

**Welcome to  
Old South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
Hallowell, Maine  
Hybrid Worship (In-person: Sanctuary)**

**10:00 am– Announcement and Community Joys & Concerns**

**10:10 am– Worship begins**

**December 11, 2022**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

*No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey,  
you are welcome here.*

**Announcements/Joys & Concerns**

**Welcome**

**Prelude**     “How Brightly Shines the Morning Star”     Dietrich Buxtehude

**Introit** “The Baptist Shouts on Jordan’s Shore”     *Winchester New*/Charles Coffin     Choir

**Call to Worship/Invocation/Lord’s Prayer/Lighting of 3rd Advent Candle**

Leader: Deb Morgan

Advent Candle Lighter: Warren Bartlett

One: Our souls seek to magnify the Lord. Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior!

**Many: We come today with eager hope, awaiting God’s new revelation.**

One: The mighty One has done great things! God’s mercy covers generations.

**Many: We come today with fervent joy; we worship with great expectation.**

One: Let us pray. God of Mary, Ruth, Bathsheba and Rahab, God of us all, we enter this time of worship with eagerness to hear your word, to know your presence once again. We gather together in this season of Advent, anticipating hope, praying for peace, attempting to cultivate joy and to share love amidst commotion, grief, despair and uncertainty. We know that we so often have difficulty in trusting Your way. We put limits on the ways we love and blinders on our desire to be faithful. In this time, guide us, O God, to your love that will renew our strength. Lead us to your peace that transcends all understanding. Fill us with a joy we can only experience in your presence. Remind us that you have always loved us with an everlasting love, so that we may share that love with others. In the name of our beloved Savior, we pray, the One who taught us to pray together:

**Many: 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.**

**\*Hymn and Lighting of Candles**     “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” Pilgrim #107  
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

[During the hymn, those attending in person are invited to come forward and to light one of the votive Advent Candles at the front of the sanctuary. Those on Zoom may light a candle and to keep it close by during the service.]

**Scripture** Luke 1:39-56

**Sermon** “One Strong Woman” The Rev. Susan M Reisert

**Anthem** “Comfort, Comfort Ye My People” *Genevan Psalter* (1551) Choir

**Mission Moment** Christine Bartlett

**Offering**

**Offertory:** “Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne” Timothy Matthews/arr. M. Hayes

**Doxology** (Pilgrim #515)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise him, all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

**Pastoral Prayer**

Silence, Prayer, Response

**\*Hymn** “My Soul Gives Glory to My God” NCH #119  
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

**\*Blessing**

“Go Out With Joy!” Mark Patterson Choir

**Postlude** “Watchman, Tell Us of the Night” ABERSTWYTH/Lyndell Leatherman

**Fellowship**

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**\*Please stand, if you are able**

**Call to Worship and Invocation adapted from Worship Ways at ucc.org.  
Copyright Information:**

**Greeter, In-person:** Galen Davis **Greeter, Zoom:** Cynthia McGuire

**Worship Assistant:** Christine and Warren Bartlett

**More Info/Contact Info**

oldsouthhallowell.org

[oldsouthhallowell@gmail.com](mailto:oldsouthhallowell@gmail.com)

207-622-1220

Pastor Susan’s blog: [hopeinthewilderness.com](http://hopeinthewilderness.com)

Pastor Susan’s podcast: <https://anchor.fm/susan-reisert>

**Old South Staff:**

The Rev. Susan M Reisert, Pastor and Teacher  
Mr. Bradley Krueger, Music Director  
Ms. Cynthia McGuire, Administrative Assistant  
Ms. Marcy Fullmer, Sexton

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS!**

### **This is the Third Sunday of Advent!**

**DEVOTIONAL CALENDAR**— is available, if you haven't picked one up already. You can pick one up by the south door, if you are attending in person. If not, look through your emails (it was sent last Sunday night) or email the church office.

**ADVENT GATHERINGS**— every Tuesday (at Noon) Hybrid. We meet in the parish house and on Zoom. The Zoom link is in the Tuesday News&Notes.

### **Meetings This Week:**

#### **Tuesday, 12/13—**

Advent Gathering at Noon. Hybrid (use the Bible Bunch link)

#### **Thursday, 12/15—**

Oversight Meeting. Zoom only (link will be in the Tuesday and Thursday News&Notes).

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## **NEWS&NOTES**

Are you receiving the church email that's sent out on Tuesdays and Thursdays? If not, send an email to the church office and we'll add you to the list!

The News&Notes will keep you up-to-date on everything that's happening at Old South. And, it provides important Zoom links and, occasionally, a fun quiz.

CONGRATULATIONS to this week's quiz winner: Bonnie Nielson.

She was the first to send in the right answer. Can you have a "Twelve Days of Christmas Advent Calendar"? No! Advent is before Christmas (starting on the 4th Sunday before Christmas Eve). The 12 Days of Christmas are after Christmas, observing the period of time between Christmas and Epiphany (January 6).

## **OUTREACH NEWS**

**Outreach Fund Focus for December:** Heating assistance

**BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY**— Many thanks to everyone who volunteered this month. Our next delivery is January 3rd.

### **SUPPORT the Ministry of Old South:**

1. Checks may be sent to the church PO Box 508, Hallowell, ME 04347 or directly to Wendy Wells: Wendy Wells, 9 Densmore Court, Hallowell, ME 04347

2. Online giving (credit card) is available through the Maine Conference. Please find the link on our webpage: <https://oldsouthhallowell.org/>

**HANNAFORD PROGRAM:** Next deadline: Dec. 11. Send to Wendy at the above address, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

### **HYMNS FOR December 11:**

#### **Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence      Pilgrim #107**

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, For with blessing in his hand,  
Christ our God to earth descendeth, Our full homage to demand.

2 King of kings, yet born of Mary, As of old on earth he stood,  
Lord of lords, in human vesture, In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heavenly food.

3 Rank on rank the host of heaven Spreads its vanguard on the way,  
As the Light of light descendeth From the realms of endless day,  
That the powers of hell may vanish As the darkness clears away.

4 At his feet the six-winged seraph; Cherubim, with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence, As with ceaseless voice they cry,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord Most High!

#### **My Soul give Glory to My God      NCH #119**

1 My soul gives glory to my God. My heart pours out its praise.  
God lifted up my lowliness in many marvelous ways.

2 My God has done great things for me: yes, holy is God's name.  
All people will declare me blessed, and blessings they shall claim.

3 From age to age, to all who fear, such mercy love imparts,  
Dispensing justice far and near, dismissing selfish hearts.

4 Love casts the mighty from their thrones, promotes the insecure,  
Leave hungry spirits satisfied, the rich seem suddenly poor.

5 Praise God, whose loving covenant supports those in distress,  
Remembering past promises with present faithfulness.