

# Rangeley Congregational Church

## Order of Worship – April 25, 2021

### Fourth Sunday of Easter ~ A Day of Celebration

*J. S Bach ~ Composer ~ 17<sup>th</sup> century Composer*

"I play the notes as they are written, but it is God who makes the music."

*Seth Godin ~ Writer who focuses on tribes, respect, and creativity ~ 21<sup>st</sup> century*

"Art is when we do work that matters in a creative way, in a way that touches [people] and changes them for the better." -

*Emily P, Freeman ~ Writer ~ 21<sup>st</sup> century*

"What if your art is part of a bigger picture, part of a daily grace God has in mind for someone else?"

#### RINGING OF THE BELL

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE: An den Frühling (To Spring)  
Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

#### CALL TO WORSHIP (inspired by Psalm 150 ~ excerpt) **Officiant & Liturgist**

**Officiant:** Praise the Lord!

**Liturgist:** **Praise God in the sanctuary.**

**Officiant:** Praise God in the vault of heaven.

**Liturgist:** **Praise God in the earth and skies.**

**Officiant:** Sing praises to the Lord.

**Liturgist:** **Shout and sing praises to God.**

**Officiant:** We have witnessed God's mighty acts.

**Liturgist:** **We have seen the Lord's greatness.**

**Officiant:** Let everything that breathes praise the Lord.

**Liturgist:** **Let everything that draws breath praise the Lord!**

#### INVOCATION **Sing a New Song!**

Officiant & Liturgist

**Officiant:** Come, let us sing for joy to the LORD,  
let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.  
Let us come before God with thanksgiving—  
with music and song!

**Liturgist:** **It is good to sing praise to you, O God, and make music in your name,  
O Most High; to proclaim your love  
in the morning and your faithfulness at night.**

**For you make us glad by your deeds, O God;  
we sing for joy at the work of your hands.**

Officiant: Worship God with gladness;  
come into God's presence with joyful songs—  
with thanksgiving and praise!  
For God has taken away our garments of sadness,  
and clothed us with joy, that we might sing praise,  
and not be silent!

Liturgist: **We will sing of God's love forever!  
Young and old will hear, and rejoice.  
For your unfailing love lasts forever;  
Your faithfulness is as enduring as the heavens above.**

Officiant: Sing new songs to God! Praise God's name!  
Each day proclaim the good news of God's salvation.  
Tell everyone about the amazing things God has done.

Liturgist: **May our ways be known throughout the earth, O God;  
Your saving power among people everywhere.  
May the nations praise you and sing for joy,  
for you govern them with justice,  
and guide the actions of the whole world. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: Sing Praise to God, Who Has Shaped  
Tune: LOBE DEN HERREN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Officiant

PASTOR'S PRAYER

*...time for silent prayer...*

WORDS OF ASSURANCE OF LOVE

Officiant

SCRIPTURE

2 Chronicles 5:12-14

Officiant

All the Levites who were musicians—Asaph, Heman, Jeduthun and their sons and relatives—stood on the east side of the altar, dressed in fine linen and playing cymbals, harps and lyres. They were accompanied by 120 priests sounding trumpets. The trumpeters and musicians joined in unison to give praise and thanks to the Lord. Accompanied by trumpets, cymbals and other instruments, the singers raised their voices in praise to the Lord and sang: "God is good; God's love endures forever." Then the temple of the Lord was filled with the cloud, and the priests could not perform their service because of the cloud, for the glory of the Lord filled the temple of God.

Psalm 150:1-6

Liturgist

Praise God in the sanctuary;  
praise God in the mighty heavens.  
Praise God for God's acts of power;  
praise God for God's surpassing greatness.  
Praise God with the sounding of the trumpet,  
praise God with the harp and lyre,  
praise God with timbrel and dancing,  
praise God with the strings and pipe,  
praise God with the clash of cymbals,  
praise God with resounding cymbals.  
Let everything that has breath praise the Lord. Praise the Lord!"

Ephesians 5: 18 – 19

Officiant

"Be filled with the Spirit. Sing the words and tunes of the psalms and hymns when you are together, and go on singing and chanting to the Lord in your hearts."

Mark 24: 16

Liturgist

"And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives."

SERMON

HYMN OF RESPONSE When the Morning Stars Together  
Tune: OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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, Paula Hatfield's sister and her family on the death of their son, Thomas Yoder, Mike and Marley Cerminara, Frank and Patty Cerminara and the family on the passing of Mike's mother Angelina Cerminara, Fred and Mary's son Steven Dubay, Janet House, Becky and Dave Walker, Carol Ellinwood, Sandy Reynolds' and her family on the loss of Rick Lewis to Covid, Patrick Egan, Sam Meehan's Mom and her husband Nicole & LeRoy Hileman, Erin Smith, Tony McNaughton, Scott and Janet Wilson and Janet's father John Owens, Marcia Baker's niece, Kris Nozal, Dave Walker's brother, Peter Walker, Haelyn Vorous, the Daileys' son Rob, and our Members in Discernment Becky Walker and Scott Hatfield. 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

OUR LORD'S PRAYER (using the words you pray in silent 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: Lord of the Dance  
19th century Shaker tune/Sydney Carter

**DISMISSAL**

**Liturgist**

**Loving God, who listens for our voices lifted up in praise,  
you hear us, our words in prayer, our silent thoughts and pleas  
and each note or melody we hear, sing, or play.  
May our praises today connect with heaven  
and unite our hearts with the blessed sounds of eternity.**

**May the gifts of our voices and the melodies of our instruments  
move with the work of your Holy Spirit.  
May we bring light and joy into dark places,  
restore hope and vision to all who are oppressed,  
and well-being and health to all those who suffer.**

**This day Lord, we offer you our worship.  
May it be an invitation for you, gracious and holy God,  
to touch our lives afresh and build your family of the faithful  
here in Rangeley and wherever each one of us may go. Amen.**

**BENEDICTION**

**Officiant**

POSTLUDE: Make A Joyful Noise  
Mark Hayes (1953- )

Special thanks to Cyndy Egan for being our Liturgist, Erin Smith 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: Claire Chase (207) 712-0490