



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

May 24, 2026

11:00 a.m.

Pentecost Sunday

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

O God, how manifold are your works!

In wisdom you have made them all;

**We raise our tongues to sing your praise
in songs of every people.**

When you send forth your spirit, all things are created;
you renew the face of the ground and the beings of the earth.

**We lift our hearts to sing your praise
with love that crosses border-lines.**

May the glory of the Lord endure forever;

Ashley J. Popperson

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

may God rejoice in their works—

We will sing praises to our God as long as we have being.

May our worship be pleasing to the One in whom we put our trust.

*HYMN 289

Come Forth, O Love Divine

DOWN AMPNEY

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Sing a New Church

Gary Daigle, *arr.*

Summoned by the God who made us rich in our diversity,
gathered in the name of Jesus, richer still in unity:

*Let us bring the gifts that differ and, in splendid, varied ways,
sing a new church into being, one of faith and love and praise.*

Trust the goodness of creation; trust the Spirit strong within.
Dare to dream the vision promised sprung from seed of what has been.

Bring the hopes of every nation; bring the art of every race.
Weave a song of peace and justice: let it sound through time and space.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Juliana Elizabeth Kaufman

Child of Sonia Koshy and Jay Kaufman
Godchild of Tanya Koshy and Kori Kaufman

Aya Lucia Koshy-Nguyen

Child of Tanya Koshy and Paul Nguyen
Godchild of Sonia Koshy

PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTION

David F. Story

LITANY OF BAPTISM

We are gathered to present Juliana Elizabeth and Aya Lucia to the Church and to dedicate them to God. What can we affirm about them?

They are children of God, made in God's image.

As Juliana and Aya grow and mature, how will they know they are children of God and how will they learn of the Christian story?

We will tell them 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 them?

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

Do you, Sonia and Jay, Tanya and Paul, parents, assume your primary responsibility for fulfilling these expectations by supporting Juliana's and Aya's growth in the Christian faith, helping them to explore the church of Jesus Christ, offering them nurture and support, and helping them apply Christian values throughout their life? And will you, Tanya, Kori, and Sonia, godparents, agree to guide Juliana and Aya into becoming engaged and complete human beings, teaching them 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 and challenging Christian environment for Juliana and Aya?

We do, for they belong to us as well.

Then, may God be with us.

God help us. Amen.

BLESSING THE WATER

BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME

Richard Ling, *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.

LISTEN

THE STORY OF PENTECOST

Pam Roberts

SERMON

Rachel J. Barton

*HYMN 270

Like the Murmur of a Dove's Song

BRIDEGROOM

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.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Kat E. 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

The Kingdom

André J. Thomas

Righteousness, peace, joy in the Holy Ghost—
that's the Kingdom of God.

Don't you want to be a part of the Kingdom?
Come on everybody!

Oh, yes, there's joy in the Kingdom!
Oh, yes, there's peace in the Kingdom!
Oh, yes, there's love in the Kingdom!

“The earth is the Lord's, and the fulness thereof.” *
We are part of the earth, and it is part of us.

The perfumed flowers are our sisters,
the deer, the horse, the great eagle—
these are our brothers.

All things are connected.
Rivers, our brothers; earth, our mother.
The earth is the Lord's.

**Psalm 24:1*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 267

Come, O Spirit, Dwell among Us

EBENEZER

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Rachel Barton

POSTLUDE



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

The flowers at the pulpit today are given by Deb Washington with joy for Happy Birthdays
to the Washington Family.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,
begins immediately following worship
at the pulpit at the front of the Sanctuary.
Led by docent Kate Silfen.



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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PENTECOST DAY OF SERVICE

Sunday, May 24, 10am and 12pm

On Sunday, May 24th, we will celebrate Pentecost, the day when the Holy Spirit met the disciples and sent them out into the world, by stepping into that same call to go and to build deeper relationships with our neighbors and partners across Boston. We invite you to participate in any part (or all!) of the day:

- 10am in Mary Norton Hall: Join the LUCE Supply Hub work or help prepare sandwiches and pack lunches for common cathedral in the kitchen
- 12pm offsite: Join fellow Old Southerners at a campus clean up for the Allston Brighton Food Pantry, or join our common cathedral partners and unhoused neighbors to distribute lunches on the Boston Common

Register for any of these opportunities at tinyurl.com/PentecostDayOfService. Have questions before you RSVP? Email kat@oldsouth.org and brouillettepaul@gmail.com.

BEHIND THE SCENES:

A TOUR OF OUR 10-YEAR RENOVATION PLAN

Sunday, May 24, Meet Lois Corman in Elevator Lobby at 10am

*Bring binoculars if you wish and please wear flat shoes (**no heels allowed on the roof**)*

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.

BUILDING BELONGING TOGETHER:

LISTENING SESSIONS WITH ROESHANA MOORE-EVANS

May 27, June 2 and 3, on Zoom,

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCListeningSpring2026 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.

CONFIRMATION AND MEMBERSHIP SUNDAY

Sunday, May 31

There's a sweet, sweet spirit in this place! Join us in a day of worship as we praise God for the gift of the church. We'll celebrate the rites of confirmation and accept new members into the joyful fellowship of Old South Church.

PRIDE AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Saturday, June 6, 2026, 10:15am, Gordon Chapel

The UCC is marching! Out of the church and into the streets! We will gather together in the chapel at 10:15am. We will then gather at our designated formation area (TBD) to gather for the parade, which begins at 11am. The parade will finish at Beacon St and Park St, between the Public Garden and the Common where there will be a festival. Please RSVP at tinyurl.com/2026OSCPrideMarch to be notified of our designated formation area for the march.

We will also host a Hospitality Station outside of Old South on Boylston street from 9am-1pm providing water, bubbles, snacks, & glitter tattoos. To volunteer go to tinyurl.com/2026PrideTable.

YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, June 7, First and Festival Worship

Sunday, June 7th is both the last day of our regular program year and Youth Sunday, the day that our Youth Group leads us in worship! Come and join us as we experience worship services our teens have crafted. We will also celebrate and lift up this year's graduating High School Seniors. You don't want to miss it!

A TIP OF THE HAT TO REV. DAVID STORY

June 14th, 12:00 pm, 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.

OLD SOUTH MUSIC PRESENTS: DECLARATIONS

June 27, 2026, 7pm concert at Old South

Old South Music presents Ensemble Altera in a major new choral work by Piers Connor Kennedy. A reflection on the ideals of liberty and equality, placing Thomas Jefferson's words in dialog with those of Langston Hughes, Tracy K. Smith, and others.

GREEN TIP— Choose a Reef Friendly Sunscreen

As the weather gets warmer and you spend more time outside, choose sunscreen that won't hurt the ocean. Several common sunscreen ingredients, including oxybenzone and octinoxate, have been shown to be toxic to corals. Sunscreens that use non-nano zinc oxide as their active ingredients do not contribute to coral bleaching.

FINAL COMMUNITY HOUR FORUMS FOR THE PROGRAM YEAR | *Sundays 10am*

BELONGING: GOD'S BIG OL' WIDE WELCOME | *May 31*

Join (C)Race Speaks leaders Tim Harbold and June Cooper to learn more about our congregation's BELONG project, and our new BELONG consultant Roeshana Moore-Evans. Throughout the coming year you'll be invited into conversations about belonging, and this gathering will be a wonderful place to ask questions and learn more!

THE GREAT OLD SOUTH BAKE OFF: MUFFIN EDITION | *June 7*

Sign up at tinyurl.com/OSCMuffinBakeOffSignUP

Join us in Mary Norton Hall on the second floor to celebrate the start of summer with a muffin cook off on Sunday, June 7th at 10am! Bring your submissions, a trophy will be awarded in the following categories: Overall, Gluten Free, Most Creative.

ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE NUT FREE! Questions? Email Ashley at ashley@oldsouth.org

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!

HISTORICAL HIGHLIGHT: A CHURCH IN EXILE

Read Church Historian Kate Silfen's full article at: oldsouth.org/historical-highlight-church-exile

The years between 1775 and 1779 likely represent the most challenging period in Old South's 356-year history. But this is also a time that symbolizes the congregation's resilience. Even after a period of exile, hardship, and uncertainty, the members came back together to rebuild the church community and see it thrive for centuries.

JUNE COOPER AND NANCY TAYLOR LEAD PILGRIMAGES TO ALABAMA

RSVP by June 15

Rev. June Cooper, Theologian in the City, and Rev Dr. Nancy Taylor, Senior Minister Emeritus, Old South Church, will lead two Pilgrimages to Montgomery and Selma, Alabama. The dates for the Pilgrimages are October 9-14 and October 15-20, 2026. The Pilgrimage, which is conducted at the epicenter of the Civil Rights Movement, offers a chance to build community, reflect on the past, address intergenerational racial trauma, and find ways to pursue healing & advance racial justice. Questions? Visit www.bostonfaithjustice.org.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH WEEKLY PUSHBACK LUCE

For more info and volunteer opportunities: www.lucemass.org

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

This week, we are highlighting Old South's ongoing commitment to LUCE, a coalition of immigrant-led, grassroots organizations across Massachusetts working to strengthen immigrant communities through coordinated support and collective action. LUCE operates a daily hotline in multiple languages to report suspected ICE or DHS activity, and they have built a strong network for dispatching community observers.

As we celebrate Pentecost as a day of sending, we are proud to uplift LUCE's work of equipping neighbors to go out into their communities to support and protect one another. This week, we affirm the importance of that work not only through a \$1,000 grant, but also by committing our time as a church to helping establish Old South as a LUCE supply hub for downtown Boston during our Pentecost Day of Service this Sunday, May 24th, at 10:00 AM in Mary Norton Hall.

THURSDAY NIGHT SUPPER CLUB

Thursdays, 7pm, season ends May 28

After worship, join us for Thursday Night Supper Club. Each week, folks can gather after worship for dinner and an informal small group hosted by some of our friendly and hospitable lay leaders.

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