

**Rangeley Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Church
Fourth Sunday of Easter**

May 12, 2019

10:00 AM

Meditation:

*They cast their nets in Galilee
Just off the hills of brown,
Such happy simple fisherfolk
Before the Lord came down.*

*Contented peaceful fishermen,
Before they ever knew
The peace of God that filled their hearts,
Brimful and broke them too.*

*Young John who trimmed the flapping sail,
Homeless, in Patmos died.
Peter, who hauled the teeming net,
Head-down was crucified.*

*The peace of God, it is no peace,
But strife closed in the sod,
Yet, brothers, pray for but one thing—
The marvelous peace of God.*

--William Alexander Percy

ORDER OF WORSHIP

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

“He Leadeth Me”

William B. Bradbury/Arr. Jason Krug

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

INVOCATION (Unison)

God of love and peace, whose healing Word is offered to every person and tribe and nation, we long to hear and see and feel your presence with us. Send your Spirit to us now to calm our troubled hearts and empower us for faith and praise; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist

Open the gate! The Shepherd is coming!

We hear his glad voice, calling us by name, leading us to green pastures.

No stranger’s voice will we follow. We follow only the One who leads us to our true home--

One door, one flock, one fold, one Shepherd.

Open the gate! The Good Shepherd comes!

*GATHERING HYMN #66 (PH)

“For the Beauty of the Earth”

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Living Lord, you come to us, offering us your peace and forgiveness. We believe, yet need your help with our unbelief. We welcome your Holy Spirit, yet fail to spread your peace. Too often we retain the sins of others rather than forgiving them, as you call us to do. Forgive us our

**past failures and misdeeds and raise us in the power of
your Spirit to life anew...**

TIME FOR SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF HOPE AND ASSURANCE

TIME WITH THE YOUNG AT HEART

SERVICE OF THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

Psalm 23: Hymn #247 (NCH)

“My Shepherd is the Living God”

John 20:19-31

SERMON

HYMN OF MEDITATION #478 (NCH)

“I’ve Got Peace Like a River”

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: Liz Volckening, Kathleen Kelley (Karen Lantz’s mother); Victor Somma (Corinne’s Sorenson’s brother-in-law); Eva McMillan; Sarah Brouse (fiancé of Dubay’s son Steven); Zeb

Wentzell (Terri Wentzell's grandson); Becky Walker; Kris Nozal (Marcia Baker's niece); 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.

CHORAL AMEN #812 (NCH)

"Threefold Amen"

SERVICE OF GIVING

INVITATION

OFFERTORY

"Blessings"

Laura Story

*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)**

God, you have made us, loved us, and healed us. We bring to you the offerings of our hearts and lives. May all that we have and all that we are be dedicated to accomplishing your gracious will for this world. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #252 (NCH)**

“Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us”

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

(Please remain seated for the Postlude.)

“Down to the River to Pray” and

“Lord, Listen to Your Children”

Traditional Spiritual, Ken Medema

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

- + Linda Caspar, Liturgist**
- + Kit Caspar, Usher**
- + Nancy Zambraski, Coffee Hour**
- + Erin Perkins Smith, Special Music**

~ This Week:

- + Men's Breakfast will meet at 8:00 a.m. Monday, 5/13 at a place to be announced.**
- + Finance Committee Meeting – Monday, 5/13, 3-4pm, East Room**
- + Church Council Meeting – Monday, 5/13, 4pm, East Room**
- + Pastor Annette’s “walk-in” hours – Tuesday 5/14, 1-3 pm, in her office**

~ Next Week:

- + Prayer Shawl Ministry – Monday, 5/20, 2-3:30 pm, Barn
- + Women’s Fellowship – Monday, 5/24, 10am-12pm, Barn.

~Announcements:

- + There will be no Sunday School today, but there are activity bags at the entry way of the church for children to use during the service.
- + The last day of Sunday School will be June 2, when we will be recognizing the young people who have participated this past year and their teachers. The annual church barbecue will follow the service. Y'all come!
- + If you were not able to attend the Bylaws update on April 28, Rick Baker will hold additional update meetings on May 19 and June (date to be determined), in the East Room after the worship service.
- + It's Scholarship time! Applications are available in the Barn and in the Narthex. The deadline is June 1. If you would like more information, please contact Mary Richards, at 864-2645.
- + In May, the Church Secretary will generally be in the office on Mondays, from 11 am – 1 pm, and will be available other times by appointment.

Rangeley Congregational Church, www.rangeleyucc.com

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