



Old South Church

Copley Square, Boston

*A Congregation of the
United Church of Christ*

Gathered 1669

October 8th, 2023

Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost

11:00 a.m.

*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

*Christ, unser Herr,
zum Jordan kam, BuxWV 180*

Dietrich Buxtehude

*HYMN 300

Jesus Shall Reign

DUKE STREET

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ashley J. Popperson

One: Come, Holy Spirit, trouble the waters.

Many: Stir us up and change us.

One: Come, Holy Spirit, trouble our minds.

Many: Fill us with new ideas, new patterns, new paths.

One: Come, Holy Spirit, trouble our church.

Many: Make us impatient for your realm, anxious for your love.

One: Come, Holy Spirit, trouble our worship.

Many: Join us in this hour, make of our worship a refining fire.

** 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

Solo: *Gathered in God's name 'round the living Word.
Gathered as one family in the name of love.*

Congregation:

Gath-ered from near and far, gath-ered in this ho - ly place,
gath-ered as stran-gers and friends, gath-ered and gift-ed by grace.
Gath - ered in God's name, 'round the liv - ing Word.
Gath - ered as one fam-'ly in the name of love,
slowing
in the name of love, in the name of love.

Text and Music: Michael Burkhardt, 2021

WELCOME

ANTHEM

Jubilate in C

Leo Sowerby

O be joyful in the Lord, all ye lands:
serve the Lord with gladness, and come before his presence with a song.

Be ye sure that the Lord he is God:
it is he that hath made us, and not we ourselves;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

O go your way into his gates with thanksgiving, and into his courts with praise;
be thankful unto him and speak good of his name.

For the Lord is gracious, his mercy is everlasting;
and his truth endureth from generation to generation.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

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

LISTEN

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kate M. Nintcheu

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 3:13-17

*HYMN 169

**What Ruler Wades
Through Murky Streams**

WATER OF BAPTISM

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

SERMON

Just One Little Change

John M. Edgerton

*HYMN 597

Shall We Gather at the River

HANSON PLACE

RESPOND

*CALL TO PRAYER

Rachel Barton

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 in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Ecumenical Version (1988)

PRAYER RESPONSE

With Prayer
and Supplication

Amy Marcy Cheney Beach

With prayer and supplication, let your requests be known unto God.

And the peace of God which passeth all understanding
shall keep your hearts and minds through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Katherine A. Schofield



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 Oh, What a Beautiful City Eurydice V. Osterman, *arr.*

*Oh, what a beautiful city,
oh, what a beautiful city,
oh, what a beautiful city,
twelve gates into the city, a-hallelujah!*

Three gates in-a the east, three gates in-a the west;
three gates in-a the north, three gates way down south.
Makin' it twelve gates into the city, a-hallelujah!

My Lord built-a that city, an' he said it was just a-four-square,
and he said he wanted you, sinner, to meet him in-a the air.
Makin' it twelve gates into the city, a-hallelujah!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN 282 **Every Time I Feel the Spirit**

*BIDDING TO MISSION AND BENEDICTION John M. Edgerton

POSTLUDE *Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam*, P. 61 Johann Pachelbel



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

The flowers today are given
in loving memory of David Mullen
by Elizabeth and Betty Pitcher.

Close-Up, a twenty minute tour of the Sanctuary,
begins immediately following worship at the front of the Sanctuary.
Led by docent Stephanie LaShoto-Westfield.

NOTES ON TODAY'S MUSIC

Today's prelude and postlude were both penned by leading composers of the Baroque era and are based on the Lutheran chorale *Christ, unser Herr, zum Jordan kam* (*To Jordan came the Christ, our Lord*), whose text speaks not only of Jesus' baptism but also its meaning for our own lives.

Dietrich Buxtehude spent his most productive years at the Marienkirche (Mary's Church) in the North German city of Lübeck. In addition to serving as music director he organized a series of evening concerts that attracted attendees from far and wide, most notably the young G.F. Handel and J.S. Bach. The influence of Buxtehude on Bach's early preludes and fugues as well as his later chorale preludes cannot be overstated. His treatment of the chorale presents each phrase of the melody in a coloratura style and is preceded by a brief fughetta in the accompanying voices.

Johann Pachelbel was born in Nuremburg and received his early musical training there. As a young adult he spent time in Vienna and completed his education there, possibly as a student of Johann Caspar Kerll. Though Lutheran, he came into contact with Catholic church music traditions while there and this influenced his compositional style. Upon returning to Germany he served churches in Erfurt, Stuttgart, Gotha, and finally his hometown of Nuremburg.

Nearly half of Pachelbel's organ works are chorale preludes. Few of them have pedal parts, largely because the organs available to him in the southern part of Germany were not as large or versatile as their North German counterparts. Chorale melodies were as a rule presented without elaboration either in the soprano or bass. Most often he employed a three-part cantus firmus style, with phrases treated one at a time. Fragments of the melody form the basis of imitative counterpoint in the accompanying voices and anticipate each entrance, and this technique is employed here.

-George Sargeant, *Associate Organist and Choirmaster*



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 katherine@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 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

John M. Edgerton, *Senior Minister*
Ashley J. Popperson, *Associate Minister* ❖ Katherine A. Schofield, *Interim Associate Minister*
Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
David Story, *Wedding Minister* ❖ Ken Orth, *Healing Worship Minister*
Rachel Barton, *Nancy S. Taylor Fellow and Youth & Young Adult Leader*
Madison Chau, *Seminary Fellow*

James W. Crawford, *Senior Minister Emeritus* ❖ Nancy S. Taylor, *Senior Minister Emeritus*

Mitchell Crawford, *Minister of Music*
George Sargeant, *Associate Organist & Choirmaster*
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*

Amelia Gerrard, *Church Administrator* ❖ John Braught, *Director of Operations*
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner, *Administrative Assistant* ❖ Kathleen Steen, *Staff Accountant*
Emily Ross, *Archivist* ❖ Karen Hand, *Wedding Coordinator*

Jamie Garuti, *Multimedia Director*
William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants* ❖ Ava Welling, *Sound Technician*

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*
Debby Kuenstner, *Chair, Board of Trustees* ❖ Kate Silfen, *Historian*
Christine Del Favero and Tony Rich, *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.



OLD
SOUTH
CHURCH
in BOSTON

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE COMMUNITY HOUR FORUM

Sundays, 10 a.m. in 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall, tinyurl.com/OSC23-24Forum to Zoom
This casual, no-commitment, come-when-you-can forum hosts series on a variety of topics. Clergy, congregation members, and special guests share in leading sessions.

October 8th - Ask John Anything!

October 15th - Service and Social Justice Activity Fair

Want to learn more about how Old South is working for justice and positive change in our community and the wider world? Ready to roll up your sleeves and join a service project? Want to learn more about the organizations we support with grant funding? This is the Forum for you!

October 22nd - The Language of Worship:

Approaches to Text Adaptation at Old South with Mitchell Crawford

As our theology has widened to embrace an ever expanding view of God and humankind, traditional texts can sometimes feel constraining or even exclusionary. In this forum, we'll explore rationales for text adaptation, review the rubrics which have helped codify our local practice here at Old South, and examine a few representative adaptations employed in worship over the past few years.

VESPERS HEALING WORSHIP

Sunday, October 8th, 5 p.m. on Zoom, go to 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.

SAVE THE DATE: MARY NORTON SOCIETY LUNCHEON

Sunday, October 29th at 12:15pm, 2nd floor Mary Norton Hall

RSVP at tinyurl.com/Oct29MaryNorton

Everyone is invited to lunch and a not-to-be-missed program about the history of Old South Church. Capacity is limited.

GET TO KNOW OUR NEW SENIOR MINISTER

Ask John Anything

Sunday, October 8th at 10 a.m. in Mary Norton Hall

Try John's Favorite Cookies from around Boston:

Select Sundays at 10 a.m. in the Senior Minister's Office:

Sunday, October 15: Black & White Cookies

Sunday, October 29: Chocolate Chip

Sunday, November 5: Snicker Doodles



Neighborhood Pizza Parties to Get to Know Rev. Edgerton

Select Sunday evenings from 6:30-8:30 p.m., next gathering October 8th in Roslindale

The "Welcome John Edgerton Task Force" is holding a collection of opportunities for smaller group conversation and relationship building with our new Senior Minister. One of those opportunities is a series of neighborhood pizza parties, hosted by members in their homes. Each gathering is limited to ten adults, with children welcome where hosts can accommodate them. The first gathering is on October 8th in Roslindale at Maren Batalden and Alta Tarala's home - email Maren at mbatalden@gmail.com to RSVP, and stay tuned for more gatherings coming soon! If you're interested in hosting one of the pizza parties, please email Maren.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY FOR COMMON CATHEDRAL LUNCH

Sunday, November 12th, 8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.,

stay as long as you can

Contact carolyneclark@comcast.net

with your commitment

to any part of the day or for more info



The Christian Service and Outreach Committee is assembling a team of volunteers to help prepare lunches in the Old South Church kitchen and serve them to the common cathedral homeless congregation on the Boston Common. The prep work for making 120+ sandwich lunches will begin at 8:30 a.m., transported to the Boston Common by 12:00 noon, and served to guests at 12:30 p.m. The Common Cathedral service begins at 1:00 p.m. and lasts until around 2:30 p.m. See commoncathedral.org for more information about the work of this organization that is one of Old South's annual grantees.

USHERING AT OLD SOUTH

Questions? Email hospitality@oldsouth.org for more info

Looking to meet more people at Old South? Wondering how you can contribute to our wide open door? Think about serving as an usher! This is an easy way to get more involved at Old South. Everyone is welcome, and all you have to be is friendly and willing to help. Interested, or even just a little curious? Join us at one or more of the following sessions to learn about ushering at the indicated service:

9am Service - October 29th after service

11am Service - November 12th at 12:30pm

Jazz Service - October 19th after service

Potential, new, and returning ushers are encouraged to attend- we could all use a refresher, and it will be wonderful to get to know each other!

HEARD AT COUNCIL: SEPTEMBER 2023

Read the report at oldsouth.org/news/heard-it-council-september-2023

OSC Historian Kate Silfen details everything that happened at the September 12th, 2023 Church Council meeting.

MUSIC AT OLD SOUTH

Visit oldsouth.org/music to learn more.

Old South is home to a vibrant array of vocal, choral, and instrumental ensembles, and no matter your age or ability, there is a place for you in our music ministry.

First Singers — Meet on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. to learn an anthem for First Worship.

Festival Choir — rehearse Thursdays at 7 p.m. and Sundays at 10 a.m.

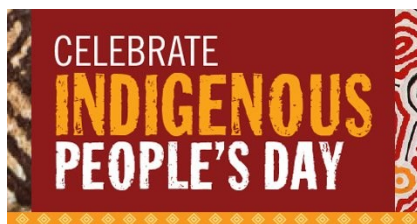
Children's Choir — rehearse Sundays at 9 a.m.

Old South Ringers — rehearse Tuesdays at 6 p.m.

Gospel Choir — rehearse once monthly; visit oldsouth.org/music to see the full schedule.

GREEN TIP: Eco-Friendly Halloween Decorations

Skip all the plastic and celebrate Halloween in a sustainable way. From floating candles, to spooky trees, to gourds and pumpkins there are so many creative, eco-friendly ideas to inspire you.



Old South Church will be closed Monday, October 9th
in honor of Indigenous People's Day

Land Acknowledgement

Old South Church in Boston resides on the ancestral and un-ceded land of the Massachusett People, past and present, whose name was appropriated by this Commonwealth. We pay respect to the Massachusett elders past and present. We name and recognize the Massachusett People as traditional stewards of this land and we acknowledge the enduring relationship that exists between them and their traditional territories. We admit the truth of violence perpetrated against the Indigenous Peoples of the land; perpetrated, moreover, both in the name of this country and in the name of Christ, and make a commitment to uncovering that truth. We comprehend that a land acknowledgment is a small yet important step towards ensuring a culture of respect, truth, and accountability in our church, in our City, in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and in our nation.

WEEKLY WORSHIP

**Join us in person, on Vimeo,
Facebook, and YouTube**

First Worship Sundays at 9 a.m. with communion

Festival Worship Sundays at 11 a.m.

Jazz Worship Thursdays at 6 p.m. with communion

Vespers Healing Worship 2nd Sundays at 5 p.m.



*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.*

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