



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

November 10, 2024

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Prelude on TRYGGARE KAN INGEN VARA

Dale Wood, *arr.*

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,

Though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;

Though its waters roar and foam,

though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;

God speaks, the earth melts.

The Lord of hosts is with us;

the God of Jacob is our refuge.

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

*HYMN 12

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

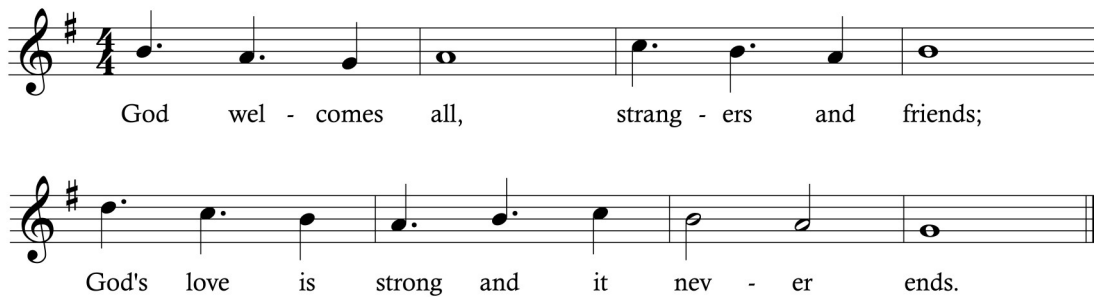
ELLACOMBE

*INVOCATION

*PASSING THE PEACE

*As a sign of our reconciliation with God and each other,
please greet those around you, saying "peace" or "the peace of Christ."*

SUNG RESPONSE *Seated*



God wel - comes all, strang - ers and friends;
God's love is strong and it nev - er ends.

Text: John L. Bell, 2008

Music: South African song; trans. John L. Bell, 2008

WELCOME

ANTHEM

O God of Every Nation

Calvin Hampton

O God of every nation, of every race and land,
redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand.
Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled,
in love and mercy guide us, and heal our strife torn world.

From search for wealth and power and scorn of truth and right,
from trust in bombs that shower destruction through the night,
from pride of race and nation and blindness to your way,
deliver every nation, eternal God, we pray!

Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release
from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase.
When hope and courage falter, Lord, let your voice be heard;
with faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.

Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease,
when hatred and division give way to love and peace,
till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign,
and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE Psalm 146 Laura Walker Dunn

*HYMN 487 **Surely No One Can Be Safer** Swedish Folk Melody
*During the hymn, children who wish to may meet childcare staff
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SCRIPTURE Ephesians 6:10-20

SERMON What Can I Do? John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 494 **We Who Would Valiant Be** ST. DUNSTAN'S

*CALL TO PRAYER Rachel J. Barton

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

One Voice

Ruth Moody

Zoë Krohne, Adriana Repetto, and Sara Mitnik, *vocalists*

This is the sound of one voice:
one spirit, one voice,
the sound of one who makes a choice.
This is the sound of one voice.

This is the sound of voices two:
the sound of me singing with you,
helping each other to make it through.
This is the sound of voices two.

This is the sound of voices three:
singing together in harmony,
surrendering to the mystery.
This is the sound of voices three.

This is the sound of all of us
singing with love and the will to trust.
Leave the rest behind— it will turn to dust.
This is the sound of all of us.

This is the sound of one voice:
one people, one voice,
a song for every one of us.
This is the sound of one voice.

RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ashley J. Poppersen



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

How Can I Keep from Singing

Greg Gilpin, *arr.*

*My life flows on in endless song; how can I keep from singing?
No storm can shake my inmost calm; how can I keep from singing?*

What though the tempest around me roars,
I know the truth it liveth.
What though the darkness around me close,
songs in the night it giveth.

I hear the real though far-off hymn that hails a new creation;
it sounds an echo in my soul above earth's lamentation.

(Oh to the rock!) To the rock I'm clinging.
(Oh to the rock!) How can I stop singing?
(Oh to the rock!) I'm clinging to the rock now.
(Oh to the rock!) Hear me singing!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 82

Go My Children With My Blessing

AR HYD Y NOS

*BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Grand Chœur in G

Théodore Salomé

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

Today's flowers are donated
by the Music Ministry of Old South
in memory of Harry Huff.
We are ever grateful for his leadership
and the warmth of his friendship
during his time as Minister of Music (2007-2016).
May his memory be a blessing.

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



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 8:45am-12:30pm every Sunday and Church School at 10am. For questions about our children's 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

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 & concerts). 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, *Assistant Minister*
Gracie Paterson, *Nancy S. Taylor Leadership Fellow* ❖ Kat Woodard, *Seminarian*

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*

Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Twilight Worship*

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, *Director of Administration* ❖ Rebecca Pasipanodya, *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, & William Wei, *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*

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

COMMUNITY GATHERING

Sunday, November 10, 10am, Mary Norton Hall

We invite you to join Rev. John this Sunday at 10:00 a.m. for a time of reflection, prayer, and connection in small groups. This will be a chance to process together, share, and support one another in community. Enjoy coffee, tea, and snacks as we gather and take time to be with one another in the midst.

GODLY PLAY FOR FAMILIES

Sundays November 10 and December 22, 10am

This year we're going to practice Godly Play in a new way -- offering a gathering for families of preschoolers, infants, and toddlers once a month during the 10am hour on Sundays. Families will gather in the regular childcare room on the 3rd floor to hear a story together, to wonder a bit about the story, and then to have some work time to play around with the ideas and stories we heard. This is a great way for families who have not yet become regulars at church school to begin hearing the stories and practicing together. Families of any age are welcome - though this is geared towards preschool age 4 and under. In addition - - parents are not required to attend, but we suspect most will want to.

COFFEE WITH THE QUEERS

Sunday, November 10, 10:15am

We'll gather after First Worship in Rev Ashley's Office with Old South's most fabulous! Bring a friend!

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP:

*Next service Sunday, November 10, 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.

B.A.A. HALF MARATHON

Sunday, November 10, 2024, more information at www.baa.org/races/boston-half

The Boston Athletic Association will be running their annual Half Marathon event. There will be no parking on Boylston from Dartmouth to Clarendon on the Trinity Church side of the street to allow for bus transportation to and from the race route. See the link above for more info on street closures.

YOGA & MEDITATION THIS SUNDAY

Sundays at 10am in the basement Club Room

Old South is a gentle space to nourish our spiritual body, but sometimes it's the physical body crying out or subtly seeking our attention. You are invited to join a weekly yoga and meditation small group during the 10 o'clock hour (between the 9 and 11am services) in the Club Room. Please bring a journal and a mat (or just let us know if you need either or both provided) to this time for breath, movement, and fellowship. We look forward to welcoming you. Questions? Email Amy Coe.

FAMILY BOOK STUDY THIS FALL

Old South families (and interested adults) have read indigenous author Linda Coombs' young readers book: *Colonization and the Wampanoag Story*. Here is a chance to interact with the author and another to tour the Congregational Library. Questions? Email Kate at children@oldsouth.org

Thursday, November 14: Author Talk with Linda Coombs

Please note -- our author talk with Linda Coombs has been rescheduled. It's not too late to register! Go to tinyurl.com/OSC2024CoombsTalk for registration

Sunday Nov 17th, 12:30pm: Tour of the Congregational Library

RSVP for the Old South Tour of the Congregational Library: tinyurl.com/OSCLibraryTour.

RIDES MINISTRY

Are you a safe driver who has some flexibility in your schedule? Sign up to be part of our Rides Ministry: offering Old Southerners rides to medical appointments, errands, and to church. Email ashley@oldsouth.org to sign up or learn more.

HEARD IT AT COUNCIL

Read the full article at www.oldsouth.org/news/heard-it-council-october-2024

The Council discussed strategic planning, created a committee to reimagine the church leadership structure, location of future retreats, and more. Learn more at the link above!

VOLUNTEER FOR *common cathedral* LUNCH

Sunday, December 8, Join us for any part of the day. All are welcome, including families.

There are many ways to participate!

- Make bag lunches in OSC Mary Norton kitchen. 9:00-10:30am
- Meet at Boston Common (near Park St station) to unload and hand out lunches to the common cathedral congregation. Join for lunch from 12:00-1:00pm.
- Attend outdoor Common Cathedral service. 1:00-2:00 PM

Contact Carolyn Clark at carolyneclark@comcast.net if you would like to participate in any of these activities. See commoncathedral.org for more about this organization's important work. Old South Church provides funds to Common Cathedral each year.

GREEN TIP: *Greening Thanksgiving* - BUY LOCAL IN-SEASON PRODUCE

Including seasonal fruits and vegetables in your holiday recipes is a low-carbon way to celebrate Thanksgiving. Seasonal foods include produce that is put on shelves and purchased around the same time it is harvested from local growers, ensuring peak freshness and taste as well as lower transport miles and emissions from farm to grocery store (known as "food miles"). Use the Seasonal Food Guide to find what's in season near you. To directly support your local farmers, consider rallying up the family for a fun trip to the farmer's market. More info at Green Business Benchmark. More info at Green Business Benchmark (tinyurl.com/Greenthanksgivingtips2024).

DECEMBER FLOWER DONATIONS: GRATITUDE FOR THE HOLIDAYS

This Christmas season, we will be doing live floral bouquets for the first few weeks of December. This is the perfect opportunity to thank a friend or loved one who has been especially meaningful to you this year. By donating flowers, you can share a message of love or gratitude that will be displayed in the Sunday bulletin. The price of donations is \$100. If donation price is a barrier, please talk to us and let us know; we would be happy to assist. We will be accepting flower donations for the first four weeks of December. This is separate from our larger Christmas Eve bulletin, which donates proceeds to the Allston Brighton Food Pantry. If you are interested in reserving a date, contact Amelia Gerard at amelia@oldsouth.org with your date preferences and message for the bulletin. As always, I am grateful for all of you. -Amelia Gerrard, Director of Administration.



THURSDAY NIGHT CHURCH

Thursdays, 6 p.m.

Thursday Night Church is here! After a year of dreaming, planning and working, we're excited to introduce our redesigned Thursday service. Thursday Night Church is a worship service where the music is contemporary, the space is open-hearted and in-the-round, and the preaching is focused on how we can be the church together in the world.

THURSDAY NIGHT SUPPER CLUB

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, 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.

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