

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
February 23, 2025

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “If With All Your Hearts” Felix Mendelssohn Cynthia McGuire/Don Reutershan

Introit “The Lord I Will At All Times Bless” Donovan D. Klotzbeacher Choir

Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord’s Prayer Darlene Davis

One: As we gather for worship this day,

Many: In this time and space set apart,

One: This time of reflection and renewal,

Many: Be among us, Loving and Merciful God.

One: Help us to understand Your way, Your wishes, for humanity,

Many: Especially in the challenging and difficult aspects of faith.

One: Help us to follow and to live as You would have us,

Many: Today and always.

One: Let us pray:

Many: We are aware, Holy God, that many of the lessons that Jesus taught go against our natural instincts. How do we love our enemies? Why should we do good to those who hate us? What does it mean to bless those who curse us? Especially in these days, as we witness so much division and so much intentional discord, how can we live as loving people and what difference can our small numbers possibly make? Be with us and among us, Gracious God. Strengthen us and grant us courage, that we may be the people You call us to be in all times: 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

***Opening Hymn** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (Hymn to Joy) Pilgrim #8

[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.]

Luke 6:27-38

Ps 37:1-11

Psalm Psalm 37:1-11 p. 510 Cynthia McGuire

Scripture Luke 6:27-38 p. 64

Message “Holy Habits: Others”

Anthem “The Gift of Love” arr. Hal Hopson Christine Bartlett, Cynthia McGuire, & Bonnie Dufty

Mission Moment

Offering (for those who attend worship in person, please place your offering in one of the offering plates)

Offertory: “Where’er You Walk” from *Semele* G.F.Handel Cynthia McGuire/Don Reutershan

***Doxology** (Pilgrim #515)

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.

Time of Prayer Silence, Pastoral Prayer, Response

***Hymn** “Your Ways Are Not Our Own” (Schumann) NCH #170
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

***Blessing**

***Sung Response** “You Are Salt for the Earth, O People” (Bring Forth) NCH #181

Refrain: *Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace; Bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!*

Postlude

Don Reutershan

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

More Info/Contact Info

Call to Worship/Invocation adapted from “Worship Ways” at ucc.org.

Image at the top of the bulletin is from Google Images.

Greeter: Deb Morgan Worship Asst: Zoom: Joseph Reisert
Hospitality: Bonnie Nielson

oldsouthhallowell.org oldsouthhallowell@gmail.com 207-622-1220

Licenses: CCLI#3214081; OneLicense A-742216

Pastor Susan’s blog: hopeinthewilderness.com

Old South Staff:

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 2/23/25

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

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

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Sun, Feb 23

10:00 Worship

Tues, Feb 25

Noon Bible Bunch (parish house and on Zoom)

Wed, Feb 26

4:00 Choir rehearsal

Thurs, Feb 27

5:00 Oversight

Sun, March 2 (worship moves back to the sanctuary)

9:00 Choir

10:00 Worship

After Worship Tales from the Trail with John Reisert

EVENTS:

SUNDAY, March 2, after worship-- Tales from the Trail. John Reisert will share some of his experiences as a “thru hiker” on the Appalachian Trail (over 5 months, in 2023, he hiked all 2200 miles, from Georgia to Maine), as well as from the Colorado Trail, which he hiked last summer.

SHROVE TUESDAY-- March 4, 5:00 - 6:30. This year, our Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper will be a bit different. Instead of Pastor Susan making a bunch of pancakes, we'll have a breakfast-themed potluck. A sign up is posted.

Make it a double! Since it's also our monthly Bread of Life dinner delivery, the theme of the delivery will be Breakfast for Dinner. Please see the separate sign up.

ASH WEDNESDAY-- March 5, Noon - 2:00. We will not have a service. Instead, we'll have meditative stations available in the parish house. More info will be available next week.

LENTEN BIBLE BUNCH-- MOVES TO THURSDAYS. Our discussions will be linked to this year's Lenten devotional. We will meet:

March 6, Noon - 1:00

March 13, 11:45 - 12:45

March 20-- NO Meeting (unless someone in the group would like to lead)

March 27, Noon - 1:00

April 3, Noon - 1:00

April 10, Noon - 1:00

BIBLE BUNCH meets on Tuesdays, at Noon, in the parish house and on Zoom, with discussions focused on the previous Sunday's sermon and worship.

The Quarter Fund. If you come to worship in person and have some extra quarters weighing down your pocket or purse, you can put them in the tray on the side table. The quarters will help a couple of people who could use some assistance with laundry.

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/February: Disaster Relief (UCC)/Los Angeles Wildfires//Feb 23 for the Maine School of Ministry

BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY– The next one is 3/4/25.

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: March 9. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

TODAY'S HYMNS

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (*Hymn to Joy*) Pilgrim #8

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away;
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

2 All thy works with joy surround thee, Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in thee.

3 Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

4 Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began;
Father love is reigning o'er us, Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

Public Domain Hymn

Your Ways are Not Our Own

(Schumann)

NCH #170

1 Your ways are not our own, O gracious God most high,
Yet we would follow in your paths and on your love rely.

2 Christ teaches us to bless the ones who curse and harm,
To turn the other cheek when struck, attackers to disarm.

3 Yet, we cannot excuse abuse in any form,
For all are children of your care, and love must be our norm.

4 How shall we show your love, your pardon to believe?
You bid us share as we are blessed and give as we receive.

5 Forgiveness is our joy, receiving, giving, too.
Keep us from judgments hard and cruel, that we may dwell with you.

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Benediction response:

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

(Bring Forth)

NCH #181

Refrain: Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace; Bring forth the reign of justice,
bring forth the City of God!

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Today's prelude and offertory pieces are traditionally part of classical vocal music literature. They were arranged for clarinet and piano by Clair W. Johnson.