

We bring our silent confessions before a listening, loving God

Silence is kept.

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The God who challenges us is also the God who encourages us.

The God who confronts us is also the God who accepts us.

Be assured that God is with us even now,

Accepting, guiding, forgiving, and equipping.

Thanks be to God.

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Trust Me

Richard Smallwood

OLD SOUTH CHURCH GOSPEL CHOIR

Loraine Adeyemi, *soloist*

I will be with you. I will be with you.
I will be with you if you will only trust me.

I'll never leave you...

I'll fight your battle...

I am that I am. I have all power.
I will deliver if you will only trust me.

LISTEN

SCRIPTURE Deuteronomy 10:17-22 Pam Roberts

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kate M. Nintcheu

*HYMN 551 **Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior** PASS ME NOT
*During the hymn, children that wish may meet childcare staff
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 2:17-22

SERMON "For You Were Once Strangers" Kat Woodard

*HYMN 293 **Sweet, Sweet Spirit** SWEET SWEET SPIRIT

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER Ashley J. Popperson

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.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Justin Tyler Dickerson



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.



OFFERTORY

Jesus Is a Rock in a Weary Land

Glenn Burleigh, *arr.*

*Jesus is a rock in a weary land,
a shelter in a time of storm.*

I would not be a sinner, I'll tell you the reason why:
I'm afraid my Lord might call my name,
and I wouldn't be ready to die.

I would not be a backslider, I'll tell you the reason why:
I'm afraid my Lord might call my name,
and I wouldn't be ready to die.

Has he ever made a way when you didn't have a dime?
Has he ever stepped in just right on time?
Has he ever picked you up when you were down?
Has he ever placed your feet on solid ground?

Then you know he is a rock in a weary land...

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 575

O for a World

AZMON

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Kat Woodard

POSTLUDE

Come, Ye Sinners, Poor and Needy

George Shearing, *arr.*



Join us for Refreshments & Fellowship
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 Pulpit.
Led by docent Brad Swing.

Old South Church *in* Boston invites you
to its *Signature Services and Events* during the coming year.

HOLY WEEK 2026

Palm Sunday — March 29 | 9AM & 11AM

Maundy Thursday — April 2 | 6PM

Good Friday — April 3 | 7PM

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 2026 | 9AM & 11AM

The triumph of the Christian story of resurrection informs a service of worship that is characterized by joyous celebration.

MARATHON SUNDAY

April 19, 2026 | 9AM, 11AM, & 1PM

Hundreds of marathoners join us for worship, where we will pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special “Blessing of the Athletes.”

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.

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* ❖ Justin Tyler Dickerson, *Seminarian*

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, *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

common cathedral LUNCHEON WORKSHOPS

In person March 15 at 10am, Mary Norton Hall Kitchen

Zoom date TBD

The Christian Service and Outreach committee is going to hold workshops covering the steps involved in a successful Common Cathedral Sunday luncheon. We prepare lunches for the unhoused community that meets every Sunday for a service on the Boston Common. We want to broaden our organizing team so that we can offer our help more than 2 times a year. They could use our assistance more often. Please reply to Carolyn Clark if you are interested in attending a workshop or if you have any questions.

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP

This Sunday, March 15, 5pm on Zoom, join at tinyurl.com/OSHealingWorshipZoom

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.

UPCOMING COMMUNITY HOUR FORUMS | SUNDAYS AT 10AM

ALL CHURCH LENTEN SERIES: BELOVED COMMUNITY

Community Hours, Thursday Night Supper Clubs, and Online Small Group through March 29

Lent is a call to connect and align ourselves with the radical, all-encompassing love that Jesus embodied. This Lent, we invite you to build relationships and deepen connections through weekly small group discussions, facilitated by the Membership committee. Consider joining for the whole series, or simply pop in when you're able! All are welcome - come as you are - come when you can!

ALL CHURCH READ OF "ROUGH SLEEPERS"

The book is available in paperback, hardcover, and audio formats, and check your local library.

Trouble getting your own copy? Email Paul Brouillette at brouillettepaul@gmail.com

Community Hour Forum Book discussion on Sunday May 3

Join us as the Homelessness and Housing Insecurity Task Force sponsors an all-church read of "Rough Sleepers" by Tracy Kidder. The book profiles Dr. Jim O'Connell's work with people experiencing homelessness in Boston and his role in helping develop the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program.

On Sunday, May 3, Dr. Jim O'Connell is scheduled to be a guest at the 10:00 Community Hour, where he will speak about his efforts reaching out to Boston's unhoused population with individual care, compassion, and dedication. While reading "Rough Sleepers" before the discussion is not required to hear Dr. Jim's talk, doing so will provide greater insight into his medical and spiritual journey.

WINTER WALK TO END HOMELESSNESS

Sunday, March 22, Questions? Email Kat Woodard at kat@oldsouth.org

The Winter Walk to End Homelessness has been postponed to March 22nd. The two-mile walk around Boston Common raises awareness and funds to support organizations working to prevent homelessness and provide care, accompaniment, and resources for our unhoused neighbors. Old South is participating as part of the common cathedral team this year. Register or donate at tinyurl.com/OSC2026WinterWalk.

SANCTUARY SPRUCE-UP

Saturday, April 4, 1-3pm

We will gather the day before Easter to make the sanctuary sparkle for the big day! Come and help dust, vacuum, and straighten everything up. Materials and refreshments will be provided. Please sign up at the Front Desk or email Lois Corman at loiscorman@gmail.com so that we have an idea of how many people are joining us.

REGISTER ON CHURCH CENTER

Church Life app will be phased out on March 24. Please download the Church Center app Today!

Old South Church has launched Church Center, a secure app that allows you to access our directory, calendar, giving portal, and more! We are no longer using ACS, Vanco, or the Church Life phone app.

- Please log in with the phone number or email we have on file.
- Please download the Church Center app by March 15. Simply search "Church Center" in your app store and log in with the phone number or email we have on file. More info can be found oldsouth.org/church-center.
- Video help can be found at tinyurl.com/ChurchCenterVideo.
- If you need assistance, please email Ashley Popperson ashley@oldsouth.org.

PARKING VALIDATION CHANGES

Starting immediately, Old South is excited to share that we have a new and improved parking validation option with the Back Bay Garage. Entrances are at 85 St James Ave and 199 Clarendon St. The Back Bay Garage is closer and more affordable than our previous other parking options. It offers weekend rates of up to 3 hours for \$5, and up to 11 hours for \$8, as well as weeknights after 5:00 PM for \$8. Park your car, come to the church, request a coupon at the front desk (coupons vary by time) and then pay as you exit the garage. The 100 Clarendon garage can still be validated; however, validation remains \$10 for up to 3 hours. Beyond 3 hours, you have to pay full price.

Beginning March 22, we will no longer cover parking at the Prudential Center Garage due to rising costs. The Prudential garage charges the church over \$40, which is 4-5 times more expensive than other options. This change will save the church a significant amount of money while providing a more convenient and more affordable option for many. If you have any questions, please reach out to Rebecca by calling the church or emailing rebecca@oldsouth.org.

KAT WOODARD ORDINATION

Sunday, April 12, 3pm, First Church in Somerville UCC, 89 College Ave.

Our Taylor Resident for Mission in the City, Kat Woodard, is being ordained to her position here at Old South Church! The ordination service will take place at Kat's home congregation. Kat would be delighted for any and all Old Southerners to join her for this special milestone in ministry.

HEARD IT AT COUNCIL

Read the full report at oldsouth.org/news/heard-it-council-february-2026

Church Historian Kate Silfen reports on February's full meeting discussing church finances, (G)RACE Speaks' work on finding a Consultant for Belonging, and a report from the Stewardship Committee.

JOIN GOSPEL CHOIR FOR A WEEK! Sing at Thursday Night Church

Thursday, April 9 rehearsal in the Sanctuary, 7:00-7:30 pm, & Thursday, April 16 appearance at worship.

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

GETTING INVOLVED IN LOVING OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS

Please fill out this survey tinyurl.com/OSC2026LovingNeighborsSurvey to be connected.

Questions? Please email ashley@oldsouth.org.

As immigration enforcement continues to rise in our neighborhoods, we are called to love our neighbors. If you are interested in getting involved in ministries of care and justice, from being an active presence in your neighborhood to preparing know-your-rights materials, there is a place for everyone in this movement.

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS

Be the friendly face that makes a difference in someone's day! At each worship service, our hospitality team offers a warm welcome to friends and visitors alike. We are seeking ushers and welcomers for all three services through April. For Festival Worship, note the new role of Offertory Usher who will only help collect the offering. This new, simpler role is an excellent opportunity to those new to ushering. If you've been wondering how to get more involved and get to know others, hospitality is a great way to start! Please sign up at <https://oldsouth.org/hospitality>.

GREEN TIP: Recycling Plastic Wrap and Film

Learn more at tinyurl.com/RecycleWiresCables

The metals embedded in the world's annual e-waste, including copper, gold, iron, and rare earth elements, are valued at approximately \$91 billion, according to the UN's E-waste Monitor. Every cable and cord you recycle contributes to recovering these valuable materials rather than burying them in a landfill, and helps prevent toxic substances from contaminating soil and water. Old wires and cables should never go in the trash or the curbside recycling bin. With retail drop-offs, mail-in programs, brand take-back initiatives, and local e-waste recycling options now widely available, there's a responsible option for every situation, often at no cost.

THE WEEKLY PUSHBACK—One Great Hour of Sharing

Learn more about their work and donating tinyurl.com/GreatHourSharing

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

To get involved or ask questions email Kat Woodard at kat@oldsouth.org

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. This week, churches across our denomination are joining together to pool our resources in support of this shared effort. The Lenten offering supports partners around the world through ministries that fund health, education, and agricultural development, as well as emergency

HOLY WEEK, EASTER, AND MARATHON SUNDAY 2026

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MAUNDY THURSDAY — April 2 | 6PM

GOOD FRIDAY — April 3 | 7PM

EASTER SUNDAY — April 5, 2026 | 9AM & 11AM

MARATHON SUNDAY — April 19, 2026 | 9AM, 11AM, & 1PM

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Facebook, and YouTube

Thursday Night Church, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m., no service 12/25 and 1/1

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