



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Church
Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost

October 20, 2024

10:00 AM

Meditation

"Joy is the simplest form of gratitude."

— Karl Barth

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *"How Can I Keep From Singing?"*

Robert Lowry/Arr. Lani Smith

*My life flows on in endless song
above earth's lamentation;
I hear the real, though far off hymn
that hails the new creation.
Above the tumult and the strife
I hear it's music ringing.
It sounds an echo in my soul;
how can I keep from singing?*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: The Son of Man came not to be served but to serve. Let us follow Christ, not seeking glory, but ways to serve.

People: Called to worship, we bow humbly before our God.

INVOCATION (Unison)

Almighty God, we are in awe of your magnificent power displayed through the entire universe, for through you all things were made and all things have their being. We come before you with grateful thanks and with hearts that long to adore you and worship only you. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN #12 (NCH)

"I Sing the Mighty Power of God"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Rev. Wheeler

Our God is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love
Let us embrace this time of confession with honesty and humility.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Holy God, your truth is oftentimes hard to hear. We confess our avoidance, our purposeful distractions, our prideful arrogance that keeps us from hearing and responding to your Word. Although you send us messages and messengers, we dismiss and disregard those who tell

us we are wrong. Have mercy upon us, Holy God. Open us to hearing the truth no matter how it is conveyed. In the name of Christ we pray. Amen.

Silent reflection on these words

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Hear the Good News! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Anyone who is in Christ is a new creation. The old life has gone; a new life has begun. Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 91:9-16

Liturgist

Job 38:1–7, 34–41

Liturgist

Mark 10:35-45

SERMON Baffled into wonder. Startled into humility.
Disoriented into praise.

***HYMN OF RESPONSE** *“Jesus Christ is Waiting”*

John Bell and Graham Maule

Jesus Christ is waiting, waiting in the streets;
no-one is his neighbour, all alone he eats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am lonely too.
Make me, friend or stranger, fit to wait on you.

Jesus Christ is raging, raging in the streets,
where injustice spirals and real hope retreats.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I am angry too.
In the Kingdom's causes let me rage with you.

Jesus Christ is healing, healing in the streets;
curing those who suffer, touching those he greets.
Listen, Lord Jesus, I have pity too.
Let my care be active, healing just like you.

Jesus Christ is calling, calling in the streets,
'Who will join my journey? I will guide their feet.'
Listen, Lord Jesus, let my fears be few.
Walk one step before me; I will follow you.

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: *Sue Downes-Borko & her family on the recent passing of her Father, Russell Downes, Marilyn Sharp, Nancy Zambraski, Mary Ellen Simon, Linda Caspars' brother-in-law, Conrad Guerra, Patrick Egan, Forrest Stephens, Bill & Mary Richards, Gerry Adams & Diane Schnellhammer, Wendy Darienzzo, Kris Nozal, Bobby & Leeanna Wilbur, Tim & Sarah Johnson, Erin Smith's parents, Carol & Dan Perkins. The people of Ukraine, Israel & Gaza whose lives are engulfed in the violence of war; the victims of the more than 9,000-gun violence deaths in the U.S. so far this year 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"

SERVICE OF GIVING

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Let us give and live generously in response to all that God
has done for us. Let us present our tithes and offerings to the
Lord.

OFFERTORY MUSIC *"Bread of Heaven"*
Marc Jordan

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)**

Holy God, these offerings are only a portion of all that you have given us. We gratefully present these gifts and entrust them to your work in this world. May our gifts share the Good News of the gospel to those who are in need. May these gifts help unburden those with the heaviest of loads. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN #498 (NCH)**

“Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

“Song Without Words”, Op. 102, #3

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

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

- Rev. Stan Wheeler, **Leading Worship Service**
- Rick Baker, **Liturgist**
- Rick Baker, **Deacon of the Week**
- Claire Chase, **Zoomigo**
- Bring your own and some to share, **Coffee Hour**

~This Week:

- Ecumenical Mahjong, Oct 21, 1-3pm, Barn
- Deacons’ Meeting, Oct 21, 4pm, East Room & Zoom
- Piano/Voice lessons, Oct 22, 23 & 25, 3-5pm, Sanctuary

- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Oct 23, 11am, Barn
- Women's Fellowship meet, Oct 25, 10am-12pm, Barn

~Next Week:

- Mission Harvest Breakfast in place of Worship, Oct 27, Barn
- Piano/Voice lessons, Oct 29, 30 & Nov 1, 3-5pm,
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Oct 23, 11am, Barn
- Women's Fellowship meet, Nov 1, 10am-12pm, Barn

UCC HURRICANE RELIEF FUND

The Mission Committee has learned that the UCC is providing a safe and secure way to donate to help the many people suffering due to devastation from Hurricanes Helene and Milton. Here is the contact information should you choose to donate:

Donate on the website <https://support.ucc.org/hurricane-helene-relief>

OR

Mail a check to United Church of Christ, PO Box 71957,
Cleveland, OH 44194 Please be sure to note
"Hurricanes 2024" in the memo section of your check.

Sunday, October 27th



<u>Pastoral Care Services</u>	Rev. Tony MacNaughton	207-864-3355
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<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>	Rick Baker	207-670-8134