



Welcome to  
Old South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
Hallowell, Maine  
Hybrid Worship

**10:00 am– Announcements and Community Joys & Concerns**    **10:10 am– Worship begins**  
**May 3, 2026**                      **5th Sunday of Easter**

*No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.  
Coffee, Tea and Hot Chocolate are available in the kitchen. Please feel free to grab a cup of  
something before worship begins, or anytime during the service.*

## **Announcements/Joys & Concerns**

### **Welcome**

**Prelude** “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”    Anthony Giamanco

**Introit** “Gathered Here”    NCH #742    Choir

**Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord's Prayer**    Bonnie Dufty

One: As we gather this day, may we be blessed with strength and courage,

**Many: To be about Your holy work.**

One: May we recognize that we are building blocks,

**Many: Of love, compassion, and hope,**

One: In a grieving, traumatized world.

**Many: May we commit ourselves anew to living in the light and life of the Risen Christ.**

One: Let us pray:

**Many: Holy God, God who inspires and guides, may we find in this time of worship the tools that we need to be Your people, within as well as outside these walls. Help us to be kind, caring, and compassionate people, dedicated to sharing Your love and Your way in all that we do. Help us to appreciate the significance of our small acts of kindness as witness to Your Good News. As we continue this year's journey through Easter, embolden us, Gracious God, to live in Your light and Your life in all of our days: 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** “Christ for the World We Sing!” (ITALIAN HYMN) Pilgrim #295

(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.]

**First Reading** Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 p.505 Ron Bansmer

**Second Reading** 1 Peter 2:2-10 p.233

**Message** “Our Precious Stony Selves”

**Anthem** “Yes, My Jesus Loves Me” Mary McDonald Choir

### **Mission Moment**

### **Offering**

**Offertory:** “Reflection” Mark Hayes

**\*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** “At the Font We Start Our Journey” (WESTMINSTER ABBEY) v.1&3 NCH #308

Words of Institution & Communion Prayer

Sharing of the Elements

Communion Music “Will You Come and Follow Me?” C.E. Walz

Prayer and Response

**\*Hymn** “O Jesus, I Have Promised” (ANGEL’S STORY) NCH #493

(words can be found on the Announcements page)

### **\*Blessing**

**\*Sung Response** “Go Now In Peace” (CYNTHIA’S SONG 2024)

*Go now in peace to love and serve our God.*

*Go now in peace to love and serve our God.*

*Love God. Serve God.*

**Postlude** “Great Day” Emma Lou Diemer

**Fellowship**

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

**More Info/Contact Info**

Art work at the top is from: A Sanctified Art LLC.

Call to Worship and Invocation was written by Susan M. Reisert

Greeter: Darlene Davis      Worship Asst: Jane Campbell      Zoom: Joseph Reisert

Hospitality: Donna Bansmer      Counters: Bonnie Nielson, Warren Bartlett

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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 May 3, 2026**

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

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

**PILGRIM LODGE**– programs and camp information is available at [pilgrimlodge.org](http://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:**

Today

2:00 LWA Spring Meeting at Old South in Farmington, with Rick Dorian’s Ecclesiastical Council

Tuesday

Noon Bible Bunch  
4:30 Bread of Life Dinner Delivery

Wednesday

4:00 Choir Rehearsal

**BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY!** The Sign Up is posted.

**BIBLE BUNCH**— meets May 5, 12 and 19 before a summer break.

**SAVE THE DATE! HISTORY DAY, May 31**— Looking Back and Looking Ahead. How does our past help to inform the future? The Lunch Sign Up will be posted next week.

**OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:**

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

**THE UNITED COMMUNITY LIVING CENTER** is looking for items that will help the homeless population in the Augusta Area. There's a list of items, along with information on where and how to drop off items on the bulletin board.

**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: May 10th. Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

**TODAY'S HYMNS**

**Christ for the World We Sing! (ITALIAN HYMN) Pilgrim #295**

1 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring  
With loving zeal: The poor, and them that mourn,  
The faint and overborne, Sinsick and sorrow-worn, Whom Christ doth heal.

2 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring  
With fervent prayer: The wayward and the lost, By restless passions tossed,  
Redeemed at countless cost From dark despair.

3 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring  
With one accord: With us the work to share, With us reproach to dare,  
With us the cross to bear, For Christ our Lord.

4 Christ for the world we sing! The world to Christ we bring  
With joyful song: The newborn souls, whose days, Reclaimed from error's ways,  
Inspired with hope and praise, To Christ belong. *Public Domain Hymn*

**At the Font We Start Our Journey (WESTMINSTER ABBEY) NCH #308**

1 At the font we start our journey, in the Easter faith baptized;

Doubts and fears no longer blind us, by the light of Christ surprised.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Hope held out and realized.

3 At the altar we are nourished with the Easter gift of bread;  
in our breaking it to pieces see the love of Christ outspread.  
Alleluia, alleluia! Life embraced, yet freely shed.

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**O Jesus, I Have Promised**

**(ANGEL'S STORY)**

**NCH #493**

1 O Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
remain forever near me, my Savior and my Friend:  
I shall not fear life's struggles if you are by my side,  
Nor wander from the pathway if you will be my guide.

2 O let me hear you speaking in accents clear and still,  
Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of selfwill!  
O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control!  
O speak, and make me listen, O guardian of my soul!

3 O Jesus, you have promised to all who follow you  
That where you are in glory your servant shall be, too;  
And, Jesus, I have promised to serve you to the end;  
O give me grace to follow my Savior and my Friend!

*Public Domain Hymn*

**Go Now In Peace**

**(CYNTHIA'S SONG 2024)**

Go now in peace to love and serve our God.  
Go now in peace to love and serve our God.  
Love God. Serve God.