

Welcome to State Street Church, United Church of Christ

September 13, 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 Kids Church. 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/UCp0tLWz3vYUwYUwYUwYUwYUw).*

Prelude "A Prayer for Peace" David Maxwell

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 #459 "Come, O Fount of Every Blessing" NETTLETON

\*Call to Worship Larry Reilly

One: We come seeking release from what has been done to us, and what we have done to others.

**Many: We come carrying old hurts, old regrets, and stories we have told ourselves for years.**

One: God calls us toward a mercy greater than our fear, a grace greater than the debts we keep.

**Many: Here we seek the courage to loosen our grip, on resentment, judgment, and revenge.**

One: Come, let us worship the God, whose mercy makes new beginnings possible.

**All: Let us worship God together.**

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

\*Invocation (in unison)

**God of mercy, you know the hurts we carry and the hurts we have caused. You know how easily we keep account of what is owed, what was taken, and what has never been made right. Meet us in this time of worship. Free us from the need to settle every score. Give us wisdom to seek justice without vengeance, grace to forgive without denying what is true, and humility to remember that judgment belongs not to us. Open us to the freedom of your mercy, that receiving grace, we might learn to offer it to others. Amen.**

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

Response Sing! #201

“Deep Peace” (verse 1)

A Time for Children

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture: Genesis 50:15-21

pew Bible, p. 52

Christian Scripture: Matthew 18:21-35

pew Bible, p. 20

This Morning's Sermon

Rev. Bryan S. Breault

A Time of Prayer

Sharing our Joys & Concerns

A Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #553

“There Is a Balm in Gilead”

BALM IN GILEAD

Pastoral Prayer

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

“Miniature #1”

David Maxwell

## \*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 #575

“O For a World”

AZMON C.M.

## \*Benediction

## Postlude

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”

arr. David Maxwell

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Due to our congregational meeting and the refinishing of the Chapel Hall floor, there will be no fellowship hour today. Back to normal next week!

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

Deacons: Tori Bachman, Carol Hughes, Nor Dale

Livestream: David Kerr

Ushers: Devin Dukes, Peg Cushman

Liturgist: Larry Reilly

Fellowship Hosts: No fellowship hour today.

Greeter:

Many thanks to Davis Balestracci for serving as our guest organist today and through the month of September.

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

*Please rise in body or spirit.

Congregational Meeting Today after Worship

Please stay in the sanctuary after worship for a brief congregational meeting for the purpose of approving a capital campaign and voting on a capital campaign management proposal. This is the next step as we move forward with the restoration of the towers and façade of State Street Church.

Calendar

Wednesday, Sept. 16 – Clothes Closet 12:30 PM to 2:30 PM

Council Meeting 6:30 PM

State Street Church is a progressive, diverse congregation. We provide a spiritual home for people from all walks of life. We work toward the vision of social justice preached in the gospel but are not exclusive in our faith. We find meaning in connecting with one another to help those in need and to nurture and deepen our spiritual awareness. We don't feel a need to agree on every matter but we try to listen and learn from one another. We are wide open to, and deeply affirming of, LGBTQ+ individuals. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We encourage you to continue your spiritual journey with us! We'd love to get to know you.

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

Kaylyn Zipp, Christian Education Director

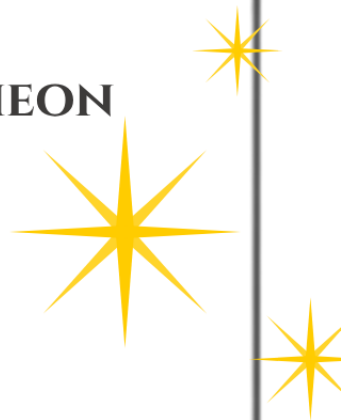
Maryam Darjazi, Childcare Provider



**COMING SOON!
HOLIDAY FAIR & LUNCHEON**



**SAVE
THE
DATES**



SET UP SATURDAY

Nov. 7th 9 AM to Noon

HOLIDAY FAIR & LUNCHEON

Nov. 14th 9 AM to 2 PM

