



Rangeley Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Rangeley, Maine

**Rangeley Congregational Church**  
**United Church of Christ**  
*An Open and Affirming Church*  
**Pentecost Sunday**

May 19, 2023

10:00 AM

*“God’s truth judges created things out of love, and Satan’s truth  
judges them out of envy and hatred.”*

--Dietrich Bonhoeffer

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**COMING INTO GOD’S PRESENCE**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

PRELUDE: Sonata on “Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us”

Tune: EBENEZER/ Quoting Beethoven’s

“Moonlight Sonata”/Arr. Thygerson

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Liturgist**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Liturgist & All**

**Leader:** We come to join with all the earth in praise:

**People:** **to sing a new song to the Lord, who has done  
marvelous things, who has shown us  
steadfast love and faithfulness.**

Leader: We praise the Lord with joyful noises, joining the symphony of the earth:

People: **the roar of the ocean, the call of the birds, the wind across the hills, people in every corner of the globe.**

Leader: On this sabbath day of rest and gladness,

People: **we greet you with joy, our living God!**

### INVOCATION (Unison)

**Almighty God, we acknowledge our need for you in our lives. May we be open to your activity in this time of worship, in our lives, and in the world. Quiet our busy thoughts and distracted attention so that we can be still and know that you are God. Lead us by your Spirit to be disciples of Jesus, in whose name we pray, Amen.**

\*GATHERING HYMN: #272 NCH)

*“On Pentecost They Gathered”*

### OUR CONFESSION AND GOD’S FORGIVENESS

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Wheeler

It is the Spirit of God which has gathered us for worship. Let us confess our sins and return to God.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

**Spirit of God, we hesitate and doubt. You call us to act boldly but our fear keeps us from following your call. Forgive our lack of courage. Embolden us to dream big and**

**trust the Spirit to fill us and use us. Help us be Christ's church without hesitation. Guided by your Holy Spirit, help us usher in your kingdom to come. For we pray in the name of Jesus, and through the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

### **SILENT CONFESSION**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Acts 2:21) Rev. Wheeler**  
"Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved." In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free. Amen.

### **PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION (Unison)**

**Open our hearts and minds by the power of your Spirit, Holy God, that we might hear and receive the message you intend for us today. Amen.**

## **SERVICE OF THE WORD**

### **SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Romans 8:22-27

**Liturgist**

Acts 2:1-21

**SERMON:** Happy Birthday Church!!

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: #283 (NCH)**

*"Spirit of the Living God"*

(Sing 2x)

## **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' husbands passing, pray for Linda's family on the passing of her sister, Marilyn. Carol and David Bachelder, Father Thom and his husband Jim, Priscilla St. Louis, 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.*

## 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"*

## SERVICE OF GIVING

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

In response to God's abundant and free flowing spirit at work in our lives, let us present with gratitude our gifts of

time, talent, and treasure, for the building up of God's kingdom.

## OFFERTORY

### OFFERTORY MUSIC:

*"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart"*

Tune: MORECAMBE/Arr. Lenny Seidel

## 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)**

**You have blessed each of us with gifts to serve and share, most generous God. May the offerings we present today be used to further your Kingdom and build your beloved community. Amen.**

### \*CLOSING HYMN: #267 (NCH)

*"Come, O Spirit, Dwell among Us"*

## BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

*"There Will Never Be Another You"*

Harry Warren (1893-1981)

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

- Rev. Stan Wheeler, **Leading Worship Service**
- Les Hoekstra, **Liturgist**
- Fred Dubay, **Deacon of the Week**
- Tim Johnson, **Coffee Hour**
- Lucy Simonds, **Claire Chase**

**~This Week:**

- Piano Lessons with Erin, May 20, 21, 22 & 24.  
Sanctuary, 3-5pm, May 23, East Room
- Deacons' Meeting, May 20, 3:00pm, East Room & Zoom
- Women's Fellowship, May 24, 10am-12pm, Barn

**~Next Week:**

- Rev. Dick Waddell, Leading Worship, May 26
- Piano Lessons with Erin, May 27, 28, 29 & 31  
Sanctuary, 3-5pm, May 30, East Room

Pastoral Care Services	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 the week</u>	Fred Dubay	207-864-5234