

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, Community Joys & Concerns 10:10 am– Worship begins

October 26, 2025

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude "My Lord, What A Morning!" (Spiritual; Arr. Cindy Berry)

Don Reutershan

Introit "Bless the Lord, O My Soul" Donovan D. Klotzbeacher

Choir

Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Bonnie Dufty

One: As we gather for worship this day, we are mindful,

Many: God is our refuge and strength.

One: An ever-present help in trouble.

Many: God is our refuge and strength.

One: May we find grace and courage,

Many: For all of the ups and downs of life's journey,

One: And gratitude for our Savior, who walks with us. Let us pray:

Many: Holy and Merciful God, You gather us in, holding us close and encouraging us to walk in Your way. Bless us with Your love, that we may be renewed in spirit, eager to be about Your holy work and ministry as we live our lives, in all of the ordinary dimensions of daily life. Help us to look upon the world's peoples with compassion, as we endeavor to share love and hope with friends as well as strangers: 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** "A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" (*Ein' Feste Burg*) Pilgrim #363
(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.]

Psalms from Old South

Ron Bansmer

Scripture Luke 18:1-8 p.81

Message "Got Questions? Jesus Did Too: When the Son of Man comes, will he find justice on earth?"

Special Music "What Wondrous Love Is This?" (Southern Harmony; arr Jay Althouse)

Warren Bartlett, Trumpet, Christine Bartlett, cello

Mission Moment

Victoria Abbott, Bread of Life Ministries

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: "It Is Well With My Soul" (Philip P. Bliss; Arr. Jerry Ray)

***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**

“O for a World” (Azmon)

NCH #575

(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

"At Length There Dawns the Glorious Day"

(William Gawler's "Hymns and Psalms"; James Mansfield

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 was written by Susan Reisert.

Greeter: Beth Cobb Worship Asst: Zoom: Joe Reisert
Hospitality: The Outreach Team

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Pastor Susan’s blog: hopeinthewilderness.com

Old South Staff:

The Rev. Susan M Reisert, Pastor and Teacher	Mr. Bradley Krueger, Music Director
Ms. Cynthia McGuire, Administrative Assistant	Ms. Marcy Fullmer, Sexton

PRAYER LIST: family and friends of Don B; Donna and Ron B; Mark B, health issues; Carla, requested by Rick; Carol B, recovering from surgery; The Childs family; family and friends of Pam C. requested by Cynthia; Forest T (health; requested by Carol); family of Gary, Cynthia’s cousin; Hunter, paralyzed after accident, req by Darlene; family of Isabel, friend of Symes family; Jeanne, Bonnie C’s mother, recovering from fall; the family of Cathy C; the family and friends of Oscar C; Patty and the Kathavarayan/Balasubramanian family; Kathy G, Christine’s cousin, serious health issues; Keith, Judson’s friend, recovering from motorcycle accident; Aunt Jo, cousin Faith and the family of Uncle David, from Rick and Jane; Lisa L, health issues; Family of Walter K, requested by Carol; Loretta, Cynthia’s cousin, auto-immune disease; Mark; family of Mary Ann, Trevor’s extended family; Anne, Bob M’s sister, chronic myeloid leukemia; Hilda M., health issues; Michelle, Tina’s daughter, bone cancer; family of Joanne M.; Samantha, depression & grief; Lynne P, friend of Bob M, cancer; Pam, Cynthia’s cousin, heart disease & cancer; Michael P, Cynthia’s brother, health issues; John P., Cancer, Carol’s neighbor; Polly and Al, health issues, requested by Rick and Jane; Friends and family of Carola R; Family of Ray L, Cynthia’s friend; Rich, Bonnie D’s nephew, back tumor and kidney failure; Christie; Jim R, Trevor’s father, health issues; David V., Cynthia’s cousin, health issues; Virginia, Dave B’s sister, health issues; Teddy W, in rehab, requested by Bartletts; Kathy W, Cynthia’s friend, cancer; Wendy, recovery from surgery; Kristy W. and family, cancer.

Also:those who are homeless, hungry, isolated; caregivers; children/youth struggling with life issues; victims of gun violence; people dealing with mental health issues; patience, for those working in and attending schools; people affected by natural disasters here and abroad; the People of Ukraine; the divisions in our nation; those affected by the shootings in Lewiston; the people of Israel and Gaza.

Announcements and Hymns for 10/26/25

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

THANK YOU to Don Reutershan, for filling in for Brad this morning.

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

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

TODAY— after worship, a presentation by Victoria Abbott, Executive Director of Bread of Life Ministries in Augusta. Please join us as we learn more about a ministry that we have actively supported for many years!

Tuesday

Noon Bible Bunch, Parish House and Zoom

Wednesday

2:30 Worship Team meeting, Parish House

4:00 Choir rehearsal, Sanctuary (New members welcome!)

Sunday, 11/2

9:00 Choir

10:00 Worship, Communion and **Remembering Sunday** (bring names of people of people who have been important to you, who have passed away in the last year)

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

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!

TODAY! Sunday, October 26— Outreach Event, with Victoria Abbott, from Bread of Life Ministries

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.

Tuesday, November 4— Bread of Life Dinner Delivery, 4:30 (the sign up is posted)

Saturday, November 8— Work Day, focused on the Parish House, 9:30.

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

BIBLE BUNCH— we meet 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 OCTOBER 5: Neighbors in Need; **Oct.12&19:** Hallowell Food Pantry; **Oct.26:** Bread of Life Ministries

HANNAFORD PROGRAM: Next deadline: November 16th. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

TODAY’S HYMNS

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God (Ein’ Feste Burg) Pilgrim #363

1 A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing;
Our helper he amid the flood Of mortal ills prevailing.
For still our ancient foe Doth seek to work us woe;
His craft and power are great, And armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.

2 Did we in our own strength confide, Our striving would be losing,
Were not the right man on our side, The man of God’s own choosing.
Dost ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he;
Lord Sabaoth his name. From age to age the same, and he must win the battle.

3 And though this world, with devils filled, Should threaten to undo us,
We will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph through us.
The prince of darkness grim, We tremble not for him;
His rage we can endure, For lo, his doom is sure: One little word shall fell him.

4 That word above all earthly powers, No thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours Through him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, This mortal life also;
The body they may kill; God’s truth abideth still, His kingdom is forever.

Public Domain Hymn

O for a World (Azmon) NCH #575

1 O for a world where everyone respects each other’s ways,
Where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

2 O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved,
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

3 We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
That opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

4 The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.

5 O for a world preparing for God’s glorious reign of peace,
Where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

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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.

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