



**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**

**September 7, 2025**

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

### **Announcements/Joys & Concerns**

#### **Welcome**

**Prelude** “Song of Hope” Iouri Grichetchkine

**Introit** “Gathered Here” Phil Porter Choir

**Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord’s Prayer** Ron Bansmer

One: Welcome all, as we gather this day,

**Many: To worship, to praise, to encounter a bit of grace in a troubled world.**

One: May we open our hearts and minds,

**Many: To be reassured of God’s love,**

One: And the call to be people of compassion,

**Many: Throughout our entire lives.**

One: Let us pray:

**Many: You bring us together, gracious and holy God, to worship and praise, and to be renewed as Your people. Be among us, loving God, and stir us to action. Be among us and enable us to share Your holy blessings with others near and far. When we fail to speak and to act as Your faithful people, forgive us. When we stumble, pick us up and set us again on the sure path. As we trust in Your assurance, of your blessings and forgiveness, we pray as 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.**

**\*Hymn and Lighting of Candles** “My Life Flows on in Endless Song”(Endless Song) NCH #476  
(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 71:17-24 p.533

Bonnie Nielson

**Scripture** Psalm 92 p.548

**Message** "Psalms for Psummer: Getting Older"

**Anthem** "In This Quiet Moment" Larry Mayfield 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:** "Badinage" 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.*

### **The Sacrament of Communion**

Invitation

\*Hymn "As We Gather at Your Table," verses 1 & 3 (*Beach Spring*) NCH #332

Story and Communion Prayer

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music "Let Us Break Bread" arr. Ruth Elaine Schram

Prayer and Response

**\*Hymn** "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past" (*St. Anne*) Pilgrim #1  
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

### **\*Blessing**

**\*Benediction Response** "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" (*God Be With You*) Pilgrim #62  
*1 God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you,  
With his sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.*

**Postlude** "Praise Him! Praise Him!" Lyndell Leatherman

### **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 and Invocation were written by Susan Reisert.

Greeter: Galen Davis      Worship Asst: Deb Morgan      Zoom: Joe Reisert  
Hospitality: Bonnie Nielson

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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 9/7/25**

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

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

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

#### Monday

5:00 Oversight (Zoom)

#### Wednesday

4:00 Choir rehearsal (New members welcome!)

**Our FALL Worship Series** will focus on the questions Jesus asked. We'll include the schedule next week.

**BIBLE BUNCH**— will start up again on Tuesday, Sept 23, at Noon, in the parish house and on Zoom. We will discuss the Questions series. We'll meet every Tuesday at Noon through the end of October. Then, we'll have a fall break through November. December 2, 9 and 16 will be focused on Advent.

### **AUGUST/EARLY SEPT SERMON SERIES: Psalms for Psummer**

We are 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.

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

Sept 7— Getting Older; Psalm 92

Sept 14— Thanksgiving, Psalm 138

If you take up the challenge to write a psalm, please share it with us! Please email it to the church email address and consider sharing it during worship in October or November!

### **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 SEPTEMBER:** Kennebec Behavioral Health

**SAVE THE DATE!** Fall Outreach Event will be **Sunday, October 26**, when we welcome the Executive Director of Bread of Life Ministries to worship. She will offer the Mission Moment and will offer a presentation, after worship, on Bread of Life programs and services.

**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**

#### **My Life Flows on in Endless Song**

***(Endless Song)***

**NCH #476**

1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth's lamentation,  
I hear the sweet, though faroff hymn that hails a new creation.  
Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing;  
It finds an echo in my soul—how can I keep from singing?

2 What though my joys and comforts die? My Savior still is living.  
What though the shadows gather 'round? A new song Christ is giving.  
No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I'm clinging;  
Since Love commands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

3 When tyrants tremble, sick with fear and hear their death knells ringing;  
When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing?  
In prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging;  
When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it;  
And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it.  
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing;  
All things are mine since I am Christ's—how can I keep from singing?

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#### **As We Gather at Your Table**

***(Beach Spring)***

**NCH #332**

1 As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,  
Help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.  
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;  
Teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.

3 Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast  
Where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.  
There no more will envy bind us nor will pride our peace destroy,  
As we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.

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**Our God, Our Help in Ages Past      (St. Anne)**

**Pilgrim #1**

1 Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast, And our eternal home.

2 Under the shadow of thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is thine arm alone, And our defense is sure.

3 Before the hills in order stood, Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting thou art God, To endless years the same.

4 A thousand ages in thy sight Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night Before the rising sun.

5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream, Bears all its sons away;  
They fly, forgotten, as a dream Dies at the opening day.

6 Our God, our help in ages past, Our hope for years to come,  
Be thou our guard while troubles last, And our eternal home.

*Public Domain Hymn*

**God Be With You Till We Meet Again      (God Be With You)**

**Pilgrim #62**

1 God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you,  
With his sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.

*Public Domain Hymn*