

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 5, 2025

World Communion Sunday

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “Prelude on *Morecambe*” Brenda Portman

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

Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord's Prayer Deb Morgan

One: In a world that remains divided and in conflict, God is inviting us, to make us one.

Many: Today we gather around one table, in answer to God's will.

One: What do we find at today's table?

Many: God's love, which endures all things and connects all things.

One: What is not at today's table?

Many: The many powers of the world, which seek to stand over others.

One: Let us repent, and give thanks to God's power to bring salvation to all who believe.

Many: Thanks be to God! Make us witnesses of Your love.

All: Let us worship together the true God, who makes us one.

One: Let us pray:

Many: We give you thanks, O Gracious and Holy God, for the life and knowledge which you have made known to us through your Son Jesus; yours is the glory for ever and ever. As the grain once scattered in the fields and the grapes once dispersed on the hillside are now united on the table today in bread and cup, so, Lord, may your whole church soon be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom; for yours is the glory and power, through Jesus Christ, for ever and ever. 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** “Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee” (*Hymn to Joy*) Pilgrim #8
(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 “Responsorial Psalm of Hope”

Cynthia McGuire

Congregational Response: *Let our Christian voices soar as we sing this psalm of hope once more.*

Scripture Matthew 5:43-48 p.5

Message “Got Questions? Jesus Did Too: If you love those who love you, what reward do you have?”

Anthem “All the Earth Will Sing for Joy” Ruth Elaine Schram

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: “Galilean Hillside” Paul Taylor

***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

One: Like a sower, God scatters, and God will give growth.

Many: God scatters life across the earth.

One: God scatters people in every land and nation.

Many: God scatters disciples far and wide.

One: Like a shepherd, God gathers.

Many: God gathers people into families of faith.

One: God gathers people into communities of love.

Many: God gathers people into the body of Christ.

One: Today, on this World Communion Sunday, God gathers us at one table with disciples of every language, culture, and tradition. From cathedrals and chapels, from huts and houses, from fields and cities, God gathers us in many places and makes us one in Christ. At this table, we remember the cost of discipleship and rejoice in the richness of Christ’s gifts poured out for the whole world.

***Hymn** “Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face” (*Morecambe*)

NCH #336 v.1 & 5

Communion Prayer & Sharing the Elements

Communion Music “Jesus Paid It All” Nigel Williams

Prayer and Response

***Hymn** “Take My Life, God, Let It Be” (*Vienna*)
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

NCH #448

***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 "A Joyful Noise"

Lani Smith

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 Communion Service are from World Communion Resources found at ucc.org. The Invocation is adapted from the *Didache* (2nd century), Posted on David Beswick's Worship and Preaching website.

Greeter: Galen Davis

Worship Asst: Bonnie Nielson

Zoom: Joe Reisert

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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 10/5/25

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

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

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

TODAY— Join us for our Harvest Potluck! (see more info below)

Tuesday

Noon Bible Bunch, parish house and Zoom

4:30 Bread of Life Dinner Delivery

Wednesday

4:00 Choir rehearsal (New members welcome!)

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

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!

TODAY! Sunday, October 5– Fall Harvest Potluck & Trivia Time, after worship. Please join us for a fun potluck meal (all are welcome, even if you haven't brought anything)!

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 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

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

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee (Hymn to Joy) Pilgrim #8

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore thee, God of glory, Lord of love;
Hearts unfold like flowers before thee, Opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, Drive the dark of doubt away:
Giver of immortal gladness, Fill us with the light of day.

2 All thy works with joy surround thee, Earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
Stars and angels sing around thee, Center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flowery meadow, flashing sea,
Chanting bird and flowing fountain, Call us to rejoice in thee.

3 Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest,
Well-spring of the joy of living, Ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father, Christ our Brother, All who live in love are thine;
Teach us how to love each other, Lift us to the joy divine.

4 Mortals, join the happy chorus Which the morning stars began;

Father love is reigning o'er us, Brother love binds man to man.
Ever singing, march we onward, Victors in the midst of strife,
Joyful music leads us sunward In the triumph song of life.

Public Domain Hymn

Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face (Morecambe)

NCH #336

1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face; here would I touch and handle things unseen;
Here grasp with firmer hand the eternal grace, And all my weariness upon you lean.

5 We have no help but yours, nor do we need another strength than yours to lean upon.
It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed; our faith is in your might, your might alone. *Public Domain*

Take My Life, God, Let It Be

(Vienna)

NCH #448

1 Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.
Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.

2 Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.
Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.

3 Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.

4 Take my love and help it grow; let my loving overflow.
Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's community.

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.

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