



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

July 7, 2024

Seventh Sunday after Pentecost

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

MATERNA

Calvin Hampton, *arr.*

*HYMN 527

We Offer Christ

CHARTERHOUSE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

The kingdom of God already here.

The kingdom of God is on the way.

A mustard seed that someone sowed in a field.

**It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it grows,
birds make nests in its branches.**

Yeast that a woman took and mixed in
with three measures of flour until all was leavened.

**Treasure hidden in a field, which someone found and hid;
then joyfully sells all he has and buys the field.**

A merchant in search of fine pearls; on finding one of great value,
sells all of his possessions and buys the pearl.

The kingdom of God already here.

The kingdom of God is on the way.

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

SUNG RESPONSE

All Are Welcome

Tim Harbold

The musical score is written on seven staves in a 3/4 time signature with a key signature of one flat (Bb). 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 score includes various musical notations such as quarter notes, eighth notes, and rests.

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.

WELCOME

ANTHEM

City of God

Dan Schutte

A new day is dawning for all those who weep.
The people in darkness have seen a great light.
The Lord of our longing has conquered the night.

Let us build the city of God.
May our tears be turned into dancing!
For the Lord, our light and our love,
has turned the night into day!

The One who has loved us has brightened our way.
The Lord of all kindness has called us to be
a light for his people to set their hearts free.

Let us walk in his light, his children, one and all.
O comfort my people; make gentle your words.
Proclaim to my city the day of her birth.

Proclaim the good tidings that all may rejoice!

ATTEND

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 13:44

Jack Millard

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

SERMON

I Wondered

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 532

Come Labor On

ORA LABORA

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Rachel J. Barton

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.

PRAYER RESPONSE

**God, Be the Love
to Search and Keep Me**

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

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 522

I Love to Tell the Story

HANKEY

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

SUNG RESPONSE

Go Now in Peace

(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.

Text: Don Besig and Nancy Price, 1988
Tune: Don Besig, 1988; adapt. Mitchell Crawford, 2022

POSTLUDE

Komm, Heiliger Geist, Herre Gott

G.P. Telemann



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

The Flowers today are given
in loving memory of Elaine c. Huber
By Nancy Richardson.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,
begins 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 21st 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

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 or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of events, and the general website 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

YOGA & MEDITATION SESSIONS

Sundays, 10am, in Mary Norton Hall

How are you? How is your physical body? 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, so beautifully knit together and fearfully wonderful, are invited to Yoga and Meditation, starting June 30 during the 10 o'clock hour in Mary Norton Hall. Journals and welcoming space provided, BYOM (...mat) or email amyecoe@gmail.com if you need one provided or have any questions.

SUMMER CHOIR

Contact Mitchell Crawford at mitchell@oldsouth.org for more information

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.

SUMMER SUNDAYS FAMILY FUN | OLDSOUTH.ORG/SUMMER

July 7: Creative Coffee Hour: Sidewalk Chalk, bubbles, and craft supplies available wherever coffee hour is served.



July 14: Suminagashi Paper Dying : Suminagashi or "floating ink" is the process of marbling plain paper with water and ink to transform it into something vibrant and colorful.

OPEN NEWBURY STREET

Every Sunday throughout the summer

More information at tinyurl.com/OpenNewbury2024

When planning your trip to church, please be aware that Newbury Street will be car-free every Sunday throughout the summer.



OSC AT THE BALL GAME!

July 14, 2024, 1:35pm RSVP: <https://tinyurl.com/OSCBaseball>

Join us for a Summer Sunday Ball Game! Watch the Red Sox take on the Kansas City Royals with your favorite church buds. Tickets are \$50 for adults and free for kids. Got questions? Talk to Rachel (rachel@oldsouth.org).



common cathedral SUMMERTIME BOSTON WARM TO MEET AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Fridays 8am-12 noon beginning June 7

Continuing our long time partnership with *common cathedral*, we will host *Boston Warm* every Friday this summer in the Club Room. Our relationship with *common cathedral* spans many years as a regular beneficiary of our Christian Service and Outreach grants. Old South Church worked with a coalition of religious leaders to launch the "Boston Warm" daytime programs in late 2014, when the bridge to the Long Island Shelter was closed, abruptly halting access to the shelter and services. Boston Warm drop-in daytime program has been running for almost 10 years. Visit commoncathedral.org/about to learn more!

VOLUNTEER TO READ SCRIPTURE

Go to tinyurl.com/Jun-AugReadersOSC to sign up

Reading the Bible in community is an essential Christian spiritual practice. Each week at Festival Worship a volunteer reads scripture before the sermon. People of all ages are encouraged to volunteer! Questions? Email ashley@oldsouth.org.



DONATE FLOWERS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

Go to tinyurl.com/2024FlowersOSC to sign up for a Sunday.

August 11, September 8, and more available

Would you like to give the flowers one Sunday - in memory or in honor of a special person or event? Donate \$100 with a message, and your dedication will be included in our Sunday bulletin. Use the link above to sign up and contact Amelia Gerrard at amelia@oldsouth.org with any questions.

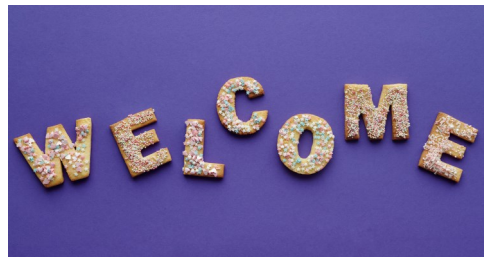
JOIN OUR HOSPITALITY TEAM

Go to oldsouth.org/hospitality to sign up

Looking to meet more people here at Old South? Wondering how you can contribute to our wide open door? Think about serving as an usher, welcomer, or coffee hour host. Joining the hospitality team is an easy way to get more involved at Old South. Everyone is welcome, training is provided, and you only need to be friendly and willing to help. Email hospitality@oldsouth.org for info.

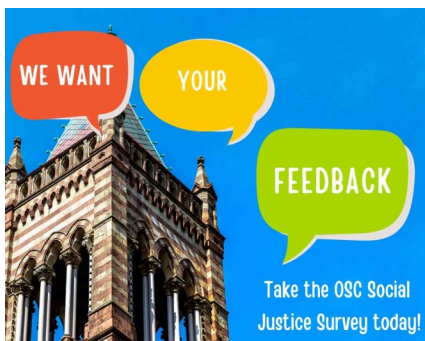
WELCOMING NEW NEIGHBORS

The flow of immigrants to Massachusetts continues to strain the state Emergency Shelter system and people are sleeping at Logan Airport and being transported back and forth daily to Welcome/Day centers and supporting congregations. **The Old South New Neighbors Task Force is organizing to help.** There are two ways to support this effort:



1) Donate blankets or roller suitcases: We will be collecting blankets (new or gently used but clean, twin or double) for overnight use, and midsize roller suitcases in good condition to move personal items back and forth. A drop-off box will be available in the Narthex on Sundays and in the coat room next to the Gordon Chapel entry on weekdays. We also need assistance delivering donations to Quincy. If you can help or have questions, please contact Margaret Sablove mfsablove@gmail.com.

2) Starting July 27 we will be hosting families one Saturday a month. There will be all day programming for adults and children that will include English lessons, cooking, play, crafts, excursions. This is an opportunity to be involved with neighbors from different cultures and make them feel welcome. If you'd like to join us, contact Carol Boggs clboggs1@gmail.com.



TAKE THE OLD SOUTH SOCIAL JUSTICE SURVEY

Go to <https://bit.ly/OldSouthSurvey>

The Christian Service & Outreach Committee is leading a rethink of how we pursue social justice as a congregation. Help us love and serve our city by sharing what you think and how you want to serve. The survey will take 5-10 minutes to complete.



VESPER HEALING WORSHIP:

Next service Sunday, July 14, 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.

TWILIGHT WORSHIP CURRENT SERIES:

STICK AROUND AND STAY: PARABLES, PSALMS AND PROPHETS

Thursdays, 6pm, in the Gordon Chapel

Disciples most often got in on the gospel by sticking around and asking questions. Join us for a series digging into some of the more curious and confusing parts of the Bible.

JOIN OUR USHER TEAM

Looking to meet more people at Old South? Wondering how you can contribute to our wide open door? Think about serving as an usher, welcomer, or coffee hour host. Joining the hospitality team is an easy way to get more involved at Old South. Everyone is welcome and training is provided. Email hospitality@oldsouth.org for info.

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.

VESPER 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