

# Marathon Sunday

April 19, 2026 | Old South Church *in* Boston | 9am & 11am

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

## GATHER

PRELUDE

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Joel Raney, *arr.*

\*HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You



Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
All your works with joy sur - round you: earth and heaven re - flect your rays;  
You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,  
Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;



hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, o - pening to the sun a - bove.  
stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!  
bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, rec - on - cil - ing race and clan.



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive our fear and doubt a - way;  
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mead - ow, flash - ing sea,  
Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er— all who love be - long to you;  
Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife.



giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain teach us what our praise should be.  
teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.  
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824;  
adapt. Edward Hodges, 1842; alt.

*\*Indicates all who are able may stand*

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Rachel J. Barton

Let us be at peace among ourselves.

**Let us urge on the idlers, and encourage the faint-hearted.**

Let us help the weak, and be patient with all people.

**See that no one repays evil for evil,**

**but always seek to do good to one another and to all.**

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances;

**for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for all of us.**

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WORDS OF WELCOME

ANTHEM

Walk Together, Children

Moses Hogan, *arr.*

There's a great camp meeting,  
Lord! a great camp meeting in the promised land.

*Oh, walk together children, don't you get weary.  
Walk on, my children, don't you get a-weary.  
Just a-walk together children, don't you get weary.  
There's a great camp meeting in the promised land.*

Gonna walk and never tire...  
...there's a great camp meeting in the promised land.

Gonna sing and never tire...  
...there's a great camp meeting in the promised land.

Gonna shout and never tire...  
...there's a great camp meeting in the promised land.

*Oh, walk together, children, don't you get weary.  
Sing on, my children, don't you get a-weary.  
Just-a shout together, children, don't you get weary.  
There's a great camp meeting in the promised land.*

# ATTEND

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:13-35, *selected verses*

Susan Faja, 9am  
Elizabeth Richter, 11am

\*HYMN

## Here, O Lord, Your Servants Gather

*The choir sings verse 1 alone;  
the congregation is invited to sing verses 2 and 3.*



Here, O Lord, your ser - vants gath - er, hand we link with hand;  
Man - y are the tongues we speak, scat - tered are the lands;  
Grant, O God, an age re - newed, filled with end - less love;



look - ing toward our Sav - ior's cross, joined in love we stand.  
yet our hearts are one in God, one in love's de - mands.  
help us as we work and pray; send us from a - bove



As we seek the realm of God, we u - nite to pray:  
While in dark - ness hope ap - pears, call - ing age and youth:  
truth and cour - age, faith and pow - er need - ed in our strife:



Je - sus, Sav - ior, guide our steps, for you are the Way.  
Je - sus, teach - er, dwell with us, for you are the Truth.  
Je - sus, Sav - ior, be our Way; be our Truth, our Life.

Text: Tokuo Yamaguchi, 1958; trans. Everett M. Stowe, 1958, alt.  
Tune: TOKYO, Japanese gagaku mode, Isao Koizumi, 1958

*During the hymn, children who wish to may meet childcare staff  
in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor to play.*

\*HYMN

Guide My Feet

Guide my feet while I run this race;  
 Hold my hand while I run this race;  
 Stand by me while I run this race;  
 I'm your child while I run this race;

guide my feet while I run this race;  
 hold my hand while I run this race;  
 stand by me while I run this race;  
 I'm your child while I run this race;

guide my feet while I run this race,  
 hold my hand while I run this race,  
 stand by me while I run this race,  
 I'm your child while I run this race,

for I don't want to run this race in vain!

Text: African American spiritual  
 Tune: GUIDE MY FEET, African American spiritual;  
 harm. Wendell P. Whalum, c. 1984

\*CALL TO PRAYER

Kat E. Woodard, 9am  
 Justin Tyler Dickerson, 11am

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.**

ANTHEM

I Can Tell the World

Moses Hogan, *arr.*

*I can tell the world, yes, about this:  
I can tell the nations, yes, that I'm blessed.*

I can tell the world about this:  
I can tell the nations I'm blessed.  
Tell 'em what my Lord has done,  
tell 'em the conqueror has come,  
and he brought joy to my soul.

My Lord done just what he said.  
He healed the sick and he raised the dead.  
He lifted me when I was down:  
he placed my feet on solid ground.

I can tell the world about this...  
...Oh Lord, he brought joy that mornin' when he saved me,  
joy that mornin' when he blessed me.  
I'll tell it: how he brought this joy to my soul.

## RESPOND

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Ashley J. Popperson



*To give online,  
Scan the QR code*

*If You're new to Old South,  
scan the QR code  
to tell us more about yourself.*



OFFERTORY

My Soul's Been Anchored in the Lord

Moses Hogan, *arr.*

*In the Lord, in the Lord—  
my soul's been anchored in the Lord.*

Before I'd stay in hell one day,  
I'd sing and pray myself away.

Goin' shout and pray and never stop,  
until I reach the mountain top.

Do you love him? (Oh yes!)  
Do you love him? (Hallelujah!)  
Do you love him? (Oh yes!) God almighty.  
Are you anchored? (Are you anchored?)  
Oh yes! Yes, I'm anchored,  
my soul's been anchored in the Lord.

Yes, will you serve him? ...  
...my soul's been anchored in the Lord.

Hallelujah! Will you praise him? ...  
...Lord, I'm anchored. (Oh yes!)  
Lord, I love You. (Oh yes!)  
Yes, I'll serve you. (Oh yes!)  
Lord, I'll praise You. (Oh yes!) Hallelujah!

My soul's been anchored in the Lord, God almighty,  
my soul's been anchored in the Lord.

## **BLESSING OF THE ATHLETES**

GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

John M. Edgerton

PRAYER OF BLESSING

Strong and faithful God, we ask your blessing on these athletes who have come to race and compete. Keep them safe from injury and harm. Instill in them respect for each other. Give them the endurance to compete well. Reward them for their discipline and perseverance.

**May you mount up with wings like eagles; may you run and not grow weary; may you walk and not faint.** [Isaiah 40:31]

May God touch you with a wind that keeps you strong, tomorrow and for all the days to come.

**God bless you. God be with you. Amen.**

PROCESSION

Highland Cathedral  
David Methven, *bagpipe*

Michael Korb & Ulrich Roever

\*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE

Chariots of Fire

Vangelis

*Today's postlude is performed by one of America's great church musicians, Richard Webster, recently retired Director of Music for Trinity Church (just across Copley Square).*

*Dr. Webster is a committed marathoner, having run in 21 Boston Marathons and 48 marathons overall.*



You may exit the Sanctuary at either the front or back of the sanctuary.

Leading worship in the Chapel are  
Justin Tyler Dickerson (9am) and Kat E. Woodard (11am).

Our processional banner bearers are  
Ali Devaney and Brandon Smith (9am) and Phil Stern and Zach Zhang (11am).

The flowers today are given by Tom Ralston,  
in remembrance of the tragic events of April 15th, 2013,  
and with prayers for healing and peace to all.



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

**OLD SOUTH MUSIC PRESENTS: DECLARATIONS**

**June 27, 2026 | 7pm concert**

Old South Music presents Ensemble Altera in a major new choral work by Piers Connor Kennedy. A reflection on ideals of liberty and equality, placing Thomas Jefferson's words in dialog with those of Langston Hughes, Tracy K. Smith, and others.

**ALL SAINTS SUNDAY**

**November 1, 2026 | 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 22, 2026 | 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, 2026**

*Family Service with Impromptu Pageant | 5PM*

*Lessons and Carols | 8PM*

*Carols and Communion | 11PM*

**BOSTON FIRST NIGHT: PIPES AND POPS CONCERTS**

**December 31, 2026 | 6:30 & 8PM**

The best of Boston's brass and percussion artists join organist Mitchell Crawford in a supersonic program of popular classics. Experience Old South's incredible E. M. Skinner organ, with over 7,000 room-shaking pipes! Free and open to the public.

## **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 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**

Hearing assist devices are available from Ava Welling, our Director of Audio. Please see Ava for a device and instructions on how to use it. For more information or answers to questions, please contact Ava at [ava@oldsouth.org](mailto:ava@oldsouth.org).

### **GARAGE PARKING VALIDATIONS**

We have arrangements for discounted parking with two nearby garages for Old South Church for Sunday worship services only. 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, *Associate Minister for Transformation*  
Kat Woodard, *Taylor Resident for Mission in the City* ❖ Justin Tyler Dickerson, *Seminarian*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*  
James Harrison Jr. & 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*  
Jonathan Reddix, *Collaborative Pianist* ❖ Jan Christoph Hadenfeldt, *Visiting Organist*  
Tim Harbold, *Director, Gospel Choir* ❖ Peter Coulombe, *Director, Old South Ringers*  
Audrey Woodhams, *Creative Director for Thursday Night Church*

Kate Nintcheu, *Director, Children & Family Ministries*  
Summer Marsh, *Director, Old South Preschool*  
Jamie Chelel, *Children's Choir Director* ❖ Yuexuan Joyce Wang, *Children's Choir Accompanist*  
Rory Razon, *Youth Group Co-Leader*

Rebecca Pasipanodya, *Director of Operations*  
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*  
Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*

Jamie Garuti Sage, *Multimedia Director* ❖ Ava Welling, *Director of Audio*  
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Tahmina Akter, Richard Serebour, & MD Rahman, *Sextons*

Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist*  
Shirley Bivins, Anna Pratt, & Shelia Randolph, *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

Maren Batalden, *Moderator* ❖ Rob Gabler, *Clerk* ❖ Donna Matson, *Treasurer*  
Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*

**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 & guide.



OLD  
SOUTH  
CHURCH  
in BOSTON