

Old South Church *in* Boston ❖ March 16, 2025 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

## Second Sunday in Lent

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

### GATHER

PRELUDE

Here's One

Evelyn R. Larter , *arr.*

VOTUM *votum is the Latin word for "vow."*

John M. Edgerton

Our help is in the name of the Lord,  
**who made heaven and earth. Amen.**

\*HYMN 542

**Born of God, Eternal Savior**

WEISSE FLAGGEN

\*TIME OF CONFESSION

Let us not set aside the joys and cares of life,  
which are a part of us, as we begin this time together.

**We do not intend to separate our worship from our lives,  
but rather to bring our lives into acts of worship where the power of God may  
provide insight and refreshment and renewal.**

My life has times of joy and strength;  
I need to be able to rejoice and be thankful for it.

**My life has times of hurt and frustration;  
I need to be able to bring those feelings honestly before God.**

My life has times when I am lonely and lost – times when I wonder if others care.

**I need to be able to admit those feelings  
and face my own lack of response to others.**

My life has times of choosing the wrong not just by ignorance or accident,  
but also by rationalization and stubborn intent.

**I need to be able to come to my senses and return and be forgiven and welcomed.**

O God, help us to meet these deep needs.

*A time of silence is kept*

*\*Indicates all who are able may stand*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

ANTHEM

When We Are Singing

Kevin T. Padworski, *arr.*

When we are singing, we are bound together.  
When we are sharing, we are free to be.  
Both in our singing and in our sharing,  
we are bringing change, we are making peace.

Through times of trouble, through times of pain  
we offer healing like a gentle rain.  
Both in our healing and in our caring,  
we are bringing change, we are making peace.

When we are helping, we can be our best,  
when we are loving, hurt is put to rest.  
Both in our helping and in our loving,  
we are bringing change, we are making peace.

## LISTEN

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Mark 3:1-6

Carol Blair

\*HYMN 175

**O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come**

KENTRIDGE

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

SCRIPTURE

Mark 5:22-43

SERMON

Help from a Heretic

Gracie Paterson

\*HYMN 360

**Thuma Mina** (Send Me, Lord)

THUMA MINA

**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 led us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

PRAYER RESPONSE

Cast Thy Burden

Felix Mendelssohn

Upon the Lord, from *Elijah* Op. 70

Cast thy burden upon the Lord and he shall sustain thee.

He never will suffer the righteous to fall: he is at thy right hand.

Thy mercy, Lord, is great, and far above the heavens.

Let none be made ashamed that wait upon thee!

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

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

He, Watching Over Israel  
from *Elijah*, Op. 70

Felix Mendelssohn

He, watching over Israel, slumbers not, nor sleeps.  
Shouldst thou, walking in grief, languish, he will quicken thee.

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 212

**O Jesus Christ, May Grateful Hymns**

CHARTERHOUSE

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Gracie Paterson

POSTLUDE

Deep River from "Four Spiritual Preludes"

David Hurd



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

The flowers today are given by Carol Boggs  
with appreciation to Reggie Wynn,  
who is always welcoming and always willing to lend a hand.

*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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit) or see the front desk.

### **LEARN MORE**

Check out the church website [www.oldsouth.org](http://www.oldsouth.org) for more on the history and ministries of Old South. See [www.oldsouth.org/calendar](http://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

## LENT

**In The Forum This Month:*****An Altar in the World*, our Lenten All-Church Read**

10am Sundays, 2nd floor, or Zoom [tinyurl.com/2025ForumOSC](https://tinyurl.com/2025ForumOSC) password community

Join us as we explore the lessons author Barbara Brown Taylor includes in her book *An Altar in the World*. We'll highlight and discuss some of her teaching each week. Prior reading is not required, you will still learn and be able to participate.

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

**LENTEN DEVOTIONAL READING**

*Get your copy at the church or at*

Living in a time of such chaos and outrage, we need spiritual discipline to stay grounded and to live out God's call of love and liberation for all. This Lent, Old South has created a devotional booklet to accompany you through these 40 days. Each week offers a reflection and a spiritual practice drawn from the scripture of Galatians 5. "The fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, generosity, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control."

**POEMS FOR THE JOURNEY:****A LENTEN/HOLY WEEK GATHERING OF VERSE**

*Sunday, April 13, 10am,*

*Mary Norton Hall or Zoom [tinyurl.com/2025ForumOSC](https://tinyurl.com/2025ForumOSC) password community*

Join Theologian in Residence, Don Wells, in sharing poems and prose selections that reflect our Lenten and Holy Week journey. This is a new event similar to our annual Advent and Christmas Poetry Fest. To participate, let Don know the title of your selection ([granwell@comcast.net](mailto:granwell@comcast.net)). Choose not to read? Come anyway and hear others share their offerings.

**OUR LENTEN JOURNEY ....to Bethany.....Bethany?**

*A Blog from Don Wells, Theologian in Residence,*

*read the full blog at [tinyurl.com/WellsLentBlog2025](https://tinyurl.com/WellsLentBlog2025)*

"For us in the Church, while not a 'day' of tranquility, Lent can provide a different rhythm from the ordinary. It gives us a time frame in which to reflect, study, pray and perhaps engage in a new practice that will help us on our journey. It gives us a chance to hear again Jesus' invitation to 'come, follow me', and to assess how we are doing."

## **GODLY PLAY FOR FAMILIES**

*Sundays, once a month; 10am, 3rd floor, upcoming Sundays: March 16, April 6, and May 18th.*

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.

## **REGIONAL POTLUCK IN BACK BAY**

*Tuesday, March 18, at 6pm, RSVP at [tinyurl.com/OSCBayPotluck](https://tinyurl.com/OSCBayPotluck) by March 16*

*Questions? Email [cathryngriffith@mac.com](mailto:cathryngriffith@mac.com)*

Join Cathryn Griffith and Curtiss Reed, Jr. at their home in Back Bay on March 18th at 6pm for a potluck! They'll make a big pot of vegetarian chili and cornbread, you can bring a beverage or a dessert to share. It will be a time to relax, chat, and enjoy each other's good company!

## **PRAYER AND ADVOCACY FOR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS**

*Wednesday, March 19, 9am, Cathedral Church of St. Paul, 138 Tremont Street*

Join us at the Cathedral Church of St. Paul for information sharing and prayer before walking up to the statehouse to support MIRA's 29th annual Immigrants Day at the State House from 10-1pm. For more information go to [tinyurl.com/PrayforImmigrantNeighbors](https://tinyurl.com/PrayforImmigrantNeighbors). If you'd like to attend, email [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).

## **SHELTERING OUR NEIGHBORS: SIX HOST HOMES BY EASTER**

As federal and state immigration policies change, refugees and migrants in Mass. remain in need of shelter. The New Neighbors Task Force, along with an ecumenical coalition led by the Massachusetts Council of Churches, has set a goal of six host homes by Easter. Working with trusted social service agencies, Old Southerners are stepping forward to host new neighbors (both families with children and individuals) in their homes for stays as short as an overnight and as long as several months. We are forming circles of support around each of these hosts to offer emotional support, transportation, babysitting, and other assistance as needed. If you are interested or want more information, please email [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).



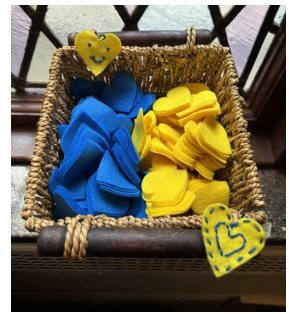
## **ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING**

International aid is a hallmark of the Christian faith. As people who believe in a God who transcends all borders, we are called to embrace those in need who are divided from us by human-made boundaries. One Great Hour of Sharing offering is an opportunity to contribute to international aid. In partnership with multiple Protestant denominations, this offering makes a life saving difference in the lives of the most vulnerable. You can contribute to this offering in worship during Lent, or through our online portal at [tinyurl.com/OSCGiving](http://tinyurl.com/OSCGiving).

## **BLESSINGS FOR MARATHON SUNDAY**

*Coffee Hours through April 13*

This year, we will be distributing felt hearts on the weekend of the Boston Marathon as a blessing. We invite you to decorate these hearts by embroidering encouraging words, patterns, or designs. We will have supplies available for decorating on the Sundays leading up to April 20th during coffee hour. Questions? Email [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org).



## **EASTER FLOWER DONATIONS**

*requested contribution \$20, make your donation by March 30*

Go to [tinyurl.com/OSCGiving](http://tinyurl.com/OSCGiving) and choose "Easter Flowers" to make your gift. Messages in honor or memory of loved ones or special occasions can be entered on the second page of the donation screen or you can give anonymously. Questions? Contact Rémy Hatfield-Gardner at [remy@oldsouth.org](mailto:remy@oldsouth.org).

## **VOLUNTEER TO READ SCRIPTURE**

Go to [tinyurl.com/2025OSCScriptureReaders](http://tinyurl.com/2025OSCScriptureReaders), Questions? Email Rev. Ashley at [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@oldsouth.org)  
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 Popperson.

## Holy Week 2025

Palm Sunday — April 13 | 9AM & 11AM

Maundy Thursday — April 17 | 6PM

Good Friday — April 18 | 7PM

## Easter & Marathon Sunday

April 20, 2025 | 7AM, 9AM, 11AM, & 1pm

The triumph of the Christian story of resurrection informs a service of worship that is characterized by joyous celebration. Our celebration continues with hundreds of marathoners joining us for worship, where we will pause to acknowledge the runners, their families, and volunteers in a special “Blessing of the Athletes.”

## GREEN TIP: Where Do You Want to Go? Walk or Bike There

Of course, it's not possible in all situations, but you can commit to cutting out short rides in the car. Maybe a two-mile limit? Even half a mile will help. According to the Center for Climate and Energy Solutions, transportation is one of the largest sources of carbon emissions in the United States. And our cars, SUVs and trucks contribute to half of that. Besides, let's not forget the health benefits of walking and biking. Learn more at [tinyurl.com/GreenLentGuideposts](https://www.tinyurl.com/GreenLentGuideposts).

## HEARD IT AT COUNCIL FEBRUARY 2025

Go to [tinyurl.com/councilreport2-2025](https://www.tinyurl.com/councilreport2-2025) to read Old South Historian Kate Silfen's article about the February Council Meeting. Topics included finances, human resources, leadership slate, and Annual Meeting.

## 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.



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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)