

## Old South Church

*Copley Square, Boston*

*A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ*

*Gathered 1669*

May 5, 2024 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

# Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

## GATHER

PRELUDE

Aria

Flor Peeters

\*HYMN 47

**O Christ Jesus, Sent from Heaven** WESTMINSTER ABBEY

*The text was authored by Senior Minister Emeritus, Dr. James W. Crawford.*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

In the beginning of the good news, before any miracle was wrought,  
before any word was proclaimed.

**In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee  
and was baptized by John in the Jordan.**

And just as he was coming up out of the water,  
he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him.

**And a voice came from heaven,**

**‘You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.’**

Since we are baptized with a baptism like Christ’s,  
may we rise with a resurrection like Christ’s.

**Since we take on the name of Christ, may we live with the peace of Christ.**

*\*Indicates all who are able may stand*

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Follow Jesus

Dennis Allen, *arr.*

THE OLD SOUTH CHILDREN’S CHOIR

Aislin Kate Anderson, *director* ❖ Juniper Mai, *accompanist*

Sweetly, Lord, have we heard thee calling, “Come, follow me,”  
and we see where thy footprints falling lead us to thee.  
Footprints of Jesus that make the pathway glow;  
we will follow the steps of Jesus where'er they go.

O God, you are my God, and I will ever praise you.  
I will seek you in the morning and I will learn to walk in your ways;  
and step by step you'll lead me, and I will follow you all of my days.

**LISTEN**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

**Sida Jade Plantz**

*Child of Christina and Benjamin Plantz*

BLESSING THE WATER

John M. Edgerton

## PRESENTATION AND INTRODUCTION

### LITANY OF BAPTISM

We are gathered to present Sida Jade Plantz 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 Sida 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, Christina and Benjamin, parents, assume your primary responsibility for fulfilling these expectations by growing with Sida 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? Will you agree to guide Sida 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?

*Parents: We happily and genuinely accept this serious duty.*

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

**We do, for she belongs to us as well.**

Then, may God be with us.

**God help us. Amen.**

BAPTISM

CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME Kurt Gaertner, *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.**

SCRIPTURE John 10:7-18 Laura Walker Dunn

\*HYMN 252 **Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us** BRADBURY  
*During the hymn, children that wish may meet childcare staff  
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor.*

SERMON John M. Edgerton

\*HYMN 247 **My Shepherd Is the Living God** CONSOLATION

## RESPOND

\*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

Jubilate in C

Benjamin Britten

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:  
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:  
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;  
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving,  
and into his courts with praise:  
be thankful unto him, and speak good of his Name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting:  
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be: world without end. Amen.

*(Though often ascribed masculine or feminine pronouns in prose and poetry,  
God is unbound by human concepts of gender.)*

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

The King of Love My Shepherd Is

Edward Bairstow

The King of Love my Shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.

Where streams of living water flow my ransomed soul he leadeth,  
and where the verdant pastures grow with food celestial feedeth.

In death's dark vale I fear no ill, with thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
thy rod and staff my comfort still, thy cross before to guide me.

Thou spread'st a table in my sight; thy unction grace bestoweth;  
and O what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth.

Perverse and foolish oft I strayed; but yet in love he sought me,  
and on his shoulder gently laid, and home rejoicing brought me.

And so through all the length of days thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house for ever.

\*DOXOLOGY

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*The text was authored by Senior Minister Emeritus, Dr. Nancy S. Taylor.*

Praise God, whose man - y names a - bound, Our Judge, our Rock, our Ho - ly  
 Ground. Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia! Our Home, our All, Earth's Maj - es -  
 ty, Love, Spir - it, Light and Mys - ter - y! Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le -  
 lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia, Al - le - lu - ia!

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GODSPEED TO MADISON

\*HYMN 81

**God Be with You**

GOD BE WITH YOU

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Madison T. Chau

POSTLUDE

Marche, Louis-James-Alfred Lefébure-Wely  
Op. 122, No. 4



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

The flowers today are given by Laura Walker Dunn,  
in loving memory of my mother, Jean Engelhart Walker.

*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

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 [asbley@oldsouth.org](mailto:asbley@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*  
Madison T. Chau, *Seminary Fellow*

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

## THE COMMUNITY HOUR FORUM

Sundays, 10am, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor Mary Norton Hall,  
[tinyurl.com/OSCForums](https://tinyurl.com/OSCForums) for Zoom link, password: Community

This casual, no-commitment, come-when-you-can forum hosts series on a variety of topics. Clergy, congregation members, and special guests share in leading sessions.

- **Sunday, May 5 - OLD SOUTH @ THE MOVIES** Join Old South member Tish Dragonette for a discussion about Boston based movies The Holdovers and American Fiction. We'll look at the beauty of the flawed main characters and our own beautiful flawed Boston as well. (Both movies are available for streaming online)



## PHILLIS WHEATLEY SUNDAY

Sunday, May 12, First and Festival Worship

Join us for our annual celebration of one of the saints of this church: Phillis Wheatley Peters. Stolen from Africa, Phillis suffered the Middle Passage and was sold into slavery, yet triumphed through her awesome wit and the mighty power of her pen. Don your Sunday best, come to church and join us as we promenade to the Boston Women's Memorial to fete Phillis Wheatley on the occasion of her birthday. Worship services are at 9am and 11am, and promenades are at 10am and 12pm.

Calling all cupcakes makers and buyers -- please sign up to bring cupcakes to share. Cupcakes will be served after we promenade to Phillis' statue at the Women's Memorial on the Commonwealth Ave mall. Please direct all questions to Kate Nintcheu [children@oldsouth.org](mailto:children@oldsouth.org). To sign up go to [tinyurl.com/OSC2024Cupcakes](https://tinyurl.com/OSC2024Cupcakes)

## VOLUNTEER FOR COMMON CATHEDRAL LUNCH

Sunday, May 19, 8:30am —2:30 stay as long as you can

For info or to commit to any part of the day,

email Carolyn Clark at [carolyneclark@comcast.net](mailto:carolyneclark@comcast.net)

The Christian Service and Outreach Committee is assembling a team of volunteers to help prepare lunches in the Old South Church kitchen and serve them to the common cathedral homeless congregation on the Boston Common. The prep work for making 120+ sandwich lunches will begin at 8:30am, transported to the Boston Common by 12:00 noon, and served to guests at 12:30pm. The outdoor Common Cathedral service begins at 1:00pm and lasts until around 2:30pm. Visit [commoncathedral.org](https://commoncathedral.org) to learn more about this organization's important work. *common cathedral* is one of Old South's annual grantees.



## **PILGRIMAGE TO SEARCH FOR TRUTH AND JUSTICE – Montgomery and Selma, Alabama**

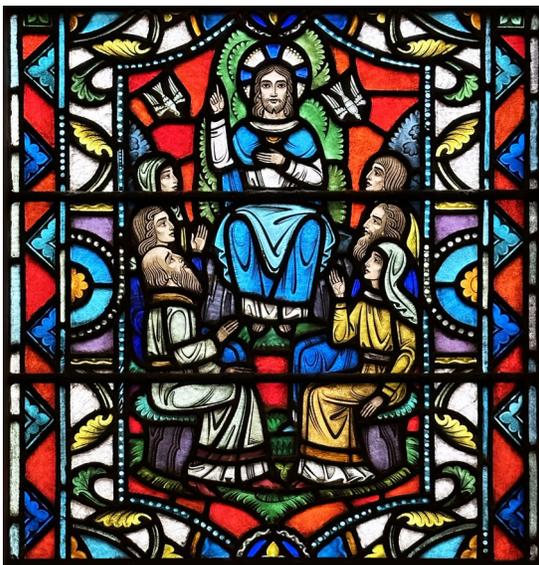
*A transformation experience to understand the Civil Rights Movement  
and ourselves led by Rev. June Cooper and Dr. Marrey Embers*

*Oct. 14-17, approx. cost \$800 (plus transportation & lodging)*

*Register at [tinyurl.com/2024SelmaPilgrimage](https://tinyurl.com/2024SelmaPilgrimage)*

*For more information contact [junercooper@comcast.net](mailto:junercooper@comcast.net).*

Pilgrimage highlights include: visits to the Equal Justice Initiative's sites including The Legacy Museum, the National Memorial for Peace and Justice, and the new Freedom Monument Sculpture Park; the Mothers of Gynecology Monument and the More Up Campus; walking the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma; and daily reflection time with Pilgrimage facilitators.



## **JOIN THE MARY NORTON SOCIETY**

Sincere thanks to all of you who have included Old South Church in your estate planning. That makes you a member of the Mary Norton Society, which now numbers more than 115 people. Invitations to our annual members' gathering were sent this week. Please contact Amelia Gerrard at [amelia@oldsouth.org](mailto:amelia@oldsouth.org) if:

- You are already a Mary Norton Society member and have not received any recent communications from us.
- You want to make a bequest to Old South Church in your retirement or estate plans, and have not done so already. We look forward to welcoming you.

## SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

Sundays, 10am, 4th Floor Phillis Wheatley Room

Go to [tinyurl.com/OSC23-24BibleStudy](https://tinyurl.com/OSC23-24BibleStudy) 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.

## THROUGH THE BIBLE

Thursdays, 7pm, 4th Floor Phillis Wheatley Room

Go to [tinyurl.com/23-24ThroughBible](https://tinyurl.com/23-24ThroughBible) to Zoom. Password: Psalter

Join us as we journey at a reflective and thorough pace through the Hebrew Bible. We are studying the Book of Jeremiah.



## HEARD IT AT COUNCIL

Go to [tinyurl.com/OSCCouncilApril2024](https://tinyurl.com/OSCCouncilApril2024) to read the report.

April brought discussions about church finances, the Assistant Minister Search Committee, Council goals for the future, and staff evaluations. Find out what happened in this month's Heard it at Council report by our church historian, Kate Silfen.

## JOIN THE OLD SOUTH FORUM (Google Group)

Ever find yourself thinking, "Old Southerners should know about this!", but not sure how to spread the word? The Old South Forum is an informal email listserv that members and friends use to share relevant events, information and ideas. To join, visit [groups.google.com/g/old-south-church-forum](https://groups.google.com/g/old-south-church-forum) and click "Join group".

## JOIN OUR USHER TEAM

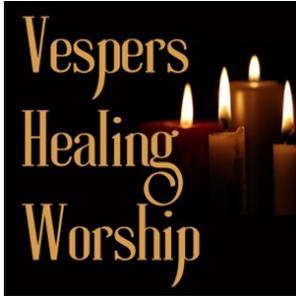
Go to [oldsouth.org/hospitality](https://oldsouth.org/hospitality) to sign up

Looking to meet more people at Old South? Wondering how you can contribute to our wide open door? Think about serving as an usher! Ushering is an easy way to get more involved at Old South. Everyone is welcome, and you only need to be friendly and willing to help. Email [hospitality@oldsouth.org](mailto:hospitality@oldsouth.org) for info.

become  
an  
usher  
at  
Old  
South  
Church

help make our welcomes  
wider and our doors more  
open





## **VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP:**

*Next service Sunday, May 12, 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**

### **REACH OUT YOUR HAND: BECOMING THE EARLY CHURCH**

*Thursdays, 6pm, in the Gordon Chapel*

When Jesus appeared to his astounded disciples, he told Thomas to reach out his hand and touch his side. Join us in Eastertide for a series focused on folks who did just that: reached out their hands in faith to build something creative, diverse, and new together. We'll learn from Thomas, Phoebe, Lydia and other people and teams who reached out - to God, to others, and to the world - so that all might encounter the living God who is love. Email Rachel Barton with any questions.

## **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)