

Welcome to
Old South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Hallowell, Maine
10:00 am– Announcements, Community Joys & Concerns; 10:10– Worship begins
November 22, 2026 Hybrid Worship Stewardship Sunday

No matter who you are, no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Beverages (tea and cold drinks) 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 "Simple Gifts" Shaker Hymn arr. By Joseph Brackett Bonnie Dufty/Don Reutershan

Introit "Let There Be Praise" Dick and Melodie Tunney Choir

Call to Worship, Invocation and Lord's Prayer Joel Johnson

One: O come, let us sing to the Holy One with joy!
Many: The Sovereign One is the rock of our salvation, restoration, and hope!
One: O come, let us praise the Holy One with thanksgiving!
Many: The depths and the heights belong to our Maker.
One: O come, let us worship the Holy One who is great!
Many: The Holy One is our God, and we are the flock of God's realm.
One: Let us pray:
Many: Holy One, you reign in all creation, in our gatherings, and in our hearts. Be glorified in our worship. Dwell within the praise of your people. Make yourself and your way known so that we might be encouraged, challenged, and empowered to be faithful, just, and righteous in your name.
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** "We Gather Together" (KREMSER) Pilgrim #21
(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.]

Gratitude Moment Ron Bansmer

Focus Scripture Reading 1 Thessalonians 5:12-28 p.205

Message "A Few Simple Rules"

Anthem "Something for Thee" Sylvanus D. Phelps/Robert Lowry Choir

Mission Moment

Offering & Blessing of Pledges for 2027 (*If you wish to give to the Outreach Fund, please make sure your offering is in an Outreach envelope. Envelopes can be found on chairs, tables, and on the entry table.)

Offertory:

***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.

Prayer Silence, Pastoral Prayer, Response

***Hymn** "Let All Things Now Living" (ASH GROVE) Pew Book #47
(words can be found on the Announcements page)

***Blessing**

One: As we depart from this time of worship,
Many: May the power of God,
One: Be evident in Christ's church,
Many: as we spread joy and hope, peace and possibilities,
One: A love that embraces our neighbors, near and far,
All: And endures faithfully forever. Amen.

***Sung Response** "God Be With You Till We Meet Again" (GOD BE WITH YOU) Pilgrim #62
God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you, With his sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

Fellowship

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

More Info/Contact Info

Photo at top: from Google images.
Call to Worship, Invocation, & Blessing adapted from Worship Ways at ucc.org.

Greeter: Galen Davis Worship Asst: Deb Morgan Zoom: Joseph Reisert
Hospitality: Tina Searles Counters: Becky Symes and Warren Bartlett

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
Cynthia McGuire, Don Reutershan, Bonnie Dufty, Interim Music Team
Ms. Cynthia McGuire, Administrative Assistant Ms. Marcy Fullmer, Sexton

Announcements and Hymns for November 22, 2026

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

OFFICE HOURS–Tuesday & Thursday, 9:00 - Noon. Cynthia will be out of the office this week.

Time, Talent & Treasure Auction– THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to this year's auction and those who participated by bringing food and/or bidding on items. Many thanks, as well, to our auctioneer, Joseph Reisert, and his trusty helper, Colton Rybka.

CALENDAR for the Week
Thursday Happy Thanksgiving!

WORSHIP SIGN UP– Is posted and online. Please consider signing up!!

ADVENT– begins next Sunday! We will use resources from the Worship Design Studio, Carols for the Coming Christ (focus on Christmas Carols). Each Sunday includes an opportunity for someone to share a favorite carol. How does the carol help you understand God and the coming of Jesus? How does the carol inspire you to follow Jesus? Sign up!
We are also gathering reflections on favorite carols, in order to create our very own Old South Advent Devotional! Please take a moment to reflect & write up a favorite carol, in a paragraph, or two. You may submit multiple carols! Reflections are due TOMORROW Monday, November 23.
If you are looking for additional devotional material, check out: *Carols for the Coming Christ*, by Adam M.L. Tice (order from Amazon, or Barnes & Noble, or a bookstore of your choice).

STEWARDSHIP– Pledges will be blessed today. If you do not have your pledge form with you, please send it to the church office (or drop it off), in the next week or two.

BIBLE BUNCH– is NOT meeting this week. Our Advent series will meet December 1, 8, and 15.

OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES:
BREAD OF LIFE DINNER DELIVERY Sign Up for December 1 is posted!

OUTREACH TEAM: The Outreach fund for November and December will go to **Holiday Giving, Hallowell Food Pantry, Bridging the Gap, Hallowell Fuel Fund**.

THE UNITED COMMUNITY LIVING CENTER is looking for items that will help the homeless population in the Augusta Area. There's more info 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: **DECEMBER 13th.** Send your check to the office, or place in the offering plate. Please mark your check clearly for Hannaford.

TODAY'S HYMNS

We Gather Together (KREMSER) Pilgrim #21

1 We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
He chastens and hastens his will to make known;
The wicked oppressing now cease from distressing.
Sing praises to his name; he forgets not his own.

2 Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
Ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine.
So from the beginning the fight we were winning;
Thou, Lord, wast at our side, all glory be thine.

3 We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
And pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation escape tribulation.
Thy name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Public Domain Hymn

Let All Things Now Living (ASH GROVE) Pew Book #47

1 Let all things now living A song of thanksgiving To God the Creator triumphantly raise,
Who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
Who guideth us on to the end of our days.
His banners are o'er us, His light goes before us, A pillar of fire shining forth in the night.
'Til shadows have vanished And darkness is banished, As forward we travel from light into light.

2 His law He enforces: the stars in their courses, The sun in His orbit, obediently shine;
The hills and the mountains, The rivers and fountains,
The deeps of the ocean proclaim Him divine.
We too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing, With glad adoration a song let us raise,
'Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!

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God Be With You Till We Meet Again (GOD BE WITH YOU) Pilgrim #62

God be with you till we meet again; By his counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.

Public Domain Hymn