



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

February 16, 2025

Sixth Sunday After the Epiphany

11:00 a.m.

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

GATHER

PRELUDE

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Joel Raney, *arr.*

*HYMN 6

**Sing Praise to God,
Our Highest Good**

MIT FREUDEN ZART

*CALL TO WORSHIP

John M. Edgerton

Blessed be our God, Heavenly Parent of Jesus Christ,
the Father of mercies and the Mother of all consolation

**Who consoles us in all our affliction,
so that we may console the afflicted**

Just as the sufferings of Christ are abundant for us,
so also our consolation is abundant through Christ

Who endures with us through all things

Oh Lord, our hope for you is unshaken.

Tend to our hearts and align them with your own

**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

In Praise of Light

Tim Harbold

Soon as the sun forsook the eastern main
the pealing thunder shook the heavenly plain;
majestic grandeur! From the zephyr's wing,
exhales the incense of the blooming spring.

Soft purl the streams, the birds renew their notes,
and through the air their mingled music floats.
Through all the heavens what beauteous dies are spread!
But the west glories in the deepest red.

So may our breasts with every virtue glow,
the living temples of the light below!

Filled with the praise of all that gives us light,
and draws the sable curtains of the night,
let placid slumbers sooth each weary mind,
at morn to wake more heavenly, more refined;
so shall the labors of the day begin
more pure, more guarded from the snares within.

Night's leaden scepter seals my drowsy eyes,
then cease, my song, till fair the sun will rise.

The morn awakes, and wide extends her rays,
on every leaf the gentle zephyr plays.
The bowers, the gales, the variegated skies
in all their pleasures in my bosom rise.
See in the east the lustrous light of day!
Whose rising radiance drives the shades away.

So may our breasts with every virtue glow,
the living temples of the light below!
Filled with the praise of light.

(The text is adapted from Phillis Wheatley,
“A Hymn to the Evening” and “A Hymn to the Morning,”
both of which may be found in her
Poems on Various Subjects, Religious and Moral, 1773)

LISTEN

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Psalms 37:1-9

David Vogan

*HYMN 410

If You But Trust in God to Guide You

NEUMARK

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

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 6:9-20

SERMON

Pour It Out

Gracie Paterson

*HYMN 488

Be Still, My Soul
Verses 1 and 2 only

FINLANDIA

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Ashley J. Popperson

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

I'm Building Me a Home Anthony Trecek-King, *arr.*

I'm building me a home.

This earthly house is gonna soon decay,
and my soul gotta have somewhere to stay.

When you hear me moaning, I'm building me a home.

When you hear me praying, I'm building me a home.

When you hear me shouting, I'm building me a home.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

John M. Edgerton



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

Little Innocent Lamb Marshall Bartholomew, *arr.*

*Little Lamb, little Lamb, little innocent Lamb,
I'm a-gonna serve God till I die.*

Hypocrite, hypocrite, tell you what he do,
he'll talk about me, and he'll talk about you.

Devil, he's got a slippery shoe,
now if you don't mind, he gonna slip it on you.

'Cause there ain't no dyin' over there
in that heavenly land,
'cause there ain't no dyin' over in-a that land,
there'll be joy, joy, joy!

Just take one brick from Satan's wall,
Satan's wall gonna tumble and fall.

'Cause there ain't no dyin' over there...

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 582

O God of Earth and Altar

LLANGLOFFAN

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Gracie Paterson

POSTLUDE

I Know Whom
I Have Believed

Vicki Collinsworth, *arr.*



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

The flowers today are given in loving memory of
Elinor Lockwood Yeo by her family.

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 8:20am-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, *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 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* ❖ 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

(G)RACE SPEAKS ANTI-RACISM LANGUAGE WORKSHOP

*Sunday, February 16, 10 am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall
and on Zoom link at oldsouth.org/sundays*

Join us for the 10 o'clock hour on Sunday, February 16th as we explore the language of anti-racism and align the terminology we use at Old South Church, as we continue our journey to being the anti-racist church we aspire to be. Old South members Amy Coe and Anne Scholder will lead this discussion on behalf of (G)RACE Speaks on the 2nd floor.

PILGRIMAGE TO SEEK TRUTH AND JUSTICE WITH REV. JUNE

*Sunday, February 23, 10am, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall
and on Zoom link at oldsouth.org/sundays*

Join us at the Community Hour Forum to hear from OSC members that participated in a Pilgrimage to Seek Truth and Justice in the fall of 2024. Traveling to Montgomery and Selma, we not only visited the hallowed sites of the civil rights movement, but heard first-hand stories from veteran and current activists. The Pilgrimage was led by our Theologian in the City, Rev. June Cooper. Please join us and be inspired!

CONNECTIONS LUNCH

Sunday, February 16, 10am

To be a member of Old South Church is to enter the company of Revolutionary Era heroes, abolitionists, suffragettes, anti-poverty crusaders, and poets. Our saints include Benjamin Franklin, Samuel Adams, Phillis Wheatley... and maybe you! Want to learn more about the life of this community of faith and break bread with other newcomers and church members? Join our Connections Info Session! Contact [Ashley Popperson](mailto:Ashley.Popperson) for more info.

REMOTE POTLUCK

Sunday, February 23, 4pm, on Zoom at tinyurl.com/Zoom-for-potluck

Join fellow Old Southerners on Zoom for a time of fellowship & reflection particularly for our members for whom in-person events are not easily accessible. It will be a time of fellowship and conversation, enjoying one another's good company! Email Alliea Grouppe for info aegroupp@gmail.com.

ASH WEDNESDAY & LENT

ASHES ON THE WAY

Wednesday, March 5 on Old South's sidewalk, 8:30am-5:30pm

Old South Church is pleased to continue our tradition of offering holy conversation, prayer, and ashes on Boylston Street to passersby from 8:30am-5:30pm.

ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICES

Wednesday, March 5 at 12pm and 6pm in Gordon Chapel

Noon Ash Wednesday Service

Held in Gordon Chapel, this simple service of prayer, silence, confession, and imposition of ashes mark our entrance into the reflective and somber season of Lent.

Evening Ash Wednesday Service featuring Holden Evening Prayer

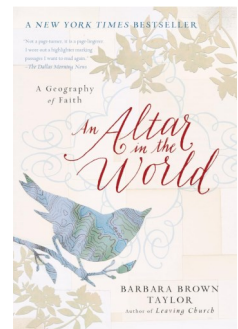
Join us for this special musical service featuring the Old South Festival Choir and instrumentalists. Incorporating "Holden Evening Prayer" by composer Marty Haugen (whose songs have enlivened both First and Festival Worship during the past month), this gentle service of word and prayer concludes with the imposition of ashes.

ALL-CHURCH LENTEN BOOK READ: *An Altar in the World*

Four Sundays, beginning March 16, 2nd Floor Mary Norton Hall

We invite you, as part of your Lenten practice this season, to read Barbara Brown Taylor's book *An Altar in the World: a Geography of Faith*. This 2009 publication presents a compelling invitation to intentionally bring more holiness to our everyday lives. Grounded in gratitude and wonder, Brown Taylor's writing is accessible and inspiring, as well as honest and funny. To take part in discussions you do not need to have read the book to participate (but we hope you do) - we'll have materials each week.

- March 16: Waking up to God, Paying Attention, and Wearing Skin
- March 23: Walking on the Earth, Getting Lost, and Encountering Others
- March 30th: The Practice of Living with Purpose, Saying No and Carrying Water
- April 6: Feeling Pain, Being Present to God, and Pronouncing Blessings



ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, March 2, 12:30pm, in Mary Norton Hall

Mark your calendars! Our Annual Meeting will take place on March 2nd. Together, we will vote on our Officers, Trustees and Committee Chairs, vote on our Annual Budget, and engage in the work of the church. This year, our Annual Meeting will include interactive and collaborative activities to seek feedback and input on our strategic transformation work in the year to come. We'll hear from representatives from the Christian Service and Outreach Committee, gather ideas for deepening our relationships with one another, and explore ways we can welcome more people into Old South Church in the year to come. Join us to help shape our work on social justice, deepening community, and growing the church in 2025. Lunch will be served. RSVP at tinyurl.com/OSCAannualmeeting2025

JOIN THE MARY NORTON SOCIETY

Every one of us, no matter our age or financial circumstances, needs a plan for what will happen to our resources after we pass on. Many members and friends of Old South have included the church in their estate plans- "a way to support Old South from heaven." Here's how Mary Norton Society members, Curtis Reed Jr., describes his reasons for joining the society:

Old South Church inspires us to walk the walk of social justice because the church itself leads the way with its leadership, worship services, and various programs. When I depart this earth, I want Old South to continue lighting the way for others to build an inclusive and equitable community.

Those who provide for Old South in their estate plans become members of the Mary Norton Society. Won't you join them, as a way of insuring that the things that have mattered most to you will be here for coming generations? Contact cathryngriffith@mac.com for more information.

BANISHED TO THE BALCONY: A TALK ON THE HISTORY OF RACE AT OSC

Monday, March 10, 6pm, Old South Meeting House, 310 Washington St

Have you ever wondered what it was like for Phillis Wheatley to worship upstairs at the Old South Meeting House? Or about the worship life of the other members of African descent whose names are etched on the leaves of our Memorial Tree in the Columbarium? Join us as historian Richard Boles, author of *Dividing the Faith: The Rise of Segregated Churches in the Early American North*, talks about the 18th c. circumstances of Native Americans and enslaved African Americans in New England who worshipped, were baptized, and took communion in predominantly white churches with segregated seating and other race-based proscriptions.

GREEN TIP: Propose that you volunteer to help the environment together

Impress your sweetheart with your commitment to the environment. This Valentine's Day, consider proposing... that the two of you start volunteering together! It's proven that volunteering makes people feel happier, and it can also be a great bonding experience for couples! It can strengthen your relationship and be a way for you to connect over a cause that you're both passionate about. Go to tinyurl.com/EcoValentines for more ideas.

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP

Sunday, February 9, 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.

FLOWER DEDICATIONS FOR SUNDAY WORSHIP

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. The cost of flower donations are \$100, which can be purchased via check, cash, or online in our Giving Portal www.oldsouth.org/give. Go to tinyurl.com/OSCFLOWERS25 to sign up for a Sunday flower Questions? Email Amelia Gerard at amelia@oldsouth.org.

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 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