



**an outstretched arm,  
with signs and wonders God brought us through  
the wilderness.**

The Lord, our shelter, our refuge, our dwelling place, says,  
**“When my people call to me, I will answer them;  
I will be with them in trouble; I will show them my  
salvation.”**

**INVOCATION (Unison)**

**O Holy One,**

**We come to you in gladness and expectation  
to begin our Lenten exploration.**

**You offer steadfast love as our strong refuge;  
Your boundless grace is our sheltering presence,  
and we rejoice!**

**In the unity of worship,  
we trust that you will speak to us and through us  
as we begin this Lenten journey with each other and  
with Christ.**

**Prepare our hearts  
to seek you and embrace you,  
to hear you and follow you,  
to love you and to serve you.**

**With gladness and expectation we pray in Jesus’ name.  
Amen.**

**\*GATHERING HYMN #182 (NCH)**

**“O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free”**

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**God is faithful, leading us into freedom,  
but we are conditioned to the slavery of sin.  
Comfortable with the way things are,**

we lose sight of the way God intends them to be.  
We bring our confession before the One  
who is more powerful than Pharaoh in Egypt,  
mightier than the devil in the wilderness.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

(Ps. 91:2; Luke 4:4, 10; Rom. 10:10–11)

**O God, our refuge and fortress,  
forgive us when we fail to trust in you.  
We fall to temptation;  
we are swayed by false words;  
we speak false words of our own.  
We choose our ease and comfort  
over your demanding claims upon us and upon the world.  
In turning from you,  
we settle for less than the abundant generosity you intend.  
Forgive us, we pray.  
Do not let us be put to shame, O God.  
Hear us as we call to you and show us your salvation.  
In Christ's name we pray. Amen.**

**TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION**

**WORDS OF HOPE AND ASSURANCE**

**SERVICE OF THE WORD**

**PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

Luke 4:1-13

Deuteronomy 26:1-11

## TIME WITH THE YOUNG AT HEART

SERMON

“Knowing Who You Are”

HYMN OF MEDITATION #211 (NCH)

“Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days”

### SERVICE OF PRAYER

#### PRAYER FOR GOD’S PEOPLE

*(As you name a joy or concern later in the prayer, please finish by saying “This is my prayer.” The church family responds by saying “This is our prayer.”)*

***We pray for:** Gerry Adams, Eva McMillan (medical tests); Sarah Brouse (fiancé of Dubai’s son Steven); Adam Crump; Zeb Wentzell (Terri Wentzell’s grandson); Toni Millette; Becky Walker; Kris Nozal (Marcia Baker’s niece); Karen Lantz; Haelyn Vorous; our law enforcement personnel, first responders and the communities they serve; our military personnel worldwide; and all those who serve our country. And we hold in prayer those friends and members of our church family who are unable to join us in worship today.*

OUR LORD’S PRAYER (“forgive us our sins”)

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, Amen.**

**SERVICE OF GIVING**

INVITATION

OFFERTORY “O Love, How Deep, How Broad, How High”  
From “*The Agincourt Song*” 1415/Arr. Jason Krug

\*DOXOLOGY

*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 OF DEDICATION (Unison)

**Gracious and Generous God,  
we are amazed by the good gifts you bestow  
in abundance.**

**Thank you for food that sustains us on our journey.**

**Thank you for the company of saints to whom we  
are joined.**

**Thank you for giving us your work to do on earth.**

**We offer back to you a portion of all that we  
have received,**

**setting down our baskets in celebration of your  
greatest gift,**

**Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen. Deut. 26:4, 10**

\*CLOSING HYMN #391 (NCH)

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”

**\*BENEDICTION**

May the God of the Exodus lead us into freedom.

May the Holy Spirit bind us to God's will.

May Christ, God's only Son, show us the way of true  
justice and peace.

**POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES**

(please be seated for the Postlude)

Tis a Gift to Be Simple

Shaker Melody/Arr. Anna Laura Page

*'Tis the gift to be simple*

*'Tis the gift to be free*

*'Tis the gift to come down where we ought to be*

Portions of this service are from "Feasting on the Word: Year  
C, Lent 1", "UCC Worship Ways"

***Special Thanks to all who helped with the service today:***

- + *Scott Hatfield, for today's message***
- + *Kit Caspar, Liturgist***
- + *Linda Caspar and Nancy Zambraski, Ushers***
- + *Donna Wilcox, Sunday School***
- + *The Bakers and the Wendelkens, Coffee Hour***

**~This Week:**

- + Choir Practice – Sunday, 3/10, 9 am, Sanctuary**
- + Rangeley Ringers – Monday, 3/11, 8 am, Sanctuary**
- + Men's Breakfast – Monday, 3/11, 8 am, Country Club  
Inn**
- + Finance Committee – Monday, 3/11, 3pm, East Room**
- + Church Council – Monday, 3/11, 4pm, East Room**

## ~Next Week:

- + Choir Practice – Sunday, 3/17, 9 am, Sanctuary
- + Potluck brunch and "World Cafe" style congregational event – Sunday, March 17 following the worship service. The purpose of the event is to provide congregational input regarding 1) future directions for ministry and mission and 2) pastoral leadership expectations--input which will be incorporated into our church profile, an important part of our RCC search process. There are sign up lists for the event at the Sanctuary entrance and in the Barn.
- + Rangeley Ringers – Monday, 3/18, 8 am, Sanctuary
- + Prayer Shawl Ministry – Monday, 3/18, 2-3:30 p.m., Barn
- + Pastor Annette resumes her "walk-in" hours on Tuesday, 3/19, from 1-3 pm in her office.

## ~Announcements:

- + Pastor Annette is away on a mission trip in Guatemala. She will be back in Maine on Wednesday, March 13.
- + The "Commandments" Bible study will resume meeting on March 24, when we will focus on the fourth commandment regarding Sabbath keeping.
- + The Adult Choir will sing in worship on March 24. Rehearsals will take place at 9am on Sunday March 10, 17 and 24 in the Sanctuary. All are welcome!
- + Several people have asked for Dorinne Scriber's address to send note and cards of sympathy. She will be heading home soon, so can be reached at 23 Champagne Rd, Jim Pond Twsp, Maine 04936
- + We are looking for someone interested in a very-part-time job as Church Secretary. For more information or

to express interest in the position, please contact Rick Baker, Linda Wendelken or Kathy Brittain. Linda and Kathy will be filling in until we hire a replacement for Ethna.

- ✦ For the months of March and April, the Church Secretary hours will be on Mondays. from 11 am until 2 pm, and Fridays, from 9 am to 11 am.

*Walking toward God, we the members of the Rangeley Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, Rangeley, Maine, seek to be a congregation which includes all persons who desire to have a relationship with God and to live God's love, as shown to us through the teachings and examples of Jesus Christ.*

from our Open and Affirming Statement

**Rangeley Congregational Church, [www.rangeleyucc.com](http://www.rangeleyucc.com)**

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