

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
December 3, 2023

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude "People, Look East" French Carol/Anthon Giamanco

Introit "Blessed Be the Lord God of Israel" Donovan Klotzbeacher
Choir

Call to Worship/Lighting of Advent Candle/Invocation/Lord's Prayer

Cynthia McGuire

One: Tear open the heavens and bring forth Your presence. We watch and we wait, Holy God, for the glory to come.

Many: We gather with hope, remembering Your mercy.

One: Lead us in love; shine from above. Awaken the earth.

Many: We gather with hope, remembering your justice. Revive us, restore us.

One: We gather with hope, remembering Your handiwork.

Many: Make us, mold us; shine from above.

One: Let us pray:

Many: We gather with the word of hope in our thoughts and prayers, on this first Sunday of Advent. For many of us, hope is a challenging word in these days. The world, our country, our personal circumstances, the darkness of this time of year, lead us more to despair than to hope. Yet, as Your people, we will bravely hope. Help us, O God, to hope and more than that, help us to live it and to share it. In our hopefulness, we pray the words Jesus 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.

Advent Word: Hope

***Hymn & Lighting of Candles** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel (*Veni Emmanuel*), Pilg 110

[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/YouTube may light a candle and keep it close by during the service.]

Psalm Psalm 147:12-20 p. 582 Ron Bansmer

Scripture John 1:1-18 p. 91

Message Beginnings: John

Anthem “Come, O Come, Emmanuel” David Lantz Choir (Cynthia McGuire, flute)

Mission Moment Christine Bartlett

Offering (for those who attend worship in person, you may come forward during the offertory, to place your offering in one of the offering plates)

Offertory: “At Peace” John Turner

***Doxology** (Pilgrim #515) (*Old Hundredth*)

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.

The Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

Communion Hymn “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” (*Picardy*), NCH #345, verses 1 & 2

Communion Prayer, Story, Consecration

Sharing of the Elements

Music: “There is a Happy Land” C.E. Walz

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Pastoral Prayer and Response

***Hymn** “With Joy Draw Water (*St. Columba*), NCH #109

***Blessing**

***Sung Response** “Peace I Leave With You” Donovan Klotzbeacher Choir

Peace I leave with you; my peace I give unto you. Not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Amen.

Postlude “Voluntary on *Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*”
Stuttgart/Grimoaldo Macchia

Fellowship

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

More Info/Contact Info

Call & Invocation adapted from Worship Ways at ucc.org.

Greeter: Erroll Adams, Roger Laliberte
Zoom: Joseph Reisert

Worship Asst: Deb Morgan

oldsouthhallowell.org

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207-622-1220

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Pastor Susan's blog: hopeinthewilderness.com

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

Announcements and Hymns for 12/3/2023

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

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

ADVENT begins today. Our Advent devotional, The Dawn Chorus, was emailed this past Tuesday and will be emailed again this coming Tuesday. We have a few paper copies available. Please see Pastor Susan.

BIBLE BUNCH will start their Advent series on Tuesday, 11/28, at Noon (hybrid). We'll discuss the Advent sermon series on “Beginnings.”
12/5— Mark 1 12/12— Matthew 1 12/19— Luke 1

CHRISTMAS CAROLING! We will go Caroling on Sunday, Dec 17, after worship, visiting several of our shut-ins. All are welcome!

TAGS! A Giving Tree! It's been a few years since we have been able to participate in a Hallowell area Giving Tree. This year, it's back! You'll find tags in the vestry. Please take a look and consider taking one or two of the tags. Please return gifts, wrapped and with the original tag firmly attached (it has a code that will make sure the gift lands with the right child), by Sunday, December 17. Thank you!

STEWARDSHIP

It's Stewardship Season, when we ask that members and friends consider their giving for the following year and make a pledge, in order to help our Treasurer craft a budget for the year. Materials have been emailed to those on the church email list and are available in the vestry.

If you haven't turned in a pledge form, please do so as soon as you can. Thanks! If you have any questions, please contact the church office.

MEETINGS/GATHERINGS/EVENTS:

Tuesday, 12/5

11:00– Outreach Team (hybrid)

Noon– Bible Bunch (hybrid)

5:00– Building Committee (hybrid)

Wednesday, 11/29

Choir: 5:30

Bell choir: 6:45

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/December: Holiday Cheer

BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY– the next one is this Tues, 12/5.

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: December 10th. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

TODAY'S HYMNS

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (Veni Emmanuel) Pilgrim #110

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here, Until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

2 O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer Our spirits by thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. *Refrain*

3 O come, thou Wisdom from on high, And order all things far and nigh;
To us the path of knowledge show, and cause us in her ways to go. *Refrain*

4 O come, Desire of nations, bind All people in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife and quarrels cease; Fill the whole world with heaven's peace. *Refrain*

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence (Picardy) NCH #345

1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in the hand,
Christ our God to earth descending, our full homage to demand.

2 Monarch great, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth Christ stood.
Lord of all, in human vesture—in the body and the blood—
Christ will give to all the faithful bread of life for heavenly food.

With Joy Draw Water (St. Columba) NCH #109

1 With joy draw water from the spring; salvation's living well.
The Holy One is in your midst; glad praises sing and tell!

2 A shoot has sprung from Jesse's tree; of God the chosen One.
A branch of knowledge and of truth; a gift of love has come!

3 With love the poor will be received; the proud will turn aside;
And faithfulness will be a path, and righteousness the guide!

4 The wolf shall lie down with the lamb; the calf and lion play.
God's peace shall dwell within the land; a child shall show the way!

5 With joy draw water from the spring; salvation's living well.
The Holy One is in your midst; glad praises sing and tell!

