



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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An Open and Affirming Church
Sixth Sunday of Easter

May 5, 2024

10:00 AM

Meditation:

“A joyful heart is the inevitable result of a heart burning with love.”

—Mother Teresa

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *“For the Beauty of the Earth”*

Tune: DIX/Arr. John Purifoy

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader & People

Leader: Christ gives us a new commandment:

People: **“Love one another as I have loved you.”**

Leader: When we love one another as Christ has loved us, we will live lives full of joy.

People: **We will live with God's love deep in our hearts.**

Leader: Let us worship the one who shows us how to love.

People: **Let us worship with joy! Alleluia!**

INVOCATION

*GATHERING HYMN (Insert)

"All Are Welcome"

Verses 3, 4, and 5

CALL TO CONFESSION

People: **Jesus, our sibling and friend, we confess that we do not always love one another. Our divisions and disagreements so often prevent us from knowing the joy of meaningful relationships. Even as we seek to follow your example, we forget that we are chosen and appointed by you to bring hope to a weary world. Help us renew our focus and live by your will... that we may follow you with joy in our hearts.**

Silent reflection on these words

WORDS OF GRACE AND ASSURANCE

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE

1 John 5:1-6
John 15:1-17

Liturgist
Leader

SERMON Giving and Taking

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #498 (NCH)

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

SERVICE OF PRAYER

PRAYER FOR ALL 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: *Linda Caspar and her family, on the passing of her husband Kit, Marlene Knowles on the passing of her husband Donald, Priscilla St. Louis, Linda Caspar's sister Marilyn Dixon, Wes McCray, Forrest Stephens, Kris Nozal, Michael Hulse, Jeff & Carol Ellinwood, Bobby & Leeanna Wilbur, Tim & Sarah Johnson, Erin Smith's parents Carol & Dan Perkins, Patrick Egan, and we pray for all those who guide and lead us in worship.*

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 (debts, sins, trespasses) as we forgive those who (sin, 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 and ever. AMEN.

CHORAL AMEN #812 (NCH)

"Threefold Amen"

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY MUSIC *"Reverie"*

Stanley Saxton

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.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have sent your Son as the Savior of the world and your Spirit to graft us into the vine of life.

You created the universe and everything in it, and revealed your perfect love in your commitment to your people and your care for the poor and afflicted.

Through your prophets you promised a righteous servant who would suffer humiliation and injustice and, like a sheep to the slaughter, have his life taken away. In your Son, Jesus Christ, we have seen your promises fulfilled, and through his resurrection, he has broken the power of death to hold the righteous. In his perfect love, our fear is cast out, and now, like branches of a vine, we live in him and draw our life from him, that we might bear much fruit to your glory.

Eucharistic Prayer

Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer you thanks and praise at all times through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Consecration

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in

remembrance of me”

In the same way, Jesus took the cup, after supper saying: “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

God loved us and sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. True love is known, not in our love for God, but in God’s love for us, sacrificing his son to overcome the burden of our sins.

Sisters and Brothers, your sins are forgiven; be at peace.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

The body of Christ, the living bread.
The blood of Christ, the saving cup.

COMMUNION MUSIC #330 (NCH)

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Go now, and love one another, because love is from God. Proclaim God’s salvation to every generation. Remain in Jesus Christ, and like branches of a vine, draw your life from him.

And may God the vine grower tend you and make you fruitful;

May Christ Jesus abide in you and give you life; And may the Holy Spirit cast out all fear and fill you with God's love.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN #506 NCH)

"What A Friend We Have in Jesus"

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

"Vivace, from Sonata in F Major"

Georg Philipp Telemann (1681-1767)

Portions adapted from: Worship Ways

~Special thanks to all who contributed their time, talents and gifts for today's service:

- Pastor Scott Hatfield, **Leading Worship Service**
- Sarah Johnson, **Liturgist**
- Zenna Inness, **Deacon of the Week**
- Lucy Simonds, **Zoomigo**
- Sarah Johnson, **providing bread for Communion**
- Sarah & Tim, **Coffee Hour**

~This Week:

- Piano Lessons with Erin, May 6, 7, 8, 10, Sanctuary, May 9, E. Room, 3-5pm

~Next Week:

- Tony MacNaughton, Leading Worship, May 12
- Piano Lessons with Erin, May 13, 14, 15, 17, Sanctuary, May 16, E. Room, 3-5pm
- Finance Committee Meeting, May 13, 2:45pm, East Room & Zoom
- Council Meeting, May 13, 4:00pm, East Room & Zoom

<u>Pastoral Care Services</u>	Rev. Tony MacNaughton	207-864-3355
<u>Church Secretary</u>	rangeleyucc@gmail.com	207-864-5966
<u>Minister of Music:</u>	Sue Downes-Borko	207-864-3951
<u>Council President:</u>	Cyndy Egan	207-864-2255
<u>Co-Chair of Deacons:</u>	Claire Chase Lucy Simonds	207-712-0490 207-462-2101
<u>Deacon of week</u>	Zenna Inness	207-864-2614