



## Old South Church

*Copley Square, Boston*

*A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ*

*Gathered 1669*

May 26, 2024

# 1st Sunday after Pentecost

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

## GATHER

PRELUDE

*Prière*

Jacques Lemmens

\*HYMN 277

**Holy, Holy, Holy**

NICAEA

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

ONE: O give thanks to God, for they are good;

**MANY: Their steadfast love endures forever!**

ONE: It is better to take refuge in God than to put confidence in mortals.

**MANY: It is better to take refuge in God than to put confidence in  
princes.**

ONE: Let those who fear God say, "Their steadfast love endures forever."

**MANY: This is the day that God has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please greet those around you, wishing them "peace" or "the peace of Christ."*

SUNG RESPONSE

**All Are Welcome**

Harbold

The musical score is written on eight staves of music. The key signature is one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. 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 music features a mix of quarter, eighth, and half notes, with some rests and ties.

WELCOME

*\*Indicates all who are able may stand*

ANTHEM

I've Got the Joy

George Willis Cooke

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
down in my heart...

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy,  
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

I've got the peace that passeth understanding,  
down in my heart...

I've got the peace that passeth understanding,  
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,  
down in my heart...

I've got the love of Jesus, love of Jesus,  
down in my heart, down in my heart to stay.

And I'm so happy, so very happy;  
I've got the love of Jesus in my heart.

## ATTEND

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Phillipians 4:1-9

David Story

*Following the reading, children who wish to may meet childcare staff  
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SERMON

Love is the Best Thing We Do

Rachel J. Barton

\*HYMN 274

**Womb of Life, and Source of Being**

LADUE CHAPEL

# RESPOND

## \*CALL TO PRAYER

John M. Edgerton

ONE: God be with you.

**MANY: And also with you.**

ONE: May the Spirit of the Living God fall afresh on us.

**MANY: The Holy Spirit guides our way and ignites our hope.**

ONE: 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 **God, Be the Love to Search and Keep Me** GREEN TYLER

God, be the love to search and keep me; God, be the prayer to  
Walk-ing be - hind to hem my jour - ney, go - ing a - head to  
move my voice; God, be the strength to now up - hold me:  
light my way, and from be - neath, a - bove, and all ways:  
O Christ, sur - round me; O Christ, sur - round me.

Text: Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, 2004

Tune: GREEN TYLER, Richard Bruxvoort Colligan, 2004

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ashley J. Popperson



To give via ApplePay, GooglePay, or with a Credit Card,  
scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.  
You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.

OFFERTORY

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell

Draw us in the Spirit's tether; for when humbly, in your name,  
two or three are met together, you are in the midst of them:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,  
then with thanks to God the Giver break the bread and bless the cup,  
Alleluia! Alleluia! So bind now our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of you,  
that by caring, helping, giving, we may be disciples true.  
Alleluia! Alleluia! We may serve with faith anew.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 276

**Holy God, We Praise Your Name**

GROSSER GOTT

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Rachel J. Barton

SUNG RESPONSE

**Go Now in Peace**

DON BESIG

*(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.

The musical notation consists of four staves of music in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef, a key signature of one flat (B-flat), and a common time signature. It starts with an introduction of eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes. The second staff continues the melody with lyrics. The third staff continues with lyrics. The fourth staff concludes with a double bar line and lyrics.

Text: Don Besig and Nancy Price, 1988

Tune: Don Besig, 1988; adapt. Mitchell Crawford, 2022

POSTLUDE

*Trumpet Tune in D*

David N. Johnson



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

The Flowers today are given by Bettina Blake  
in loving memory of her parents, Betty & Billy Blake,  
who were married on March 26, 1927.

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



# **SUMMER AT OLD SOUTH**

## **June 2 | Confirmation and Youth Sunday**

Today, worship services are crafted and led by our teens. During Festival Worship we will celebrate and lift up this year's graduating High School Seniors, and members from this year's confirmation class will join Old South as members through the Rite of Confirmation.

## **June 9 | Pride Sunday**

Join us for Pride Worship at Old South Church! On Sunday, June 11th, we will gather as our most fabulous selves to worship the God who made us fearfully and wonderfully. Services at 9am and 11am. Rainbow Disco Coffee Hour at 10am.

## **June 16 | Liberation Sunday**

On this Sunday at Festival Worship, we will award the Open Door Award to J. Shia, founder of Boston-based Madhouse Motors, ([madhousemotors.com](http://madhousemotors.com)), and internationally recognized custom motorcycle builder, who is queering the world of motorcycling.

## **June 23 | Membership Sunday, 10am All Church Worship**

We'll gather as one family in faith at 10am to receive new members and celebrate our Long Term Members.

## **July 7-September 1 | Summer Worship**

Worship at 9am and 11am. In order to escape the heat, both services will be in the air-conditioned chapel.

## **August 25 | Middle Passage Sunday**

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. We will honor the lives of our African members from the 1600s, 1700s, & early 1800s on Middle Passage Sunday.

# WELCOME TO OLD SOUTH CHURCH

For LARGE print bulletins or children's bulletins, please ask an Usher.

Restrooms are available. Just ask!

An accessible, single-use restroom is available near Reception.

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 outfit itself for mission and ministry in the 21<sup>st</sup> century as a thriving church in the heart of Boston.

If you are interested in deepening your participation, or if you just love Old South, it's time to think about **membership**. For more information, contact Associate Minister Ashley Popperson at [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org)

## HEARING ASSISTANCE

Our hearing loop works directly with devices equipped with a "T-Coil." The sound is best if you sit further inside the pews, away from the aisles. The loop does not work in the upper galleries. If you would like to borrow a device paired with our system, please ask an usher.

## GARAGE PARKING VALIDATIONS

We have arrangements for discounted parking with two nearby garages for Old South Church worship or church business (excluding weddings and concerts). For more information check out [www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit](http://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit) or see the front desk.

## LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at [www.oldsouth.org/calendar](http://www.oldsouth.org/calendar) for a calendar of events, and the general website [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org) for more on the history and other information about this storied ship of faith!

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, *Assistant Minister* & *Nancy S. Taylor Fellow*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*  
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*  
George Sargeant, *Associate Organist* & *Choirmaster*  
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*  
Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*  
Aislin Kate Anderson, *Children's Choir Director* ❖ Juniper Mai, *Children's Choir Accompanist*

Amelia Gerrard, *Church Administrator* ❖ Tim Clafin, *Director of Operations*  
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*  
Emily Ross, *Archivist* ❖ Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*

Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director*  
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Ava Welling, *Sound Technician*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, & David Brode, *Sextons*  
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*  
Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, & George Sargeant, *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Bill Bulkeley, *Treasurer*  
Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*  
Christine Del Favero & Laurie Stickels, *Senior Deacons* ❖ Vicki Newman, *Pledge Secretary*

### 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.



# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## **SUMMER CHOIR BEGINS MAY 26**



Contact Mitchell Crawford at [mitchell@oldsouth.org](mailto:mitchell@oldsouth.org) for more information

Beginning on May 26 and continuing through Labor Day, Festival Choir will suspend Thursday rehearsals, inviting all who wish to join us Sunday mornings at 10am to rehearse music for that day's 11am Festival Worship.

## **CELEBRATE THE WEDDING OF JAMIE CHELEL AND CONNOR VIGEANT**

*Sunday, May 26, 2pm, in the Sanctuary*

Old South Church members and Choral Fellows Jamie Chelel and Connor Vigeant are getting married! The couple invites their Old South family to share in their joy and attend their ceremony. You can also watch the livestream by visiting [vimeo.com/event/4327416](https://vimeo.com/event/4327416).

## **CARLOS AOUN ORDINATION**

*Sunday, May 26, 10am, Wellesley Village Church*

Carlos Aoun, an Old South member, will be Ordained into Christian Ministry. A native of Beirut, Lebanon, he is a graduate of the Middle Eastern School of Theology and is now called to the Pastoral Residency Program at Wellesley. Our Theologian in Residence, Don Wells, who has served as his Ministerial Advisor, will be participating in the service and will present Carlos, along with Old South Deacon, Yoo-Kyung Kim, a Liturgical Stole as a gift from Old South. Blessings to him on the culmination of a long journey!

## **YOUTH SUNDAY**

*Sunday, June 2, at First and Festival Worship*

*Teacher Appreciation Reception 10am*

On the last day of our regular program year, Old South's Youth Group will lead worship. Come and join us as we experience worship services our teens have crafted. During Festival Worship we will celebrate and lift up this year's graduating High School Seniors, and members from this year's confirmation class will join Old South as members through the Rite of Confirmation. At 10am you're invited to a brief informal reception honoring this year's Church School and Community Hour teachers. Stop by the 2nd floor for pastries, fruit and coffee, and enjoy the company of your Old South family.

## PRIDE MONTH AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

### TRANS TWILIGHT: A SERVICE OF AFFIRMATION

*Thursday, June 6, 6pm*

Join us as we celebrate the sacredness of trans people. Together, we will repent of the harm done to the trans community by Christian churches and bless and affirm the trans people in our midst. Rev. Noah Brewer-Wallin (he/they) will be preaching.

### BOSTON PRIDE FOR THE PEOPLE

*Saturday, June 8*

Out of the church and into the streets! Old South will be hosting UCC churches from across the region to march together in Boston's Pride parade. We will gather in Gordon Chapel beginning at 10am. We will travel from there to gather at our designated formation area (TBD), which begins at 11am. The parade will finish at Beacon St and Park St, between the Public Garden and the Common. Old South Church will host a Hospitality Station under the Portico on Boylston street from 9am-1pm. Volunteer at [tinyurl.com/OSCPrideVolunteer24](https://tinyurl.com/OSCPrideVolunteer24).

### PRIDE WORSHIP WITH RAINBOW DISCO COFFEE HOUR

*Sunday, June 9, 2024, First and Festival Worship*

Join us for Pride Worship at Old South Church! We will gather as our most fabulous selves to worship the God who made us fearfully and wonderfully. Services at 9am and 11am. Rainbow Disco Coffee Hour at 10am & 12pm.

### LIBERATION SUNDAY - OPEN DOOR AWARD TO J. SHIA

*Sunday, June 16, 2024 at 11am*

On this Sunday at Festival Worship, we will award the Open Door Award to J. Shia, founder of Boston-based Madhouse Motors, ([madhousemotors.com](https://madhousemotors.com)), and internationally recognized custom motorcycle builder, who is queering the world of motorcycling.

### PRIDE SHIRTS FOR PURCHASE

Go to [tinyurl.com/2024PrideShirt](https://tinyurl.com/2024PrideShirt) to order

Our Queerly Beloved pride shirts are now available - made to order and mailed to your home! You can choose from different styles (t-shirts, hoodies, etc.), including youth sizes, and many color options for each style.



## OLD SOUTH SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Go to [oldsouth.org/summer](https://oldsouth.org/summer) to learn more



There are a lot of amazing Sundays coming this Summer. See the adjacent page for our Pride Schedule, join us on June 16 for Liberation Sunday, June 23 for Membership Sunday, and August 25th for Middle Passage Sunday. First and Festival Worship services during July and August will both be held in the air conditioned comfort of the Gordon Chapel.

## GREEN TIP: GREENWASHING SINGLE USE PLASTIC RECYCLING

Go to [tinyurl.com/24Greenwashingvideo](https://tinyurl.com/24Greenwashingvideo) to watch Green America's video about issues with plastic recycling. As public outrage about single-use plastics and pollution crisis has grown, everyone is grappling with how to reduce their plastic footprint. Meanwhile, misleading claims and greenwashing by corporations pose challenges to anyone trying to make sustainable choices. Go to [www.greenamerica.org/ways-ditch-plastic-your-daily-life](https://www.greenamerica.org/ways-ditch-plastic-your-daily-life) to learn more about ditching single use plastic from your own life from Green America.

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sundays, 10am, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Phillis Wheatley Room

Go to [tinyurl.com/OSC10amStudy](https://tinyurl.com/OSC10amStudy) to Zoom, password: BibleStudy

Delve into the day's scripture passage heard in worship. This no-homework Bible study delights in taking a scholarly look at ancient texts. Don't leave your questions at the door; we need them.

## HEARD IT AT COUNCIL

Go to [tinyurl.com/May24OSCCouncil](https://tinyurl.com/May24OSCCouncil) to read the full report

May brought discussions about visions for the future, the Associate Minister Search update, membership, and reports from the Christian Service and Outreach and Stewardship Committees. Find out what happened in this month's Heard it at Council report by our church historian, Kate Silfen.



## **VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP:**

*Next service Sunday, June 9, 5 p.m. on Zoom, [tinyurl.com/OSCHealing](https://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.

## **TWILIGHT WORSHIP**

### **NEW SERIES: ORDINARY WISDOM: LIFE TOGETHER AS THE CHURCH**

*Thursdays, 6pm, in the Gordon Chapel*

Ecclesiastes 3:12 says, "there is nothing better for people than to be happy and to do good while they live." In this four week series, we'll be making the most of our transition to Ordinary Time by digging into what it means to live well together. Join us for a Spring-time jaunt in the Books of Wisdom: Ecclesiastes, Job and Proverbs, and together we'll take a peek at what it looks like to live a whole and full life.

## **CONNECTIONS CLASS**

*Sunday, June 2, 12pm in the Crawford Library*

To be a member of Old South Church is to enter the company of Revolutionary Era heroes, abolitionists, suffragettes, anti-poverty crusaders, and poets. Our saints include Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Phillis Wheatley... and maybe you! Want to learn more about the life of this community of faith and break bread with other newcomers and church members? Join our Connections Info Session! Email [Ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:Ashley@oldsouth.org) more info and to sign up.

## **WEEKLY WORSHIP**

**Join us in person, on Vimeo, Facebook, and YouTube**

**TWILIGHT Worship**, 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**, the second Sunday at 5:00 p.m. via Zoom



*To give via ApplePay, GooglePay, or with a Credit Card,  
scan the QR code with your smartphone camera.*

*You can also Text 44-321 and enter OSC to make a gift.*

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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.

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Old South Church in Boston ❖ 645 Boylston Street, Boston 02116 ❖ [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org)