

Welcome to State Street Church, United Church of Christ

August 16, 2026

During the greeting, the Pastor will ask if any visitors would like to be introduced; this is optional. Children are welcome, but not required, to come forward during the "Time for Children," and may either return to their seats or join us for summer arts & crafts. Nursery is available for children three and under. Ask an usher.

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*This service is being livestreamed and will be available on YouTube at [portlandsscucc2521](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCportlandsscucc2521).*

|         |                                                   |                           |
|---------|---------------------------------------------------|---------------------------|
| Prelude | "Prelude on an Irish Church Melody" (St. Columba) | Charles Villiers Stanford |
|         | "Prelude in F"                                    | Charles Villiers Stanford |

Greetings, Introductions, and Announcements

Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**Many: And also with you.**

A Moment of Centering Silence

|                   |                                    |         |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------|
| *Opening Hymn #43 | "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" | BEECHER |
|-------------------|------------------------------------|---------|

|                  |              |
|------------------|--------------|
| *Call to Worship | Zareen Mirza |
|------------------|--------------|

One: Love is patient. Love is kind. Love binds us as a community. Love gathers us together.

**Many: Love knows no hatred and othering. Love knows no borders.**

One: Love calls us to speak boldly and proclaim courageously the belovedness of every human.

**Many: Love knows no bounds. Love knows no borders.**

One: Love calls us to solidarity with the marginalized, vulnerable, threatened, and oppressed.

**Many: Love knows no privileged position. Love knows no borders.**

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

One: Love builds bridges, dismantles barricades, and crumbles walls.  
Many: **Love knows no stranger, illegal or alien. Love knows no borders.**  
One: Love will not fail. Love endures. Love will prevail.  
Many: **Love knows no defeat. Love knows no borders.**

\*Invocation (in unison)

**Holy God, we are always seeking your guidance on our journey. We would like it if everything was spelled out so that we knew what to expect. We like boundaries and predictability. But that's not the way life works. You remind us in the covenants of Deuteronomy that security is an ongoing process, born in relationship with you. Open our hearts today, and remind us of your awesome love which transcends any other border we may try to draw. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Peace Candle Eunice Mbongo  
Response "Make Me a Channel of Your Peace" (insert)

A Time for Children

Scripture

|                      |                       |                   |
|----------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| Hebrew Scripture:    | Deuteronomy 10:12-22  | pew Bible, p. 186 |
| Christian Scripture: | 1 Corinthians 13:1-13 | pew Bible, p. 183 |

This Morning's Sermon *Love Knows No Borders* Eunice Bentley

A Time of Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

A Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #175 "O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come" KENTRIDGE

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

**Our Father, Mother, Parent, 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**

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

## Offering

*We are aware that some give online or by other means, and some are unable to give. When the usher comes to your pew, you should feel comfortable looking at the usher, smiling, and nodding so the usher knows to move to the next person.*

## Invitation

### Offertory

“Moderato” (from *Vesper Voluntaries*)

Edward Elgar

### \*Doxology

OLD HUNDRETH

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise God, all creatures here below;**

**Praise God above, you heav'nly host;**

**Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

### \*Prayer of Thanksgiving

### \*Closing Hymn #4

“Joyful, Joyful We Adore You”

HYMN TO JOY

### \*Benediction

### Postlude

“Poco Allegro”

Edward Elgar

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At the end of the service everyone is welcome to a time of fellowship and refreshment in Chapel Hall (through the door at the front left of the sanctuary) following the start of the Postlude. Those who wish to listen to the Postlude are welcome to sit in the front pews if they prefer.

Meaningful worship requires many people working together. Our thanks to:

Deacons: Steve Ouellette, Nor Dale

Livestream: Tori Bachman

Ushers: Peg Cushman Denny Barrantes

Liturgist: Zareen Mirza

Fellowship Host: Nita Dehais

Greeter: Steve Conroy

Restrooms are located on both sides of the church entrance — ask an usher for assistance.

Parking – Sundays Only

- Street Parking is free on Sunday
- Reiche School (5-minute walk)
- Cumberland Club

*Please rise in body or spirit.

We welcome **Eunice Bentley** as our guest preacher today. Eunice attended State Street Church as a teenager and young adult and returned to State Street in 2013. Eunice is a retired elementary reading specialist and creates the Kid's Church curriculum for State Street. Eunice keeps busy in her retirement caring for Eunice and Davina as well as helping a team run the clothes closet and managing the shelter when it is open. Eunice lives with her husband George in Westbrook.

Our special thanks to **John Williams** for serving as our organist this morning.

Wednesday, Aug. 19 – Church Council Meeting 6:30 PM at church.

Two Dates to Save!

Sunday, August 30, after church. Informational meeting. A chance to ask questions, hear more about the Sacred Places Capital Campaign and discuss the different options as we get ready to move forward.

Sunday, Sept. 13, after church. A Congregational Meeting to vote on the scope of the Capital Campaign.

Website: www.statestreetchurch.org

Phone: 207-774-6396

Mailing address: PO Box 4037, Portland, ME 04101

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS: 10 AM-2PM, MONDAY THRU THURSDAY



Use this QR
code to donate.

State Street Church, United Church of Christ

Reverend Bryan S. Breault, Pastor
Kyle Bertulli, Music Director and Organist
Kaylyn Zipp, Christian Education Director
Maryam Darjazi, Childcare Provider

