



alive in the world

Welcome to

**Old South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Hallowell, Maine**

Hybrid Worship (In-person: Parish House)

10:00 am– Announcements and Community Joys & Concerns

10:10 am– Worship begins

April 5, 2026 Easter Sunday

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

Announcements/Joys & Concerns

Welcome

Prelude “On This Day, Earth Shall Ring” R.Vaughn Williams/arr.M.Eithun Old South Ringers

Introit “Christ, the Lord, is Risen Again” arr. D. Klotzbeacher Choir

Call to Worship, Invocation/Confession and Lord’s Prayer Bonnie Nielson

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been silenced.

Many: On Friday, we thought the good news had taken its last breath.

One: On Friday, we thought the good news had been buried.

Many: But today, we know the good news is alive and well.

One: The good news is dancing!

Many: The good news is on the loose!

One: The good news is out in the world, calling your name!

Many: Alleluia! Even death has lost its sting.

One: Let us worship our good-news Christ.

Many: We want to be Easter people.

One: Let us pray:

Many: Gracious and Holy God, we want to shout your good news from the rooftop. We want to follow the disciples, who ran to look for you. We want to follow the angels, who said, “Be not afraid,” but we are afraid. And we don’t know where to look. And we are worried we’ll say the wrong thing. So forgive us, for we are imperfect Easter people. We are best intentions and best laid plans. We are an out-of-tune chorus of “alleluias.” We are on our way, but we are not there yet. Show us how to embody your good news in this world. Show us how to be your Easter people. Soften the calloused parts of our hearts until we can

sense your Holy Spirit in our midst once more. With eagerness and hope, we run to the tomb. We sing alleluia. We bow our heads. We listen for you.

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** "The Day of Resurrection" (LANCASHIRE) NCH#245
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

Psalm Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 p. 565 Wendy Wells

Scripture Matthew 28:1-10 p.33

Message "Life and Death"

Anthem "Lift High the Cross" Sydney Nicholson/arr. Jack Schrader Choir

Mission Moment

Offering

Offertory: "Low in the Grave He Lay" Robert Lowry/arr. Mark Hayes

***Doxology** (Pilgrim #515)

*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.*

A Time for Prayer Silence, Pastoral Prayer, Response

***Hymn/Anthem** "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today," verses 1-4 (EASTER HYMN) Pilgrim #182
We'll be singing along with an arrangement by John Rutter, from the Cambridge Singers Hymn Series. Third verse: men only!
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

*Blessing

***Sung Response** "This Is the Day" (THIS IS THE DAY) NCH #84

2 This is the day, this is the day Jesus rose again, Jesus rose again; we will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it. This is the day Jesus rose again, we will rejoice and be glad in it; This is the day, this is the day Jesus rose again.

Postlude "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" arr. Kevin McChesney Old South Ringers

Fellowship

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

More Info/Contact Info

The Call to Worship, Opening Prayer, Pastoral Prayer, and art work are all adapted from: A Sanctified Art LLC.

Greeter: Rick Campbell Worship Asst: Debbie Morgan Zoom: Joseph Reisert

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 Easter Sunday 2026

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

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

A Big THANK YOU to today's guest singers and for all of the extra rehearsal time put in by all of our musicians!

Another Big THANK YOU to Becky Symes, and volunteers, who have been working so hard to remove items from the sanctuary building. Some items are finding a new home in the parish house. Other items have found, or will find, new homes in other places, like other churches, the Hubbard Library, etc.

PILGRIM LODGE— programs and camp information is available at pilgrimlodge.org. We have funds to help Old South folk attend! Please let Pastor Susan know by May 15, if you plan to attend any PL camps/programs this season.

MEETINGS/EVENTS THIS WEEK:

Tuesday

NO Bible Bunch

4:30 Bread of Life Dinner Delivery

Wednesday

4:00 Choir Rehearsal

BIBLE BUNCH– will not meet this week. Spring dates: April 14, 21, 28, May 5 and May 12.

OUTREACH TEAM: The Outreach fund for April will go to Pilgrim Lodge.

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/>

HANNAFORD PROGRAM: Next deadline: April 12. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

EASTER PLANTS:

In memory of Clyde Morgan, Louise Morgan Perkins and Roy Perkins. From their family.

In memory of Rev. Terry Smith and Heidi Arsenault. From Tina and Michael Smith.

In memory of J. Stuart Wells. From Wendy Wells

In memory of family and friends. From Cynthia and Bob McGuire.

In honor of our family, living and gone. From Warren and Christine Bartlett

TODAY'S HYMNS

The Day of Resurrection (LANCASHIRE)

NCH#245

1 The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad;
the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

2 Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see aright
The Christ who reigns eternal in resurrection light;
We listen for the teachings once heard so calm and plain,
For we, too, want to follow and raise the victory strain.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
The whole world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;
Let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
For Christ again has risen, our joy that has no end.

Public Domain Hymn

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (EASTER HYMN)

Pilgrim #182

1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say: Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!

2 Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, he all doth save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Verse 3: Men only

3 Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia! Christ hath opened Paradise, Alleluia!

4 Soar we now where Christ hath led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

Public Domain Hymn

Benediction Response

This Is the Day

(THIS IS THE DAY)

NCH #84

2 This is the day, this is the day Jesus rose again, Jesus rose again;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day Jesus rose again, we will rejoice and be glad in it;
This is the day, this is the day Jesus rose again.

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