



## Old South Church

*Copley Square, Boston*

*A Congregation of the  
United Church of Christ*

*Gathered 1669*

August 18, 2024 ❖ 11:00 a.m.

# Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

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

## GATHER

PRELUDE *Adagio* from the Sonata in F minor Felix Mendelssohn

\*HYMN 382 **Come, We Who Love God's Name** MARCHING TO ZION  
*Verses 1, 3, and 5 only*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP John M. Edgerton

Praise is due to you, O God, you who answer prayer:

**You visit the earth and water it; you greatly enrich it;**

**You provide your people with grain, for so you have prepared it.**

You crown the year with your bounty;

Your wagon tracks overflow with richness.

**The pastures of the wilderness overflow;**

**the hills gird themselves with joy!**

Happy are those whom you bring near to live in your courts.

**We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,  
your earth, your holy temple.**

*\*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 of music. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 3/4. 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 music features a mix of eighth and quarter notes, with some phrases held over from one staff to the next.

WELCOME

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

# ATTEND

SCRIPTURE

Revelation 21:1-5

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

ANTHEM

City Called Heaven

Josephine Poelinitz, *arr.*

I am a pilgrim, a pilgrim of sorrow,  
I'm left in this wide world, this wide world alone!  
Ain't got no hope, got no hope for tomorrow  
trying to make it, make heaven my home.

Sometimes I'm tossed and I'm driven, Lord.  
Sometimes I just don't know which way to turn—  
Oh, I heard of a city, a city called heaven  
trying to make it, make heaven my home.

SERMON

It Ends in a City

Rachel J. Barton

\*HYMN 609

**Now Is the Time Approaching**

WEBB

# RESPOND

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Ashley J. Popperson

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.*

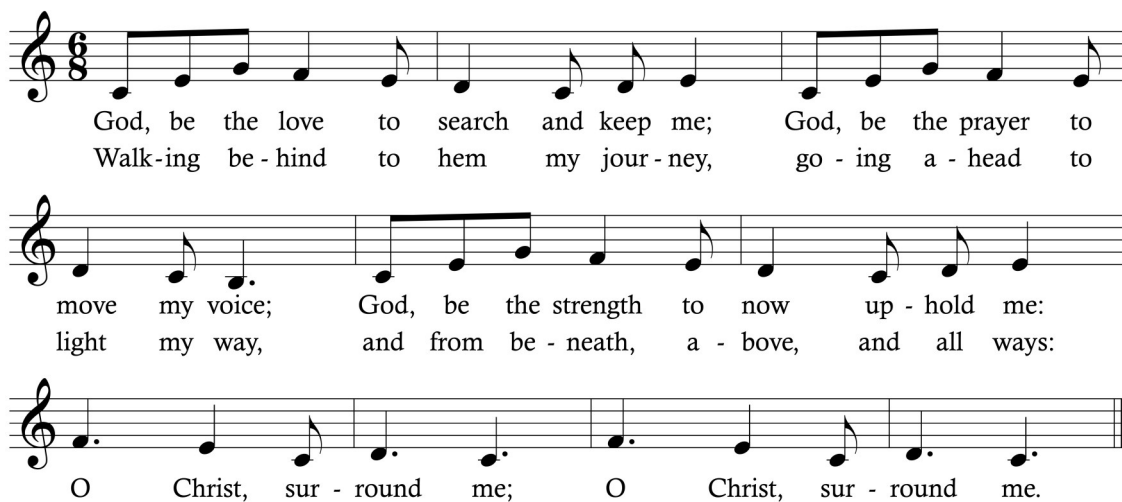
## PASTORAL PRAYER

### 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

John M. Edgerton



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

Down By the Riverside

Beery and Lee, *arrs.*

Gonna lay down my sword and shield,  
down by the riverside,  
down by the riverside,  
down by the riverside;  
Gonna lay down my sword and shield,  
down by the riverside,  
and study war no more.

*I ain't gonna study war no more,  
I ain't gonna study war no more,  
I ain't gonna study war no more.*

Gonna join hands with everyone...

Gonna ring out a song of joy...

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

\*HYMN 616

**I Want to Be Ready** *African American Spiritual*

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

Rachel J. Barton

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

Voluntary in G

Christian Cappelen



Join us for Refreshments & Fellowship under the Portico following the Postlude.

The Flowers today are given in loving memory of Geraldine Bacon  
by her loving daughters Suzanne and Shelley.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,  
begins following Worship at the front of the Sanctuary.  
Led by docent Kate Silfen.

# 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 [ashley@oldsouth.org](mailto:ashley@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](http://www.oldsouth.org/your-first-visit) or see the front desk.

## LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at [www.oldsouth.org/calendar](http://www.oldsouth.org/calendar) for a calendar of events, and the general website [www.oldsouth.org](http://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*  
Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Twilight Worship*  
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*  
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* ❖ 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.

