

Old South Church *in* Boston

May 25, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

A Memorial Piece

C. Hubert H. Parry

*HYMN 372

God, You Have Set Us

NATIONAL HYMN

Verses 1, 3, 4, and 5 only

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

We give thanks to God with all our hearts;

We will tell of all Your wonderful deeds.

We will be glad and exult in You;

We will sing praise to your name, O Most High.

You have maintained the cause of justice;

You have sat on the throne giving righteous judgment.

You are a stronghold for the oppressed,

Those who know your name put their trust in You

Sing praises to the Holy One, who dwells in Zion.

Declare Their deeds among the peoples.

Sing praises to God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Come, Thou Fount

Eric Nelson, *arr.*

Come, thou Fount of every blessing; tune my heart to sing thy grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above;
praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of thy redeeming love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer; hither by thy help I'm come;
and I hope, by thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God;
he, to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;
here's my heart; O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts above.

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Mark 10:46-52

Rory Razon

*HYMN 449

Softly and Tenderly

SOFTLY AND TENDERLY

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

SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:1-20

SERMON

By Whose Power

Rachel J. Barton

*HYMN 551

Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior

PASS ME NOT

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

John M. Edgerton

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

My Jesus, I Love Thee

Mark Hayes, *arr.*

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ashley J. Popperson



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

A New Song

Diane Bish

I will sing to the Lord, I will sing a new song.

He has given me a clean heart,
he has given me salvation.
Therefore, I will sing...

He has filled my life with gladness,
he has filled my heart with joy.
Therefore, I will sing...

And I'll praise his name forever, I will sing a new song...
...I will sing a new song to the Lord.

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

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 451

Be Now My Vision

SLANE

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Rachel J. Barton

POSTLUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Joel Raney, *arr.*



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

The flowers today are given by Deb Washington,
who wishes Happy Birthdays
to all the Washington 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 19, 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* ❖ Yuexuan Joyce Wang, *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.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

FORUM AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Sundays, 10 am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall

Join us for the last forum this season. Community Hour Forums return in the fall.

PILGRIMAGE OF TRANSFORMATION WITH REV. JUNE | May 25

Registration opens soon for the next opportunity to go on Pilgrimage with Rev June to the American South, visiting places of significance in the story of the Civil Rights movements. Come to hear more about this experience, hear testimonies from previous pilgrims about what they learn and how this experience has changed them and stuck with them.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to our members and friends with May birthdays! Join us at coffee hour after Festival Worship to celebrate with some cake!

FIFTH THURSDAYS: A TNC OPEN MIC NIGHT

Thursday, May 29, 7pm, Gordon Chapel

After Thursday Night Church, join us for our second TNC Open Mic Night. All are welcome to gather after worship for supper club and an informal sharing of poetry, music, story, and art hosted by our Creative Director, Audrey Woodhams. Contact Audrey at audrey@oldsouth.org to sign up, or just show up and there's a spot for you!

YOUTH SUNDAY

Sunday, June 1, at First and Festival Worship

On the last day of our regular program year, Old South's Youth Group will lead worship they have crafted. During Festival Worship we will celebrate and lift up this year's graduating High School Seniors, including our morning's preacher, Mark S.

END OF THE PROGRAM YEAR CELEBRATION BRUNCH

Sunday, June 1, 10am, second floor Mary Norton Hall

Sign up to set-up, clean-up, or bring a dish at tinyurl.com/2025YearEndPotluck

We will mark the end of our church school and program year with an All-Church Potluck Brunch. Celebrate and thank the teachers and volunteers who make Community Hour and Church School so excellent. Bring a dish to share - or just come hungry!

PRIDE @ OLD SOUTH

BOSTON PRIDE FOR THE PEOPLE

Saturday, June 14

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 10:15am. We will travel from there to gather at our designated formation area (TBD) for the parade 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 10am-12pm. Volunteer at tinyurl.com/PrideHospitality.

PRIDE WORSHIP WITH RAINBOW DISCO COFFEE HOUR

Sunday, June 15, at 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.

PRIDE SHIRTS FOR PURCHASE

Go to tinyurl.com/2025PrideShirt to order

Our Queerly Beloved PrideShirts 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.

RETIRED AND READY VISITS THE ATHENAEUM

June 3, 11am, 10 1/2 Beacon Street,

RSVP by June 1 to Charlotte Simpson at char.r.simpson@gmail.com

Have you had a visit to the Athenaeum on your bucket list but never followed through? If so, here's your opportunity. Join us on June 3rd at 11 AM for a self guided tour. The Athenaeum is located at 10-1/2 Beacon Street, very close to the Park Street and Government Center T stops on the red and green lines. Tickets are \$10. Lunch will follow at the Beacon Hill Books and Cafe.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY
OPEN DOOR AWARD & BOOK SIGNING
WITH DAN MCCLELLAN**

Sunday, June 8, beginning at Festival Worship

Dr. Dan McClellan is the country's most popular biblical scholar. With a million followers on social media, Dan has done amazing work to expand access to rigorous biblical scholarship. He will be honored with the Open Door Award on Sunday June 8 at Festival worship. Following that event, he will hold a book signing and author talk in the sanctuary for his upcoming book: *The Bible Says So: what we get right (and wrong) about scripture's most controversial issues*. Tickets are free, please go to tinyurl.com/DanMcClellanatOSC to register to help estimate attendance.



MUSIC @ OLD SOUTH

JAZZY JUNE AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH

Get ready for a Jazzy June next month during Festival Worship! It will be a feast of swinging, soulful music, brought to you through the combined efforts of the Willie Sordillo Ensemble, Summer Choir, and Gospel Choir. This musical series will be an uplifting way to bid farewell to the Sanctuary before we decamp to the Chapel for July and August. In particular, we're thrilled to bring elements of Old South's groundbreaking Jazz Worship to our Festival service during these weeks. Come prepared to sing some of your favorite tunes, and revel in the artistic chemistry of Willie, Zoë, and the band.

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.

CHRISTIAN SERVICE AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE SEEKS GRANTEES WE ARE PROUD TO PARTNER WITH LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS

Email outreach@oldsouth.org to provide your suggestions by June 30

The Christian Service & Outreach Committee (CSOC) continues Old South's history of service by supporting the work of local non-profits through grant giving and connecting our grantees with the human capital our congregation has to offer. Each year, CSOC reviews local non-profit organizations and invites several to apply for consideration for one of our grants or awards. We are soliciting recommendations from the congregation for organizations to consider for 2025. We are particularly interested in learning about Boston-based non-profits that serve the local Boston community and offer hands-on volunteer opportunities.

GREEN TIP: Make Your Lawn Care Green

You may live thousands of miles from a coral reef, but the products you put on your lawn will eventually flow into the water system. Research green alternatives for fertilizer and pesticides that won't harm coral reefs and marine life

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