” and Psalm 34

*HYMN 67

Let Me Enter God’s Own Dwelling

UNSER HERRSCHER

Verses 1-4 only

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please greet those around you, wishing them “peace” or “the peace of Christ.”

SUNG RESPONSE

Bind Us Together

Congregation: [refrain]

The musical notation is written on three staves in 3/4 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics are written below the staves, aligned with the notes.

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.

Text: Bob Gilman, 1974
Tune: BIND US TOGETHER, Bob Gilman, 1974

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**)*

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Ubi Caritas

Bob Moore

Ubi caritas et amor, Deus ibi est.

Where there is charity, where there is love, God is there.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Betty Friedan Lee

Child of Kelly Li

PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTION

John M. Edgerton

LITANY OF BAPTISM

We are gathered to present Betty Friedan Lee to the Church and to dedicate her to God. What can we affirm about her?

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

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

We will tell her 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 her?

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

Do you, Kelly, assume your primary responsibility for fulfilling these expectations by growing with Betty in the Christian faith, helping her to become a faithful member of the church of Jesus Christ, and by offering her the nurture and support of the Christian church? And will you agree to guide Betty into becoming an engaged and complete human being, teaching her 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?

Parent: I happily and genuinely accept this serious duty.

Betty, Do you desire to be baptized into the faith and family of Jesus Christ? Do you promise by the grace of God to learn about and follow in the way of our brother and Savior Jesus Christ, to show love and justice, and to witness to the work and word of Jesus Christ as best as you are able?

Betty: I do, with the help of God.

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

We do, for she belongs to us as well.

Then may God be with us.

God help us. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE WATER

BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

Yoo-Kyung Kim, *Baptismal Deacon*

We rejoice in God's empowering love, freely given to each and all. We welcome you, 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.

ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Ruth 1:15-18

David Story

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

SERMON

When Love Is In Charge

Rachel J. Barton

*HYMN 460

Be Not Dismayed

MARTIN

Verses 1-3 only

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

He Hideth My Soul



A won - der - ful Sav - ior is Je - sus my Lord; he tak - eth my bur - den a - way.

He hold - eth me up, and I shall not be moved; he giv - eth me strength as my day.

He hid - eth my soul in the *cleft of the rock that shad - ows a dry, thirst - y land.

He hid - eth my life in the depths of his love, and co - vers me there with his hand,

and co - vers me there with his hand. *Exodus 33:22

Text: Fanny J. Crosby, 1890

Tune: KIRKPATRICK, William J. Kirkpatrick, 1890

CALL TO THE OFFERING

John M. Edgerton



*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

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Camp Kirkland, *arr.*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

*On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand;
all other ground is sinking sand.*

When darkness seems to hide his face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.

His oath, his covenant, his love support me in the whelming flood;
when all around my soul gives way, he then is all my hope and stay.

When he shall come with trumpet sound, O may I then in him be found,
dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 473

Blessed Assurance

ASSURANCE

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Rachel J. Barton

SUNG RESPONSE *see next page*

Go Now in Peace

POSTLUDE

Prelude (*Marche en rondeau*)
from Te Deum, H. 146

Marc-Antoine Charpentier



Join us for refreshments and fellowship
outside on the portico following the postlude.

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 and meets at the pulpit.

Led by docent Brad Swing.

Go Now in Peace

(Introduction)

The musical score is written on four staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like. The lyrics are: '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.' The score includes a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature (C). The melody is written on a single staff with a treble clef. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

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

UPCOMING SPECIAL SERVICES

GODSPEED KAT WOODARD

August 13 and 16 | Thursday Night Church & Sunday's First & 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 30 | First & 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. 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.

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 and guide.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTERACTIVE TOUR OF THE SANCTUARY

Sunday, August 9, 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 storytellers?). Meet by the pulpit.



GODSPEED KAT WOODARD

August 13 and 16,

Thursday Night Church & Sunday's First & 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.

SUPPORT FOOD SECURITY IN OUR COMMUNITY AT ALLSTON-BRIGHTON FOOD PANTRY

*Saturday, August 15, Doors open 10:30am, Formal event 11:00am,
404 Washington St. Brighton*

After months of setbacks, uncertainty, and hard work, the Allston Brighton Food Pantry (ABFP) is thrilled be up and running and serving our community. To celebrate this new chapter and thank everyone who supported us along the way, ABFP is hosting a Re-Opening Celebration on August 15!

- Enjoy refreshments prepared by our amazing Chef Ana
- Take a tour of our newly renovated spaces
- Connect with staff, volunteers, and community members

Interested in joining fellow Old Southerners as a volunteer at the pantry on Saturdays from 9:30am-12:30pm? Email Esther Seguin to learn more at esther.seguin@verizon.net.

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP

Next service Sunday, August 9, 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.

NEW AROUND HERE?

Sunday, August 16, 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.

THURSDAY NIGHT CHURCH SUMMER SUPPER CLUB

Thursday, August 20, 7pm, in the Crawford Library

Summer is almost over, but the program year is about to start! Join us for a special edition of Thursday Night Supper Club in the Gordon Chapel. We'll catch up with each other, and do some dreaming for the year ahead. Questions? Email Rachel Barton at rachel@oldsouth.org.

TAKE THE CONGREGATIONAL BELONGING SURVEY

Survey closes August 31, 2026

Over the past several months, Old South Church has been engaging in conversations about belonging as part of our commitment to becoming a more radically inclusive congregation—one where every person can experience genuine welcome, connection, and belonging.

Many members and friends have already participated in listening sessions, and we are grateful for the thoughtful perspectives that have been shared. If you have not been able to attend a listening session—or if you would simply prefer to share your thoughts in writing—we invite you to complete our anonymous Congregational Belonging Survey.



Scan the QR code or visit tinyurl.com/29tat4ce

Your responses will help us better understand the experiences, hopes, and ideas of our congregation as we continue this important work together. The survey should take approximately 10–15 minutes to complete. While the survey is anonymous, you will have the option to provide your contact information if you would like a follow-up conversation.



NEWBURY STREET CLOSED ON SUNDAYS

10am-6pm, Most Sundays through October 11.

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

Visit tinyurl.com/opennewbury2026 for dates and more information.

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.

SAVE THE DATE: ALL-CHURCH RETREAT IS OCTOBER 2ND-4TH

Join Old South for our annual intergenerational fall retreat, October 2nd-4th. Grow in community with us as we find rest, connection, and play games at stunning Craigville Retreat Center in Centerville, MA on Cape Cod. Questions? Email Kate Nintcheu at children@oldsouth.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND HEADLINES SUBMISSIONS

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCNewsSubmission to fill in the form

Does your committee need to advertise an event to the congregation? Fill out the form at the link to ensure that your submissions to the church publications arrive on time and to the right emails. The deadline is Wednesday morning at 8am the week you would like your announcement to begin appearing in our publications. Announcements are subject to approval and may be edited for length or clarity.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH WEEKLY PUSHBACK

One Can Help

For more info and to donate: onecanhelp.org

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

One Can Help is a Massachusetts nonprofit that provides emergency resources to children, foster youth, and low-income families involved with the juvenile court or child welfare system. Working directly with court-appointed attorneys and DCF social workers, One Can Help responds to urgent needs that other funding cannot cover. Old South's Christian Service and Outreach Committee is proud to support One Can Help's work of keeping children safe and families together with a \$1,000 Weekly Pushback grant.

GREEN TIP: Swap Paper for Cloth

Learn more at earth911.com/living-well-being/reduce-waste-8-ways/

A lot of people have made the switch from paper napkins to cloth napkins or paper towels to unpaper towels. If you have little ones, consider cloth diapering your baby instead of using disposable diapers. If you menstruate, switch to zero-waste period products. Another change some families make (although it's too big of a change for many) is to switch to "family cloth," aka cloth toilet paper. The amount of waste that any of these simple changes can reduce is huge.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Facebook, and YouTube

Thursday Night Church, Thursdays at 6:00 pm

FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 am

FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 am

VESPER HEALING Worship, Second Sundays at 5:00 pm via Zoom



*To give online,
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