



Welcome to Old South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Hallowell, Maine

Hybrid Worship (in person: sanctuary)

9:50 am– Announcements and Community Joys & Concerns

10:00 am– Worship begins

August 17, 2025

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “Scherzo on *Holy Manna*” Karen Beaumont

Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Jane Campbell

One: So many things draw us away from God.

Many: We are tempted by trinkets and gadgets.

One: We place our interest in temporal things.

Many: But Christ calls us to a higher level.

One: We are called to focus our lives on living as God would have us live.

Many: We are called to be open to ways of service and compassion.

One: Let us pray:

Many: Bountiful God, who gives to us all that we need to sustain our lives: Open our hearts today to hear your words of love and protection, that we may then focus on the ways in which you intend us to live and be of service to you by serving the world, in courage and hope. In the name of Jesus we pray, the One who taught us to pray together: 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** “Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above” (*Mit Freuden Zart*) Pilg.#20
(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 23

p. 501

Rick Campbell

Scripture Psalm 121 p. 571

Message "Psalms for Summer: Protection"

Special Music "Ave Verum" W.A. Mozart Christine Bartlett, cello; Bonnie Dufty, piano

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: "We Give Thee But Thine Own" Anthony Giamanco

***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** "Unto the Hills We Lift Our Longing Eyes" (Sandon) NCH #466
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

***Blessing**

Postlude "Recessional on *Ebenezer*" Douglas E. Wagner

Fellowship

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

More Info/Contact Info

The photo at the top of the bulletin is from.

The Call to Worship and Invocation is adapted from Ministry Matters, at ministrymatters.com.

Greeter: Bonnie Childs Worship Asst: Deb Morgan Zoom: Joseph Reisert
Hospitality: Darlene Davis

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 8/17/25

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

OFFICE HOURS—Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 - Noon. Cynthia will be out of the office on Tuesday.

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Tuesday, August 19— Psalm Workshop at Noon, Parish House and Zoom

Thursday, August 21— Worship Team at Noon, Parish House

BIBLE BUNCH— is now on summer break.

AUGUST SERMON SERIES: Psalms for Summer (and beyond?)

This month, and perhaps into September, we'll be exploring the book of Psalms. As we've done in the past, you are invited to consider writing a psalm of your own. If you've written one in the past, you might think about it with new eyes and update it. Or, you might try a new psalm.

The book of Psalms covers a wide range of human experiences and the connection between God and humanity— praise, thanksgiving, comfort, singing, loss, grief, distance, alienation. There are also passages that are problematic and unsettling.

Please consider writing a psalm! We'll also have two opportunities to gather to help each other in our writing:

**** (change of date!) Thurs, 8/19 at Noon (parish house and Zoom)

Tues, 9/2 at Noon (parish house and Zoom)

August 3— Introduction; Psalm 107:1-9

August 10— Lament; Psalm 13

August 17— Protection; Psalm 121

August 24— Deliverance, Psalm 40:1-10

August 31— Confidence; Psalm 27:1-6

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/>

OUTREACH FUND FOR AUGUST: Kennebec County Jail Inmates Fund

HANNAFORD PROGRAM: Next deadline: September 14th. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

TODAY'S HYMNS

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

(Mit Freuden Zart)

Pilgrim #20

1 Sing praise to God who reigns above, The God of all creation,
The God of power, the God of love, The God of our salvation;
With healing balm my soul he fills, And every faithless murmur stills:
To God all praise and glory.

2 What God's almighty power hath made, His gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning glow or evening shade His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of his might, Lo! All is just and all is right:
To God all praise and glory.

3 Then all my gladsome way along, I sing aloud thy praises,
That men may hear the grateful song My voice unwearied raises;
Be joyful in the Lord, my heart, Both soul and body bear your part:
To God all praise and glory.

4 O ye who name Christ's holy name, Give God all praise and glory;
All ye who own his power, proclaim Aloud the wondrous story!
Cast each false idol from his throne, The Lord is God, and he alone:
To God all praise and glory.

Public Domain Hymn

Unto the Hills We Lift Our Longing Eyes

(Sandon)

NCH #466

1 Unto the hills we lift our longing eyes with yearning sighs.
Who will provide the help we sorely need? Who hears our cries?
From our Creator comes our certain aid.
Our help is from our God, who all things made.

2 God will not let our servant feet be moved; safe we will be.
God will supply, for all our nights and days, security.
God does not sleep when we are taking rest.
God's covenant endures through every test.

3 God is our keeper, changeless through the years, a shelter strong.
God is our shade, protecting every hand, through ages long.
Sun will not strike or harm throughout the day,
Nor moon by night, those living by God's way.

4 From every evil, God will keep our lives, from every sin.
God will preserve and guard our going out, our coming in.
Ever around, within, we will adore
Our God who holds and guides forevermore.