

Welcome to
Old South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Hallowell, Maine
Hybrid Worship (In-person: Sanctuary)
10:00 am– Announcements and Community Joys & Concerns
10:10 am– Worship begins
October 15, 2023

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us” arr. L. Larson C. McGuire/D.Reutershan

Introit “I Was Glad” C.O. Beck Choir

Call to Worship/Invocation/Lord's Prayer

Ron Bansmer

One: We gather as your holy people, God of light and wisdom,

Many: That we may be renewed and strengthened.

One: Generation after generation of faithful people,

Many: Have sought to follow and to serve.

One: May we, in this time, set ourselves to be about God's holy work,

Many: Bringing hope and grace wherever we go.

One: Let us pray:

Many: Holy and Loving God, Your story among the people is so often surprising, even unsettling. In the midst of love and hope, may we find the blessing to continue to follow in Your way. Though that way may be unfamiliar, we trust that You will be with us, guiding us with Your sure hand. In the name of Jesus the Christ, we pray, and continue with the words he taught: 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 & Lighting of Candles** “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing” (*Nettleton*) NCH#459

[In addition to the hymnal, words to the hymns 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 Psalm 23 p. 501

Christine Bartlett

What Makes Old South Special?

Jane Campbell

Scripture Ruth 1:1-17 [4:13-17] p. 241

Message Looking Backward and Forward at the Same Time: Trust

Cynthia McGuire

Christine Bartlett

Offertory: “Day By Day, and With Each Passing Moment” arr.Larson C. McGuire

You may sing the traditional version or the inclusive language version:

Trad: 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.

Inclusive: Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Silence, Prayer, Response

***Hymn** “God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years” (*SANDON*) Pilgrim# 97

***Sung Response** “Go in Peace” (Ocean Park) B. Waters/K. White Choir & Congregation

Go in peace and the peace of God be with you this day. Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always. Celebrate and share the joy! Celebrate new life! Go in peace and the peace of God be with you always.

Postlude “Christians, We Have Met to Worship” William Moore/arr. Mark Hayes

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

More Info/Contact Info

Call and Invocation written by Susan Reisert

Greeter: Deb Morgan

Worship Asst: Deb Morgan Zoom: Joseph Reisert

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Pastor Susan's blog: hopeinthewilderness.com

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

The Rev. Susan M Reisert, Pastor and Teacher
Ms. Cynthia McGuire, Administrative Assistant

Mr. Bradley Krueger, Music Director
Ms. Marcy Fullmer, Sexton

Announcements and Hymns for 10/15/23

Welcome to Worship at Old South! We're glad you are here!

OFFICE HOURS—Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 - Noon.

THANK YOU to Don Reutershan for filling in for Brad today!

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING— The Oversight Committee is planning to call a congregational meeting for after worship on November 12. The business of this meeting will be a vote on putting the sanctuary building up for sale. More information is available and still more information will be made available in the next couple of weeks. If you have any questions about this meeting, please feel free to speak to Pastor Susan or any member of the Oversight Committee.

FALL WORSHIP SERIES

“Looking Backward and Forward at the Same Time”-- We are using the Narrative Lectionary this fall, focusing on the ancient stories from the Hebrew Scriptures. As we consider these old stories, we'll look for new wisdom as we gather as God's holy people.

For the next few Sundays:

October 22, David

October 29, Division

Nov 5, Elijah, plus Communion and Remembering Sunday (you are welcome to bring names of loved ones who have passed away in the last year or so)

RECORDING SESSIONS— What makes Old South special?

As part of our fall worship series, we are recording short pieces (1-2 minutes), during worship, with individuals reflecting briefly on what makes Old South special. Do you have a short story or reflection to share? You'll find slots on the Worship Sign Up.

MEETINGS/GATHERINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, Oct 17— NO Bible Bunch

Wednesday, Oct 18— Choir rehearsal

Sunday, Oct. 29

Harvest Potluck and “Fun Size” Auction, in the parish house after worship. The sign-up, with more information, is on the back wall of the sanctuary and in the News&Notes.

BIBLE BUNCH We meet on Tuesdays at Noon, in the Parish House and on Zoom. We've finished up our fall worship series discussions. After a week off, we'll move on to current trends in church life, in advance of the Congregational meeting that the Oversight Committee is planning to call for November 12.

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!

OUTREACH NEWS

Outreach Fund Focus/October: October 1st, Neighbors in Need Offering, October 8-29, Disaster Relief

BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY– the next one is Tues, 11/7.

SUPPORT the Ministry of Old South:

1. Checks may be sent to the church PO Box 508, 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: Today, October 15th. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

TODAY'S HYMNS

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing (Nettleton) NCH #459

1 Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love.

2 Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

3 O to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known:
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years (Sandon) Pilgrim #97

1 God of our life, through all the circling years, We trust in thee;
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears, Thy hand we see.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
We own thy mercies, Lord, which never fail.

2 God of the past, our times are in thy hand; With us abide.
Lead us by faith to hope's true promised land; Be thou our guide.
With thee to bless, the darkness shines as light,
And faith's fair vision changes into sight.

3 God of the coming years, through paths unknown We follow thee;
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone; Our refuge be.
Be thou for us in life our daily bread,
Our heart's true home when all our years have sped.

