

Old South Church *in* Boston

Open Door Award
To Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth

October 25, 2026
11:00am

Let us go forth into the city and proclaim the message there also;
for that is what I came out to do. —Mark 1:38

GATHER

PRELUDE — A Mighty Fortress — Calvin Hampton, *arr.*

WELCOME — John M. Edgerton

BELONG MESSAGE

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Thus says the Lord:
"I will put my breath within you, and you shall live."
In gratitude, we praise the Giver of Life.
Jesus says: "I am the resurrection and the life.
Whoever lives by believing in me will never die."
In gratitude, we praise the Source of our Being.
We gather to worship the One who frees us from the grave,
and stirs dry bones to life.
Spirit, come and enliven our worship!

*HYMN 1 — **Immortal, Invisible** — ST. DENIO

**Indicates all who are able may stand*

CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Merciful God,
our world calls for action and immediate response.
We do not know how to slow down and wait patiently.

Silence.

Our world dings, beeps, and rings, demanding constant attention.
We struggle to hear you amidst the noise.

Silence.

Our world is filled with images, reels, and shiny objects that catch our eyes.
We forget to look for you amidst the distractions.

Silence.

Call us to wait;
to surrender;
to pay attention:
Until our eyes are opened,
and we recognize you have been with us all along.

*PASSING THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

ANTHEM — The Church's One Foundation — Jane McFadden, *arr.*

The Old South Ringers
Peter Coloumbe, *director*

LISTEN

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Pam Roberts

SCRIPTURE — Revelation 3:6, 7b-8

*HYMN 166 — **Immortal Love, Forever Full** — SERENITY
Verses 1, 2, and 5 only

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

SCRIPTURE — Mark 5:21-43 — Rachel J. Barton

SERMON — Being a Bother

*HYMN 175 — **O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come** — KENTRIDGE

CENTERING PRAYER — Ashley J. Popperson

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 — Healer of Our Every Ill — Marty Haugen

Healer of our every ill,
light of each tomorrow,
give us peace beyond our fear,
and hope beyond our sorrow.

You who know our fears and sadness,
grace us with your peace and gladness;
Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts.

In the pain and joy beholding
how your grace is still unfolding,
give us all your vision, God of love.

You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart.

RESPOND

OPEN DOOR AWARD — John M. Edgerton & Laura Walker Dunn

Today Rev. Dr. Kenneth Orth, Healing Worship Minister,
receives the Open Door Award for his many years of dedicated service
opening closed doors to the LGBTQIA+ and the HIV/AIDS community.

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 — Bless the Lord from "Godspell" — Stephen Schwartz

Oh bless the Lord my soul! His praise to thee proclaim,
and all that is within me join to bless his holy name.

Oh bless the Lord my soul! His mercies bear in mind.
Forget not all his benefits: the Lord, to thee, is kind.

He will not always chide; he will with patience wait.
His wrath is ever slow to rise and ready to abate.

He pardons all thy sins; prolongs thy feeble breath;
he healeth thy infirmities and ransoms thee from death.

He clothes thee with his love; upholds thee with his truth;
and like an eagle he renews the vigor of thy youth.

Then bless his holy name,
whose grace hath made thee whole;
whose love and kindness crowns thy days.

Oh bless the Lord my soul...

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God, you have given each of us gifts to use as members of the body of Christ. We offer in return the work of our hands, our hearts, and our lives. May they bring transformation and renewal through the ministry of your church, into which all are invited:
You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others, to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory. *—UCC Statement of Faith, Doxology*

*HYMN 42 **O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing** AZMON

*CHARGE & BENEDICTION — Rachel J. Barton

Our help is in the name of the Lord—
The God who made heaven and Earth.
Where is God sending us?
God sends us into her own world.
And what does the Lord require of us?
To do justice, love kindness and walk humbly with God. —*Micah 6:8*

POSTLUDE — Processional — Grayston Ives

❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖ ❖

Join us for refreshments and fellowship
in Gordon Chapel following the Postlude.

The flowers today are given by Margaret Wheeler,
in honor of her wonderful son, Deven,
baptized at Old South by Quinn Caldwell years ago.

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.

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*.

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*.

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. Please 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*.

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* or see the front desk.

LEARN MORE

Check out the church website www.oldsouth.org for more on the history and ministries of Old South. See *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*
Dimitri Bawole, *Taylor Fellow*

Donald A. Wells, *Theologian in Residence* ❖ June R. Cooper, *Theologian in the City*
James Harrison Jr., *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* ❖ *Jonathan Reddix , 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 G. Sage, *Multimedia Director* ❖ Ava Welling, *Director of Audio*
Rémy Hatfield-Gardner & William Wei, *Livestream Production Assistants*

Elias Perez, *Senior Sexton* ❖ Tahmina Akter, MD Rahman, & Richard Serebour, *Sextons*
Corey Spence, *Weekday Receptionist* ❖ Shirley Bivins, Anna Pratt, Shelia Randolph, & Zach Zang *Evening & Weekend Receptionists*

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

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