

Welcome to
Old South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Hallowell, Maine
Hybrid Worship (In-person: Parish House)
10:00 am– Announcements and Community Joys & Concerns
10:10 am– Worship begins
May 7, 2023 Easter 5

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “Make Me a Captive, Lord” Samuel Howard/arr. Anthony Giamanco

Introit “This Is the Day” Les Garrett Choir

Call to Worship/Invocation/Lord's Prayer Darlene

Davis

One: Welcome, friends, as we gather for worship this day,

Many: As we gather in this Easter time, searching for encouragement and a renewed vision for our faith.

One: Be among us, Holy God, and help us to perceive your presence in our midst,

Many: That we may be strengthened in faith and in mission.

One: Let us pray:

Many: Gracious and Holy God, we lift up our voices in praise and in wonder, even as we find ourselves silent in our contemplations of the Risen Christ. Help us to open our hearts and our minds to the powerful message of hope and love that Jesus shared with his closest friends, that we may grow in faith and in courage to be Your people today and always. In the name of our Friend and our Guide, Jesus the Christ, we pray and continue in prayer with the words he taught us to pray: 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** “Christ Is the World's True Light” Pilgrim #198
(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 candles at the front of the sanctuary. Those on Zoom may light a candle and keep it close by during the service.]

Psalm Reading Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 p. 505 Deb Morgan

Scripture John 14:1-14 p.108

Message “Hopes, Dreams, Ambitions and Expectations? #1”

Anthem “Children of the Lord” Natalie Sleeth Choir

Mission Moment Christine
Bartlett

Offering

Offertory: “For the Beauty of the Earth” Mark Hayes/arr. Marvin Gaspard

***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.*

Communion

Introduction and Invitation

Communion Hymn “As We Gather” NCH #332, verses 1 and 3

Story, Prayer and Consecration

Sharing of the Elements

Music “Nearer My God, to Thee” Lowell Mason/arr. Jason Krug

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Pastoral Prayer

***Hymn** “His Eye Is On the Sparrow” NCH #475
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

***Blessing**

***“Peace I Leave with You, My Friends”** NCH #249 Choir & Congregation

Peace I leave with you, my friends, shalom, my peace, in all you do. Peace I leave with you, my friends. I give to you so you can give to others, too. To share God’s love is why I came, to show God’s kindness without end. Go now, my friends, and do the same, until I come again. Peace I leave.....

Postlude “On Jordan’s Stormy Banks” C.F. Letson/Lani Smith

Fellowship

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

Service information:

Call and Invocation written by Pastor Reisert.

Greeter, In-person: Daniel O’Neill

Worship Assistant: Christine Bartlett

Greeter, Zoom:

More Info/Contact Info

oldsouthhallowell.org

oldsouthhallowell@gmail.com

207-622-1220

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Pastor Susan's blog: hopeinthewilderness.comPastor Susan's podcast: <https://anchor.fm/susan-reisert>**Old South Staff:**The Rev. Susan M Reisert, Pastor and Teacher
Director

Mr. Bradley Krueger, Music

Ms. Cynthia McGuire, Administrative Assistant

Ms. Marcy Fullmer, Sexton

PRAYER LIST *Please notify us of any updates !*

Tim B, *heart attacks, requested by Tina*; Family of Phyllis Blake, *mother-in-law to Warren's nephew, Paul*; Jeff C. & wife Lucy, *radiation treatments for cancer, friend of the Bartletts*; Rev. Leslie Chatfield, *pastor of Rangeley Congregational Church, cancer*; Dick Cook, *Alzheimer's Disease*; family of Debbie Cronk; *Family of Dorothy Davis, Galen's mother*; Diane and Lorraine, *car accident, requested by Christine*; family and friends of Chase Fossett; Torrey Gimpel, *continuing struggles with vertigo*; family and friends of Jane & Harmon Harvey; Alicia & son, *Tina's friend, difficult situation*; Jeff, *Johnsons' hairdresser, cancer*; Alice Johnson, *health issues*; Cathy, *Darla's daughter, health issues*; Connie K, *Warren's cousin, cancer*; Alta Liscomb, *health issues*; Lisa Lord, *health issues*; Maxwell family, *Susan's parents, aging issues*; Anne Makucin, *Bob McGuire's sister, chronic myeloid leukemia*; Family and Friends of Emma May, *a Vassar classmate of Margaret's who recently passed away*; Family of Ernest McPherson; Bud & Hilda Merckens, *former pastor, health issues*; family and friends of Barry Nelson, *spouse of Joe's cousin, Ed*; Nikki, *Becky's cousin, cancer*; Samantha Nowlin, *Riley's mother, depression & grief*; Lynne P, *friend of Bob McGuire, cancer*; Pam Payne, *Cynthia's cousin, heart disease and cancer*; Michael Pierce, *Cynthia's brother, health issues*; Family of Peter Radsky, *Becky's cousin*; Bob & Carola Randall, *health issues*; Maxine Roak, *Cynthia's aunt, dementia*; Christie Souza; Ann Stinson, *friend of Cynthia, multiple myeloma*; Nona Thompson, *Cynthia's friend, lymphoma*; David Vanasse, *Cynthia's cousin, health issues*; *Family and friends of Emmitt Van Buskirk, friend of Johnsons*; Kathy Weeks, *Cynthia's friend, cancer*; Kristy Wolfington and family, *cancer*.

Also:

those who are homeless, hungry, isolated; caregivers; children and youth struggling with life issues; victims of gun violence; those affected by COVID by illness, job loss, health care workers & more; patience, for those working in and attending schools; the people of Afghanistan, Haiti, Turkey & Syria; people affected by natural disasters here and abroad; the People of Ukraine; the divisions in our nation.

ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, ANNOUNCEMENTS!

BIBLE BUNCH— meets on Tuesdays, Noon - 1:00. All are welcome! We meet in the parish house and on Zoom.

UPCOMING SUNDAYS/THEMES/INFORMATION

For the next several weeks, our worship theme is: Hopes, Dreams, Ambitions and Expectations? We'll consider and reflect on what the Easter message has to say to us this year, for each of us and all of us together.

Pentecost is May 28.

The following Sunday, June 4, will be Music Sunday.

Beginning on June 11, our worship theme will be: Questions and (at least an attempt at) Answers. **Pastor Susan needs your help for this series!** Do you have a question you've always wondered about— about the Bible, or our denomination, or theology? If you have a question to pose, to be considered for inclusion in the series, **please submit your question, or questions, by Sunday, May 21** (you may send email to oldsouthhallowell@gmail.com or to smreiser@colby.edu, or you can drop questions off at the church office). Pastor Susan will review the questions and will put together a plan for using the questions as the basis for a sermon series starting in June.

NEWS&NOTES

Are you receiving the church email that's sent out on Tuesdays & Thursdays? If not, send an email to the church office. We'll add you to the list! The News&Notes will keep you up-to-date on that's happening at Old South. It provides Zoom links and, occasionally, something amusing.

OUTREACH NEWS

Outreach Fund Focus for May: Disaster Relief

BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY— The next one is this Tuesday, June 6. The Sign Up will be posted in the next week or so.

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: May 14. Send to Wendy at the above address, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford

HYMNS FOR May 7, 2023

Christ Is the World's True Light

Pilgrim #198

1 Christ is the world's true light, Its captain of salvation,
The daystar clear and bright Of every man and nation;
New life, new hope awakes Where'er men own his sway;
Freedom her bondage breaks, And night is turned to day.

2 In Christ all races meet, Their ancient feuds forgetting,
The whole round world complete, From sunrise to its setting;
When Christ is throned as Lord, Men shall forsake their fear
To plough-share beat the sword, To pruning-hook the spear.

3 One Lord, in one great name Unite us all who own thee;
Cast out our pride and shame That hinder to enthrone thee;
The world has waited long, Has travailed long in pain;
To heal its ancient wrong, Come, Prince of peace, and reign.

As We Gather at Your Table

NCH #332

1 As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

His Eye Is on the Sparrow

NCH #475

1 Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
When God is ever my portion? My constant friend will be:
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me;
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me.

Refrain:

I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,
God's eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me.

2 “Let not your heart be troubled,” Christ’s tender word I hear,
And resting on God’s goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path God leads me but one step I may see:
God’s eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me;
God’s eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me. *Refrain*

3 Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I then draw close to my Savior, From care I am set free:
God’s eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me;
God’s eye is on the sparrow, and I know God watches me. *Refrain*