



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
April 6, 2025

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “Be Still My Soul” (Finlandia) Jean Sibelius arr. Craig Curry Don Reutershan

Introit “Just As I Am” (Woodworth) Charlotte Elliott Choir

Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord’s Prayer Bonnie Childs

One: As April begins, we feel and see the first hints at spring.

Many: Even in the midst of rain, wind, mud and dust,

One: We sense the opportunity for a new start.

Many: Be among us, Holy God,

One: And help us to open our hearts and our minds,

Many: To perceive your gracious and loving presence.

One: Today and always. Let us pray:

Many: We gather for worship this day, to worship and to praise, to spend a few moments in holy wonder of Your love, Merciful God. Hold us in the mystery of Your embrace, that as we approach the ending of this year’s journey through Lent, we will be renewed and strengthened, filled with a new awareness of all that You are, and all that You call us to be, as Your faithful people. Bless us, that we may turn to You, as we pray together 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

***Opening Hymn** “There Is a Balm in Gilead” (*Balm In Gilead*) NCH #553

[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 126 p. 572 Ron Bansmer

Scripture John 12:1-8 p. 106

Message “The Faithfulness of Paying Attention”

Anthem “Walk Worthy” J. Paul Williams/Joseph M. Martin Choir

Mission Moment

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

Offertory: “Here, O My Lord” arr. William Bay 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.

Sacrament of Communion

Invitation

*Hymn “Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face” (Morecambe) NCH #336

Communion Prayer, Story, Consecration & Sharing of the Elements

Music: “Panis Angelicus” César Franck Cynthia McGuire/Don Reutershan

Prayer of Thanksgiving, Pastoral Prayer and Response

***Hymn** “Nearer, My God, to Thee” (Bethany) Pilgrim #351
(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 “Come, Thou Fount” John Wyeth & Robert Robinson arr. L.Larson McGuire/Reutershan

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

More Info/Contact Info

Call to Worship and Invocation adapted from churchofscotland.org.

Image at the top of the bulletin is from the SALT Project.

Greeter: Darlene Davis Worship Asst: Daniel O’Neill
Hospitality: Cynthia McGuire

Zoom: Linsley Childs

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 4/6/25

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

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

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Sunday, April 6

9:00 Choir

10:00 Worship

Wednesday, April 9

5:00 Choir

6:30 Bell Choir

Thursday, April 10

Noon Bible Study

Sunday, April 13 Palm/Passion Sunday

9:00 Choir

10:00 Worship

After Worship Tales from the Trail

EVENTS:

RESCHEDULED AGAIN, to 4/13-- 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.

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

April 10, Noon - 1:00

HOLY WEEK:

April 13 Palm/Passion Sunday

April 17 Maundy Thursday Potluck and Service, with Communion, Parish House, 5:30

April 18 Good Friday Service, Sanctuary, Noon

April 20 Easter Worship at 10:00

BIBLE BUNCH meets on Thursdays (during Lent), at Noon, in the parish house and on Zoom, with discussions focused on the Lenten devotional.

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 for April: Pilgrim Lodge

BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY— The next one is 5/6. The Sign Up will be posted.

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/>
(please be aware that the Conference is now assessing a credit card fee)

HANNAFORD PROGRAM: Next deadline: April 13th. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

EASTER PLANTS: We will not be ordering plants for Easter, but if you would like to bring a plant or floral arrangement in memory or honor of someone, please let Cynthia know by Tuesday, April 15th by 9:00 am so the complete list can go into the bulletin. Please remember to find plants that don't have a heavy scent.

TODAY'S HYMNS

There Is a Balm in Gilead

(Balm in Gilead)

NCH #553

Refrain: There is a balm in Gilead, to make the wounded whole,
There is a balm in Gilead, to heal the sin-sick soul.

1 Sometimes I feel discouraged, and think my work's in vain,
But then the Holy Spirit revives my soul again. *Refrain*

2 Don't ever feel discouraged, for Jesus is your friend,
Who, if you ask for knowledge, will never fail to lend. *Refrain*

3 If you cannot preach like Peter, if you cannot pray like Paul,
You can tell the love of Jesus, who died to save us all. *Refrain*

Public Domain Hymn

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face

(Morecambe)

NCH #336

1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face; here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp the firmer hand the eternal grace, And all my weariness upon you lean.

2 Here would I feed upon the bread of God, here share the cup, the gracious gift of heaven;
Here would I lay aside each earthly load, here taste afresh the calm of sin forgiven.

5 We have no help but yours, nor do we need another strength than yours to lean upon.
It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed; our faith is in your might, your might alone.

Public Domain Hymn

Nearer, My God, to Thee

(Bethany)

Pilgrim #351

1 Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer to thee, E'en though it be a cross that raises me;
Still all my song would be, Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer, My God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

2 Though like the wanderer, The sun gone down, Darkness be over me, My rest a stone,
Yet in my dreams I'd be, Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer, My God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

3 There let the way appear Steps unto heaven: All that thou sendest me in mercy given;
Angels to beckon me Nearer, My God to thee, Nearer, My God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

4 Then with my waking thoughts Bright with thy praise, Out of my stony griefs Bethel I'll raise;
So by my woes to be Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer, My God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

5 Or if on joyful wing Cleaving the sky, Sun, moon, and stars forgot, Upward I fly,
Still all my song shall be, Nearer, my God, to thee, Nearer, My God, to thee, Nearer to thee.

Public Domain Hymn

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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