

why? how? who? WHEN? Where?

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 28, 2025

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “Chanson in G” Martin Ellis

Introit “Bless the Lord, O My Soul” Donovan D. Klotzbeacher Choir

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

One: God is our refuge and strength.

Many: God is our hope and our guide.

One: As we gather this day,

Many: May we feel and know anew,

One: The blessings of our Creator,

Many: The love of our Savior and the grace of the Holy Spirit.

One: Let us pray:

Many: Gather us in, Holy and Loving God, and bless us with Your presence. Forgive our shortcomings and help us to live more faithfully. May this time of worship draw us closer to You and to each other, that we may be Your holy church. In trust, we follow. In the name of our beloved Savior, 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** “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise” (*St. Denio*) NCH #1
(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 146 p.581 Ron Bansmer

Scripture Mark 4:26-32 p.38

Message “Got Questions? Jesus Did Too! #2: With What Can We Compare the Kingdom of God?”

Anthem “Fairest Lord Jesus”

Derek Hayes

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: “I Need Thee Every Hour”

arr. Terry Osman

***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** “Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah” (CWM Rhondda)

Pilgrim #1

(words can be found on the Announcements page)

***Blessing**

***Benediction Response** “God’s Blessing Sends Us Forth” (*Crusader’s Hymn*)

Tune of “Fairest Lord Jesus”

God’s blessing sends us forth Strengthened for our task on earth, Refreshed in soul, renewed in mind. May God with us remain, Through us the spirit reign that Christ be known to humankind.

Postlude “All People that on Earth Do Dwell”

Daniel Burton

Fellowship

***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: Donna Bansmer

Worship Asst: Ron Bansmer

Zoom:

Hospitality: Deb Morgan

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 9/28/25

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

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

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Tuesday

Noon Bible Bunch, parish house and Zoom

Wednesday

4:00 Choir rehearsal (New members welcome!)

Our FALL Worship Series: Got Questions? Jesus Did Too!

Sept 21: Why do you raise such questions? Mark 2:1-12

Sept 28: With what can we compare the kingdom of God? Mark 4:26-32

Oct 5: If you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Matthew 5:43-48

Oct 12: Why are you afraid? Matthew 8:23-27

Oct 19: Why do you worry? Luke 12:22-31

Oct 26: When the Son of Man comes, will he find justice on earth? Luke 18:1-8

Nov 2: Do you want to be made well? John 5:1-9

Nov 9: Do you love me more than these? John 21:15-19

Nov 16 and 23: tba

FALL EVENTS!

Sunday, October 5— Fall Harvest Potluck & Trivia Time, after worship. This will be a real “potluck.” There’s no sign up! And, you don’t even need to bring anything at all, although it would be nice to bring something to share with the group.

Sunday, October 26— Outreach Event, with Bread of Life Ministries (see more below)

Sunday, November 2— the Occasional Book Group returns! We’ll discuss *Call Me American* by Abdi Nor Iftin, after worship. Note: This book was also our OBG book in the fall of 2020, in conjunction with an event with the author at the Annual Meeting of the Maine Conference. Given that the material in the memoir is still significant and relevant, we will discuss it again.

Sunday, November 16— Time & Talent Auction Potluck, after worship.

BIBLE BUNCH— we are meeting on Tuesdays, at Noon, in the parish house and on Zoom. We are discussing 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.

PSALMS! Have you written a psalm? If so, please share it! 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: October 12th. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

TODAY'S HYMNS

Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise (St. Denio) NCH #1

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise, in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
Most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days, almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

2 Unreseting, unhasting, and silent as light, not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains high soaring above, your clouds which are fountains of goodness and love.

3 Your life is life-giving—to both great and small; in all life you're living, the true life of all;
We blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers, then wither and perish—but naught dims your powers.

4 So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light, your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
All praise we now render as your angels do: in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.

Public Domain Hymn

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah (CWM Rhondda) Pilgrim #93

1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but thou art mighty; Hold me with thy powerful hand;
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, Feed me till I want no more,
Feed me till I want no more.

2 Open now the crystal fountain, Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar Lead me all my journey through;
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer, Be thou still my strength and shield,
Be thou still my strength and shield.

3 When I tread the verge of Jordan, Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of death, and hell's destruction, Land me safe on Canaan's side;
Songs of praises, songs of praises, I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.

Public Domain Hymn

God's Blessing Sends Us Forth (Crusader's Hymn)

God's blessing sends us forth Strengthened for our task on earth, Refreshed in soul, renewed in mind.
May God with us remain, Through us the spirit reign that Christ be known to humankind.