

Rangeley Congregational Church
Order of Worship – March 21, 2021

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Simone Weil ~ 20th century Mystic

~ Respectful, kind attention is the rarest and purest form of generosity."

~ To be rooted is perhaps the most important and least recognized need of the human soul.

~ ... the intelligent man who is proud of his intelligence is like the condemned man who is proud of his large cell.

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: The Old Rugged Cross
George Bennard / Arr. John Innes

CALL TO WORSHIP

Officiant: The Eternal Holy One is making a new covenant with the people of God.

Liturgist: Here in this place, Christ writes the law of love on our hearts.

Officiant: We are children of the living God.

Liturgist: Together, let us worship the Lord of Love!

INVOCATION ~ **Liturgist**

Psalm 119:9-16 The Message

How can a person live a clean life?

By carefully reading the map of your Word.

I'm single-minded in pursuit of you; don't let me miss the road signs you've posted.

I've banked your promises in the vault of my heart so I won't sin myself bankrupt.

Be blessed, God; train me in your ways of wise living.

I'll transfer to my lips all the counsel that comes from your mouth; I delight far more in what you tell me about living than in gathering a pile of riches.

I ponder every morsel of wisdom from you, I attentively watch how you've done it.

I relish everything you've told me of life; I won't forget a word of it.

PASTOR'S PRAYER ~ Officiant

OPENING HYMN: Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days
Tune: ST. FLAVIAN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION ~ Officiant

...time for silent prayer...~ Officiant

WORDS OF ASSURANCE OF LOVE ~ Officiant

SCRIPTURE

Jeremiah 31:31-33 ~ **Liturgist**
New Revised Standard Version

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³²It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband,³¹says the LORD. ³³But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people.

John 12: 20 -33 ~ **Liturgist**
New Revised Standard Version

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. ²¹They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, “Sir, we wish to see Jesus.” ²²Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. ²³Jesus answered them, “The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. ²⁵Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honor.

²⁷“Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say—‘Father, save me from this hour’? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. ²⁸Father, glorify your name.” Then a voice came from heaven, “I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.” ²⁹The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said, “An angel has spoken to him.” ³⁰Jesus answered, “This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. ³¹Now is the judgment of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. ³²And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all peoples to myself. ³³He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

HYMN OF RESPONSE Breathe on Me, Breath of God
Tune: TRENTHAM

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE ~ Liturgist

Please offer the names of those whom you would like added to our Prayer time this morning.

(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: Marcia Baker, Janet House, Becky and Dave Walker, Judy Wicken's Dad John Sheeler, Patrick Egan, Sam Meehan's Mom and her husband Nicole & LeRoy Hileman, Erin Smith, Tony McNaughton, Linda Caspar's niece Aubree Yanchick and her family, Scott and Janet Wilson and Janet's father John Owens, Marcia Baker's niece, Kris Nozal, Dave Walker's brothers, Tom & Peter Walker, Haelyn Vorous, the Daileys' son Rob, and our Members in Discernment Becky Walker and Scott Hatfield. We pray for safety and comfort for those who are struggling in unusual weather patterns.

Our law enforcement personnel, medical personnel and first responders, and our military personnel worldwide, and all those who serve our country We pray for the people around us this day for those who are upon our hearts and minds because of a need that they have...

PASTORAL PRAYER ~ Officiant

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

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, debts, trespasses) as we forgive those who (sin, our debtors, trespass) 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.

CLOSING HYMN: Lift High the Cross
Tune: CRUCIFER

DISMISSAL: *(based on Jeremiah 31: 33-34)*

Officiant: God will write a new covenant on All our hearts God will be our God and we will All be God's people.

**Liturgist: No longer shall we teach one another,
or say to each other, "Know the Lord."**

Officiant: For we shall All know God! In the name of God the Source of Life, the Word of Truth, and the Spirit of Love.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE: It Is Well With My Soul
Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE / Arr. Mark Hayes

Special thanks to Cyndy Egan for being our Liturgist, Kelsey Meehan for leading the singing, Dave Walker for the PowerPoint slideshow presentation and for setting up the Zoom live stream so we can worship together.

Deacon of the Month: Linda Caspar (207) 864-5539

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We will hold a Zoom Tenebrae service on April 1 at 6:30. Unfortunately there will be no soup supper this year. Please note the time and a Zoom invite will be sent prior. Also, as we're all working remotely, we're not planning for additional flowers in the Sanctuary this Eastertime. If you would normally donate and dedicate flowers, for this year we encourage a donation to the Deacons' Relief Fund instead.