



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

May 4, 2025

11:00a.m.

Third Sunday of Easter

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Prelude in G Major, Op. 37, No. 2

Felix Mendelssohn

*HYMN 304

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

CORONATION

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel J. Barton

We will know Christ when He returns.

We will know Him right on sight.

He won't be heralded by any din of drums.

He won't wear any crown or take on lofty airs.

We will know Christ by the peace in our hearts.

We will know Christ by the peace between all people.

A peace we have never known.

Yet, a peace that is always inside us.

**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

Fanfare and Intrada
THE OLD SOUTH RINGERS
Peter Coulombe, *director*

Jason Krug

LISTEN

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Luke 19:41-48

Laura Walker Dunn

*HYMN 543

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

GERMANY

*During the hymn, children that wish may meet childcare staff
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.*

SCRIPTURE

Acts 3:11-16

SERMON

What I Have, I Give You

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 222

My Song Is Love Unknown

RHOSYMEDRE

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Gracie Paterson

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

O Love

Elaine Hagenberg

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
that in thy ocean depths its flow
may richer, fuller be.

O Joy that seeks me through the pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and feel the promise is not vain,
that morn shall tearless be.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rachel J. Barton



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

If you're new to Old South,
scan the QR code with your
smartphone camera
to tell us more about yourself.



OFFERTORY

All Creatures of Our God and King

Jay Althouse, *arr.*

All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

O burning sun with golden beam
and silver moon with softer gleam,
sing your praises! Alleluia!

O rushing wind and breezes soft,
O clouds that ride the winds aloft,
sing your praises! Alleluia!

O rising morn, in praise rejoice,
O lights of evening, find a voice.
O praise God! Alleluia!

Let all things their creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness;
O praise God! Alleluia!
The flowers and fruits that in you grow,
let them your glory also show.
O praise God! Alleluia!

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God Creator, God the Son,
praise God the Spirit, three in one!

O praise God! Alleluia!

Praise the Lord! Alleluia!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 42

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

AZMON

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Grave

Johann Sebastian Bach

From the Fantasia in G Major, BWV 572



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

The flowers today are given by Amelia Gerard
in honor of their mom, Michelle, and grandfather, Dan,
for creating a loving environment for them to grow and flourish in.
Thank you for always showing up and showing the magic of family.

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

Old South Church *in* Boston invites you
to its *Signature Services and Events* during the coming year.

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

November 2, 2025 | 11AM

In a solemn service of sacred music, we gather to name and remember our own beloved dead who now rest from their labors in the arms of God.

MEETING HOUSE SUNDAY

November 23, 2025 | 11AM

We return to our ancestral home, the Old South Meeting House at Washington & Milk Streets, to give thanks for God's many blessings and the rich history of our faith.

CANDLELIGHT CHRISTMAS EVE

December 24, 2025

Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM

Lessons and Carols | 8PM

Carols and Communion | 11PM

HOLY WEEK 2026

Palm Sunday — March 29 | 9AM & 11AM

Maundy Thursday — April 2 | 6PM

Good Friday — April 3 | 7PM

EASTER SUNDAY

April 5, 2026 | 9AM & 11AM

The triumph of the Christian story of resurrection informs a service of worship that is characterized by joyous celebration.

MARATHON SUNDAY

April 20, 2026 | 9AM & 11AM

Hundreds of marathoners join us for worship, where we will pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special "Blessing of the Athletes."

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'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, *Associate Minister for Transformation*
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 Thursday Night Church*
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* ❖ 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 and guide.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOMING THE STRANGER: The Realities of Immigration Today

Sunday, May 4, 10am, Second Floor Mary Norton Hall

or Zoom, tinyurl.com/2025ForumOSC, password community

The U.S. immigration system is often described as “broken,” but who does it serve, and who does it harm? From asylum backlogs to detention and deportation, our immigration system shapes the lives of millions—yet few understand its full impact. Join us for a conversation on the realities of immigration today, the forces behind these policies, and what can be done to create change. Jonathan Goldman, Executive Director of the Student Clinic for Immigrant Justice (SCIJ), will also share how young leaders are stepping up to provide legal support and organize for immigrant justice.

RETIRED AND READY

Sunday, May 4, 12:30pm, fourth floor Phyllis Wheatley Room

Are you interested in exploring new activities with members of our congregation? Does visiting the Audubon’s Nature Center, attending a Handel and Haydn concert or touring Mass MoCA appeal to you? Bring your ideas for outings and events and join us! Contact Charlotte Simpson at char.r.simpson@gmail.com for more info.

GODSPEED TO KAT WOODARD AND GRACIE PATERSON

Thursday, May 8 and Sunday, May 18

This academic year, Old South has been blessed by Kat Woodard as our Seminarian and Gracie Paterson, our Nancy S. Taylor Fellow. We are grateful for their leadership and contributions to Old South. Kat’s last Thursday will be May 8. Gracie’s last Sunday will be May 18. Come celebrate with us and bless them on their way!

VOLUNTEER TO HELP WITH *common cathedral* LUNCH

Sunday, May 18, from 9am-2pm, various locations All are welcome, including families.

There are many ways to participate! Join us for any part of the day:

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

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.

CELEBRATING PHILLIS WHEATLEY IN MAY

CALLING ALL CUPCAKE MAKERS & BUYERS

Sunday, May 11, sign up at tinyurl.com/2025OSCCupcakes

Please sign up to bring cupcakes to share on Sunday May 11 as we celebrate historic OSC member Phillis Wheatley. 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.

CELEBRATING PHILLIS WHEATLEY WITH A PLAY, CASTLE OF OUR SKINS PERFORMANCE & CAST DISCUSSION

*Free Admission, Sunday, May 18, 2:30pm, in the Gordon Chapel,
go to tinyurl.com/OSCPPhillisPlay to register, watch online tinyurl.com/PhillisLivestream.*

Old South's (G)RACE Speaks Committee teams up with local playwright Debbie Wiess to present A Revolutionary Encounter in London, her hour-long one-act play about the little-known meeting in London summer 1773 of two of Boston's Colonial icons: enslaved African Poetess Phillis Wheatley and American Founding Father Benjamin Franklin. Witness these two important figures in Old South's history converse in their spiritual home, 252 years after their famous encounter when she travelled to London for the publication of her book of poetry there several months later. With music performed by Castle of Our Skins inspired by the words of Phillis Wheatley, Sojourner Truth and other women of color. All followed by a discussion with the performers & refreshments to enjoy. You don't want to miss it!

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

Friday, May 9, 6pm - 8pm in the Guild Room

Grab your board games and join Old South families for a night of games & pizza in the Guild Room. Sponsored by Christian Formation, this relaxed kick off to the weekend is geared towards families, but we welcome any child-at-heart who wants to come. Please RSVP to Hillary Mull at hillary78@gmail.com if you can - so we know how much pizza to order. Donations accepted to offset cost of pizza

HEARD IT AT COUNCIL APRIL 2025

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCAprilCouncil to read the full blog

Church Historian, Kate Silfen, shares highlights of April's Council meeting including finances, by-laws, attendance, and Christian Formation.

GODLY PLAY FOR FAMILIES

Sunday, May 18; 10am, 3rd floor, May 18

Our family-based church school gathering returns! Families of preschoolers, infants, and toddlers are invited to our once a month class during the 10am hour in the regular childcare room on the 3rd floor. We'll hear a Godly Play story together, wonder a bit about the story, and then have work time to play around with the ideas and stories we heard. 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.

BOSTON HANDBELL FESTIVAL

Tuesday, May 20, 7:30pm, in the Sanctuary, free admission

Come hear five amazing bell choirs present a wide array of handbell music. This year's special conductor is Old South Ringers' very own Peter Coulombe! The Boston Handbell Festival is the continuation of a musical tradition of handbell performance at Old South Church that stretches back almost a century, and it has always been supported by the goodwill and generous financial gifts of others. A free-will donation will be collected at the event, the proceeds of which will go toward making sure that this tradition continues well into the future. Your gift will support the arts and education, helping to keep a low-cost, high quality, live musical experience a vital part of our city's culture.

SUMMER CHOIR

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

Continuing from May 25 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.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

To sign up for a Sunday flower dedication or get more info, email amelia@oldsouth.org

The cost is \$100, you can pay via check, cash, or online tinyurl.com/OSCGivingPortal

Are you interested in honoring a loved one or commemorating a special occasion with a beautiful flower dedication? By making a flower donation, you can dedicate the altar flowers on a date that is meaningful to you. Each dedication includes a flower bouquet and a special message in the Sunday bulletin. Thank you for your generous support in making our worship services even more special!

GREEN TIP: Right to Repair

Right to Repair is a movement of ordinary citizens, farmers, technical professionals, independent repair shops and others who want to fix things — and keep our modern devices working and out of the landfill. But when the manufacturer is the only one who has the necessary materials to conduct repairs, they can charge whatever they want, or push you into an unnecessary “upgrade.” Go to pirg.org/campaigns/right-to-repair/ to learn more.

JOIN OUR USHER TEAM

Go to 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 for info.

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP

Next Service, Sunday, May 11, 5pm on Zoom, tinyurl.com/OSHealing 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.

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

If you're new to Old South, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera 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