



**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  
May 18, 2025  
5th Sunday of Easter**

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

**Announcements/Joys & Concerns**

**Welcome**

**Prelude** “Come Away to the Skies” *Middlebury*/Patricia Lou Harris

**Introit** “Gathered Here” NCH #742 Phil Porter Choir

**Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord’s Prayer** Wendy Wells

One: As we gather this day,

**Many: We lift up our worship and our praise,**

One: Our wonder at the intricate creation,

**Many: Of which we are part.**

One: Hold us close, Holy God,

**Many: And help us to keep our eyes and ears open,**

One: To discern Your presence,

**Many: And, to perceive the Risen Christ.**

One: Let us pray:

**Many: Holy and Loving God, as we gather for worship this day, shower upon us Your blessings and grace, that we may be renewed once again for the work and ministry ahead. May we discern clearly the path before us, and may we work together in a holy harmony, encouraging and helping each other as we travel the journey of life and faith. Be with us and among us, and may we trust in You and Your way for us always: 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** “All Creatures of Our God and King”(Lasst Uns Erfreuen) Pilg #64  
(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** Psalm 148 p. 582 Ron Bansmer

**Scripture** Acts 11:1-18 p. 130

**Message** “Open Wide the Doors of Your Imagination: All In This Together”

**Anthem** “Devotion” arr. John Ness Beck/Craig Courtney Choir

### **Mission Moment**

**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 or you may place your offering in the plate near the door as you depart after worship)

**Offertory:** “In the Garden” arr. Lisa Hoekstra

**\*Doxology** (Pilgrim #515)

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

*Traditional: 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** “I Love to Tell the Story” (Hankey) NCH #522  
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

### **\*Blessing**

**\*Sung Response** “Peace I Leave with You, My Friends” (Peace My Friends) NCH #249  
*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.*

**Postlude** “Festival Postlude on Truro” Mary McDonald

### **Fellowship**

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

### **More Info/Contact Info**

The photo at the top of the bulletin is from Google images.  
The Call to Worship was written by Susan Reisert.

Greeter: Galen Davis Worship Asst: Ron Bansmer Zoom: Joe Reisert  
Hospitality: Cynthia McGuire

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Licenses: CCLI#3214081

OneLicense A-742216

Pastor Susan's blog: [hopeinthewilderness.com](http://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 5/18/25**

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

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

**PILGRIM LODGE**— programs and camp information available at [pilgrimlodge.org](http://pilgrimlodge.org). We have funds to help Old South folk attend!

### **MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:**

Sunday, May 18

9:00 Choir

10:00 Worship

After worship                      Special Congregational Meeting

3:00 Living Water Association Meeting, Pilgrim Lodge

Wednesday, May 21

4:00 Choir

Thursday, May 22

Noon Bible Bunch

5:00 Oversight

**The Oversight Committee has called for a Special Meeting of Members for TODAY, May 18, after worship, to vote on the following recommendation:**

The Oversight Committee be given the following specific authority in accordance with the Bylaws of Old South Congregational Church United Church of Christ, Hallowell, Maine (Article VIII.9.b.9):

1. To create a new listing agreement with our realtor to:
  - a) List the sanctuary building and the parish house together as a package for a price to be recommended by our realtor; and
  - b) Continue to list the sanctuary building as a separate option at a price recommended by our realtor.
2. To authorize the Oversight Committee to accept a reasonable offer, 1.a) or 1.b) above, and to sign a purchase and sale agreement based on the vote of the congregation at this Special Meeting of Members, May 18, 2025.
3. To endeavor to find a new home for the organ if the buyer of the property is not interested in having the organ included in the sale.

**BIBLE BUNCH**— The focus of our discussions for May are the Easter stories from the Gospels:  
May 22— John 20:1-18

### **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: June 15. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

### **TODAY'S HYMNS**

#### **All Creatures of Our God and King**

**(Lasst Uns Erfreuen)**

**Pilgrim #64**

1 All creatures of our God and King, Lift up your voice and with us sing Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Thou burning sun with golden beam, Thou silver moon with softer gleam,  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

2 Thou rushing wind that art so strong, Ye clouds that sail in heaven along, O praise him, Alleluia!  
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice, Ye lights of evening, find a voice,  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

3 Thou flowing water, pure and clear, Make music for thy Lord to hear, Alleluia, Alleluia!  
Thou fire so masterful and bright, That givest man both warmth and light,  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

4 And all ye men of tender heart, Forgiving others, take your part, O sing ye, Alleluia!  
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear, Praise God and on him cast your care.  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

5 Let all things their creator bless, And worship him in humbleness, O praise him, Alleluia!  
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son, And praise the Spirit, three in One.  
O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Public Domain Hymn*

#### **I Love to Tell the Story**

**(Hankey)**

**NCH #522**

1 I love to tell the story of unseen things above. Of Jesus' radiant glory, of Jesus' endless love.  
I love to tell the story, because I know it's true; It satisfies my longings as nothing else can do.

*Refrain:* I love to tell the story; and when I am in glory I'll tell the old, old story of Jesus' endless love.

2 I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems than all the golden visions of all our golden dreams.  
I love to tell the story, I tell it now to you because I want to share it, because I know it's true.

*Refrain*

3 I love to tell the story; it's pleasant to repeat what seems, each time I tell it, more wonderfully sweet.  
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard the message of salvation from God's own holy Word.

*Refrain*

4 I love to tell the story, for those who know it best seem hungering and thirsting to hear it, like the rest.  
And when I sing in glory, I know the new, new song will be the old, old story that I have loved so long.  
*Refrain*

*Public Domain Hymn*

### **Benediction Response**

**Peace I Leave with You, My Friends      (*Peace, My Friends*)      NCH #249**

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.

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