

Welcome to State Street Church, United Church of Christ

September 27, 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.

This service is being livestreamed and will be available on YouTube at portlandsscucc2521.

Prelude	“Meditation for the Care of the Earth” <i>(dedicated to the memory of Meg Williams)</i>	David Maxwell
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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 #436 “God of Grace and God of Glory” CWM RHONDDA

*Call to Worship John Williams

One: God calls us not only as we are, but toward what we may yet become.

Many: Give us new hearts and new spirits, God.

One: We are not bound by yesterday's choices or yesterday's failures.

Many: Help us find the path that brings us to our best self.

One: Faith is more than the words we speak; it is the life we choose to live.

Many: Turn our hearts toward you, and our lives toward love.

One: Come, let us listen again for the voice of God.

Many: And with open hearts, let us worship God together.

*Please rise in body or spirit.

*Invocation (in unison)

God of new beginnings, you meet us not only where we have been, but where we are now, and you call us toward what we might yet become. Give us hearts willing to change, ears willing to listen, and courage to follow where you lead. May our worship be more than words, may the faith we profess take root in the lives we live. Amen

The Lighting of the Peace Candle

Response Sing! #201

“Deep Peace” (verse 1)

A Time for Children

Scripture

Hebrew Scripture: Ezekiel 18:1-4, 25-32

pew Bible, p. 873

Christian Scripture: Matthew 21:23-32

pew Bible, p. 24

Anthem

“I Am a Small Part of the World”

S. Albrecht & J. Althouse

This Morning’s Sermon

Rev. Bryan S. Breault

A Time of Prayer

Sharing our Joys & Concerns

A Moment of Silence

Response Hymn #283

“Spirit of the Living God”

IVERSON

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 #4” 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 #448 “Take My Life, God, Let It Be” VIENNA

*Benediction

Postlude “The Lost Chord” Sir Arthur Sullivan
(dedicated to the memory of Meg Williams and David Maxwell)

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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 remain in their pews.*

**Meaningful worship requires many people working together. Our thanks to:**  
**Deacons:** Denny Barrantes, Priscilla Bird, Nor Dale      **Livestream:** Tori Bachman  
**Ushers:** Mimi Gough,      **Liturgist:** John Williams  
**Fellowship Hosts:** Steve Conroy, Sally Decatur      **Greeter:** Margy Soule

Many thanks to Davis Balestracci for serving as our guest organist today.

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

\*Please rise in body or spirit.

## Calendar

**Today, Sunday, Sept. 27<sup>th</sup> – 11:30 AM – State Street Church Book Group**

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](http://www.statestreetchurch.org)**

**Phone: 207-774-6396**

**Mailing address: PO Box 4037, Portland, ME 04101**

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

### **Parking – Sundays Only**

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



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



## Church Fair News



*The Silent Auction needs you! It's the biggest fundraiser at the Fair ~ \$4,832 last year.*

### *Auction ideas:*

*Offer your cabin for a getaway, gift certificates\* to a favorite local business are very popular, art, pottery, make a meal, bake a pie or bread, offer a consultation in your area of professional expertise.*

*\*Note: let's not overwhelm any one business, before soliciting gift certificates, please check with Mimi. She is maintaining a list of all businesses we have approached.*

**Deadline for items: October 23rd.** Contact Mimi Gough email: [reargo44@gmail.com](mailto:reargo44@gmail.com)