

Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston
A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ
Gathered 1669

May 29th, 2022

Seventh Sunday of Easter

Warning! To enter into the life of this people of God is to encounter God's soul-challenging, life-changing, radicalizing love. Will you join us? Do you dare?

GATHER

PRELUDE I Love to Tell the Story [HANKEY] Emma Lou Diemer

*HYMN 24 The God of Abraham Praise LEONI

*CALL TO WORSHIP

June R. Cooper

One: Hallelujah! Let us give thanks to You, Holy God with our whole hearts, in the council of the upright and in the congregation.

Many: Great are Your works, Creator of All, sought after by all who delight in them.

One: Glorious and majestic is Your work,

and Your righteousness endures forever.

Many: Praise to you, Our God, that awakens us to the splendors of your knowledge, your creation, your abundance.

^{*} Indicates all who are able may stand

One: We greet a new day in the shelter of your love,

the sanctuary of your protection.

Many: Hold fast to us God, for we will not let you go.

One: Open up the windows of heaven, and pour on us a blessing,

Many: Abide with us, that in all things,

we may do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with you. Amen.

—Psalm 111; Micah 3, 6; Ba'hai prayer

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

WELCOME

ANTHEM Mothering God Larry J. Long

Mothering God, you gave me birth in the bright morning of this world. Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light, Grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing one, in arms of patience hold me close, So that in faith I root and grow until I flower, until I know.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Shawn M. Fiedler

SCRIPTURE

Genesis 32: 22-30

Mary Cresse

*HYMN verses 1-3 Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown YE BANKS & BRAES

During the hymn, children who wish to may meet childcare staff

in the back of the sanctuary and proceed to the 3rd floor.

SERMON Grappling jessica young chang

*HYMN verse 4 Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown



RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Howard Cha-Young Kim

One: God be with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: May the peace of Christ dwell in your hearts. **Many:** Christ is our peace, our light, and our hope.

One: Let us pray. (please be seated)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Creator, 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

Don't Be Afraid

Iona Community, Scotland

Don't be afraid — my love is stronger than your fear. Don't be afraid — my love is stronger and I have promised to be always near.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Katherine A. Schofield

OFFERTORY

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.

—for an inclusive adaptation of this text, please see NCH, #459.

GODSPEED TO JESSICA YOUNG CHANG

Shawn M. Fiedler

*HYMN 500

We Are Climbing Jacob's Ladder

JACOB'S LADDER

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION

jessica young chang

POSTLUDE

Soon I Will Be Done

Calvin Taylor



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

The flowers today are given by Shawn M. Fiedler in thanksgiving for Old South Church seminarians and residents past and present.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary, begins following Worship at the front of the Sanctuary.

Led by docent David Story.



TODAY'S CALENDAR

8:45 a.m. Childcare 3rd flr (available through 12:30 p.m.)

9:00 a.m. FIRST Worship

9:45 a.m. Coffee Hour in the Gordon Chapel

10:00 a.m. Festival Choir Rehearsal10:00 a.m. Drop-In Bible Study, 4th floor

10:00 a.m. Church School

11:00 a.m. FESTIVAL Worship

12:00 p.m. Coffee Hour in the Gordon Chapel

12:00 p.m. Connections Class, 4th floor 1:15 p.m. O.W.L. Program (offsite)



ANNOUNCING THE PHILLIS WHEATLEY ROOM

Sunday, June 19th, 10:00 a.m., 4th floor

By action of the Church Council, the Samuel Johnson Room (previously named for a pious and generous lay leader) will be known as the Phillis Wheatley Room. Located on the Fourth Floor, this room houses our collection of Senior Minister portraits and is a place of study, prayer, and meeting for all ages. We will retain the tradition of displaying a lay leader's portrait, now Phillis, above the fireplace, keeping watch over the Old South clergy.



Phillis' will be the first portrait of a person of color, and second female (after Nancy Taylor) displayed in the public spaces of Old South Church.

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 21st 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**. Contact Interim Associate Minister Katherine Schofield at <u>katherine@oldsouth.org</u>

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 or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website at www.oldsouth.org/calendar for a calendar of events, and the general website 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

James W. Crawford, Senior Minister Emeritus Nancy S. Taylor, Senior Minister Emeritus
Katherine A. Schofield, Interim Associate Minister Shawn M. Fiedler, Acting Associate Minister
Donald A. Wells, Theologian in Residence June R. Cooper, Theologian in the City
Howard Cha-Young Kim, Pastoral Resident jessica young chang, Seminarian
David Story, Wedding Minister Ken Orth, Healing Worship Minister

Mitchell Crawford, Minister of Music
George Sargeant, Associate Organist & Choirmaster
Tim Harbold, Director, Gospel Choir & Willie Sordillo, Director, Jazz Worship Music
Peter Coulombe, Director, Old South Ringers

Kate Nintcheu, Director, Children & Family Ministries Martha Schick, Youth & Young Adult Ministries Leader Summer Marsh, Director, Old South Preschool

Helen McCrady, Senior Church Administrator * John Braught, Director of Operations
Jamie Garuti, Multimedia Director * Linda Van Praet, Accounting & Human Resources
Alex Pickering, Administrative Assistant * Emily Ross, Archivist & Part-time Bookkeeper
Ralph Watson, Snowden Partnership Coordinator * Karen Hand, Wedding Coordinator
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner and William Wei, Livestream Production Assistants

Elias Perez, Senior Sexton Ozo Nwodo, Richard Serebour, and David Brode, Sextons
Corey Spence, Weekday Receptionist

Shirley Bivins, Shelia Randolph, and George Sargeant, Evening Weekend Receptionists

Phil Stern, Moderator * Rob Gabler, Clerk * Bill Bulkeley, Treasurer
Kristi Geary, Chair, Board of Trustees * Kate Silfen, Historian
Paul Brouillette & Susan Navia, 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.



WELCOME TO INTERIM SENIOR MINISTER REV. DR. RICHARD E. SPALDING (he/him)

Joining us for Pentecost on June 5th,

Co to oldsouth.org/news/announcing-interim-senior-minister for more info

Rick has been called to support us, the entire Old South Community, in advancing our existing mission and programs to live and promote Christ's radical ministry of justice, love, and mercy, and to lead the congregation through the sorrow and anxiety of one chapter ending toward openness, readiness, and hope-filled expectation for the next chapter God calls us to begin. He will, no doubt, draw upon his 18 years as head of the Chaplain's Office at Williams College, most recent service as Interim Senior Pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Ann Arbor, MI, and a myriad of other personal and professional experiences gathered from a rich life of service to God and God's creation.

GODSPEED JESS YOUNG CHANG, SEMINARIAN

Sunday, May 29th, First and Festival Worship

Old South Church in Boston has always been a teaching church. With our location near some of the best seminaries in the world, we delight in taking part in raising up the next generation of church leaders and then sending them out into the world. While all seminarians are wonderful, jess is special and we will miss her! Join us for jess' final Sunday. She will preach at both First and Festival Worship.

CONNECTIONS INFO SESSION

Sunday, May 29th, following Festival Worship at 12pm in the 4th floor or Zoom at tinyurl.com/OSCConnections

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? Join our Connections Info Session! Contact Rev. Katherine Schofield at katherine@oldsouth.org for more info.

COMMUNITY BLOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, June 1st, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., 2nd floor

The Red Cross continues to experience a severe blood shortage. Want to help out? Donate blood to help end the critical shortage status with the Red Cross. Visit tinyurl.com/BloodDriveOSC or call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) to schedule an appointment.

HOSPITALITY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR JULY, AUGUST, AND SETEMBER

Sign up today at tiny.oldsouth.org/SumHospitality2022

Please consider joining in the warm welcome everyone who walks through our doors experiences. We are looking for ushers and welcomers for First and Festival Worship on Sundays and ushers for Jazz Worship on Thursdays.

BLESSING THE TRANSITION COMMITTEES

Old South Church is profoundly grateful for the many people involved in our transition process. While these transitions can be scary and stressful for a congregation, they have been holding us in their steady, faithful hands. During worship on Thursday, June 2nd (Jazz) and Sunday, **June 5**th (*First and Festival*), we will give thanks to God for the completed and ongoing work of the Celebration, Interim, and Transition Committees, and bless the upcoming work of the Search Committee. This is also our celebration of Pentecost and the gift of the Holy Spirit.

ASIAN AMERICAN AND PACIFIC ISLANDER HERITAGE MONTH

During the month of May, we honor Asian American and Pacific Islander Heritage Month by giving thanks to God for the generations of Asian and Pacific Islanders who have enriched the church and whose presence makes us strong and beautiful.

SEEKING YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULT LEADER

Go to tinyurl.com/OSCYouthYALeader to learn more about the position and how to apply

Old South Church in Boston seeks applicants for a unique position of Youth and Young Adult Leader. This person is a magnetic leader with the dynamic gifts of interpersonal connection with students in grades 8-12 and Young Adults age 18-35. They possess a deep personal faith that they can translate to each of these unique populations, and are equally ready to dive into bible study, activism, and trivia nights at a brewery. This part-time ministry position functions as a part of a larger staff, including weekly staff meetings and administrative duties related to your program area.

CHURCH LEADERS' GIFTS FOR THE NEW CONFIRMANDS

In preparation for last week's welcoming of 13 confirmation students into membership - the boards and committees of Old South Church contributed to a "Basket of Blessings" for each student. Each board or committee was invited to contribute a small gift representative of the work that their group undertakes here at Old South. We are so grateful for the thought and care that went into these gifts, and wanted to share the contents of these bountiful Baskets of Blessings. To see the list of what was included in each Confirmand's basket go to tinyurl.com/2022ConfirmGifts. Thank you!

PRIDE AT OLD SOUTH CHURCH CELEBRATING THE LGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

LGBTQ HISTORY WALKING TOUR

Sunday, June 5th, 12:30 p.m., 15 spots available, RSVP to shawn@oldsouth.org

With Boston By Foot as our guides, we will follow the paths of Boston's LGBTQ+ community from the 1840s to the 1980s, from Thoreau's walks along the Common and Charlotte Cushman's cross-dressing roles, to the World War II bars and baths, to the AIDS Action Committee and the AIDS memorial quilt project. The tour lasts 90 minutes and covers 2 miles.

OVER THE RAINBOW: A MUSICAL SALUTE TO PRIDE

Thursday, June 9th, 6 p.m.

The Willie Sordillo Ensemble and the Holy Spirit team up to celebrate PRIDE as we pay tribute to LGBTQ+ movement with this special musical service. Who knows, maybe there will even be a bit of dancing!

PRIDE WORSHIP

Sunday, June 12th, 9 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Old South Church will fill the Sanctuary with song, prayers, praise, and worship of the God who loves and embraces all at our annual Pride Worship service—this year on Sunday. Senior Pastor of historic Myrtle Baptist Church Rev. Brandon Crowley will preach and receive the Open Door Award

THIRD ANNUAL TRANS RESISTANCE MARCH & FESTIVAL

Saturday, June 25th, 12 p.m., Contact shawn@oldsouth.org for more information We will join Boston's LGBTQ+ community in marching from Nubian Square in Roxbury to Franklin Park Playstead for a just and more inclusive city and world. More details to come.

GREEN TIP: DITCH THE PAPER TOWELS

Did you know that every day, over 3,000 tons of paper towel waste is produced in the US alone? When it's time to clean house or wipe up a mess, use reusable rags and just throw into the laundry when the rag is dirty. Such an easy swap that will eliminate more of your trash and save you money. Go to oldsouth.org/tips-greening-your-life for more Green Tips.

COVID PRECAUTIONS

- Masking is OPTIONAL (except for Church School teachers and children in classrooms)
- Masks are available at the front desk for those who choose to wear one
- We strongly encourage everyone to be fully vaxxed and boosted, to attend to handwashing, and to refrain from entering the building if you have so much as a sniffle.

CELEBRATING MARTHA SCHICK & THE END OF THE PROGRAM YEAR

Sunday June 5th, 10 a.m., 2nd floor

We will mark the end of our church school and program year with an All-Church gathering. We will not have a full blown breakfast - but there will be coffee/tea and some pastries to help us feel festive. We always gather to thank the leaders of our church school classes, but this year in particular we are going to recognize the ministry of Martha Schick, whose time with us is ending. Martha has served as the Youth & Young Adult leader since fall 2018, and will soon begin her ordained ministry career at the Wellesley Village Church.

20s AND 30s POST JAZZ DINNER

Thursday, June 2nd, after Jazz Worship, 4th floor

Join us for a casual young adult small group following Jazz Worship on the first Thursday of the month. Meet in the chapel, get dinner in the area (let us know if money is a barrier), and break bread together in the 4th floor Guild Room! Newcomers and old friends welcome -- no monthly commitment required. Email Sarah Cowles or Abby Smith with any questions.

MARTHA'S 20s AND 30s FAREWELL

Thursday, June 16th, after Jazz Worship

As Martha Schick prepares to accept a new call and says farewell to Old South, young adults are invited to celebrate her ministry in style... with a beer! After Jazz Worship, pilgrimage to Night Shift Owl's Nest on the Esplanade (15 minute walk) for some drinks and food. Come as you are, no RSVPs required. Email Martha with any questions.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy birthday to all our members and friends born in May. Join us at Festival Worship Coffee Hour for cake and singing.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

Join us in person, on Vimeo, Facebook, and YouTube
JAZZ Worship, Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.
FIRST Worship Sundays at 9:00 a.m.
FESTIVAL Worship Sundays at 11:00 a.m.
HEALING Worship, the second Sunday at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom

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 & www.oldsouth.org