



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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An Open and Affirming Church
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 3, 2024

10:00 AM

Meditation:

“The greatest commandment is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.’ The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’”

—Mark 12: 29-31

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *“Come, Christians, Join to Sing”*

Tune: MADRID/Arr. Mark Hayes

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP
(Inspired by Psalm 146)

Leader & People

Leader: Praise the Holy One as long as we live.
People: **Praise the Creator, who makes our days, who trails our paths, and who gives us breath.**
Leader: Praise the Holy One with our whole selves—mind, body, and soul.
People: **Trust in wisdom and honor, truth and love, grace and mercy.**
Leader: Praise the Holy One for God is just, generous, compassionate, liberating, and near.
People: **The Holy One reigns, lifting up the lowly, humbling, the proud, and sustaining the righteous from generation to generation. Praise God!**

INVOCATION

*GATHERING HYMN #73 (NCH)

“Enter, Rejoice, and Come In”

CALL TO CONFESSION

Righteous One, write your commandments on our hearts...not as a list of do's and don'ts but as a vision of the people who can be, the lives we may live, and the world we may create. Write liberation of the oppressed, care and wholeness of those with unmet needs, and revelation and understanding to those oblivious to the truth. Emblazon your law of love in our hearts, on our lips, and in our journey. Transform us with your love so that we may reflect your love toward our neighbor.

Silent reflection on these words

WORDS OF GRACE AND ASSURANCE

SCRIPTURE

Ruth 1:1-18

Psalm 146

Mark 12:28-34

Liturgist

Liturgist

SERMON Holy Bonds

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #471 (NCH)

“What a Covenant”

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: *Michael Hulse, Lucy Simonds Nephew, Marilyn Sharp, Linda Caspars’ brother-in-law, Conrad Guerra, Patrick Egan, Forrest Stephens, Bill & Mary Richards, Gerry Adams & Diane Schnellhammer, Wendy Darienzo, 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"

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY MUSIC *"Our God, How Great"*

Colin Curtis

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

Here is the company of heaven, seen and unseen.
Here is the bread and wine to be broken and spilled.
Here is Jesus the Christ, holy rebel and sacred friend.
This is the belonging place.

Here are the people of God, saint and sinner.
Here is the congregation of heaven,
those ready and those not ready to receive.
Here is the story of God, crucified and risen.
This is the belonging place.
Here is the table of life, open and free.
Here is the grace of God, unconditional and without
end.
Here is the love of Jesus, given and given again.
This is the belonging place.
**Whoever we are and aren't,
whatever we believe and don't,
we belong here – at this table.**

Communion Liturgy (St. Martin-in-the fields)

Lord Jesus Christ, you have invited us to come to this
table.

**We have come from many places and experiences;
we have come with all our differences;
We have come to the place where journeys meet.
You have called us into the heart of God.**

On the night that Jesus was betrayed he told us to
prepare a place for him. And then he offered us a
sign. A sign of how he would give himself to us to
give us new life. He had always loved us, and now he
showed us how perfect his love was.

While his disciples were eating, Jesus took a piece of bread in his hands, like this, and he blessed it:

**Blessed are you Lord God of all creation;
through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have
made. It will become for us the bread of life.**

And then he said to them:

This is my body broken for you, do this in
remembrance of me.

Silence;

And then Jesus took a cup of wine, like this, and gave
you thanks:

**Blessed are you Lord God of all creation, through
your goodness we have this wine to offer, fruit of
the vine and work of human hands. It will become
for us the cup of salvation.**

And then he said to them: Drink this, all of you, this is
my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you
and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this in
remembrance of me.

Silence.

The Consecration

His disciples did not understand these words; how could they understand? But later they would see Christ's body broken, his love poured out – his death for us so that we might share his risen life. The life he gave then, he shares with us now.

Lord Jesus Christ, as we do in this place what you did once and for all, breathe your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine the they may be heaven's food, renewing, transforming, sustaining and making us whole, so that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring for your creation, where all are welcome and the poorest are fed.

Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free, and fill each one of us with your love from on high. Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast at your table with all your saints.

Look, Jesus Christ, the Bread of Heaven, is broken for the life of the world. The gifts of God for the people of God.

Jesus, Bread of life, Bread on the edge, Bread for the world.

COMMUNION MUSIC

#343 (NCH) *"Jesus Took the Bread"*

#330 (NCH) *"Let Us Break Bread Together"*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of hope, in bread and wine, you have restored us to relationship with you. Show us how to be a people that live your reconciling love in the world, so that we may recognize your presence in those we meet, and our hearts like those first disciples may burn within us upon the road.

Lord Jesus Christ,

You are the Word for us to speak;

You are the Truth for us to tell;

You are the Light for us to light in the darkness.

You are the Bread of Life for us to share.

Now all of us must go out into the world and live God's love there.

Look for Jesus in the oppressed and burdened.

Look for Jesus in those who have lost hope.

Look for him among the poor in heart.

Among the merciful. Among the peacemakers.

Among the persecuted for the sake of right.

Look for Jesus on the edge. Amen

*CLOSING HYMN #423 (NCH)

"Great Is Your Faithfulness"

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

"March of the Dwarves"

Edvard Grieg (1843-1907)

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

Thanks to the UCC Worship Ways and United Church of Canada Websites for liturgy used today.

- Rev. John Fiscus, **Leading Worship Service**
- Cyndy Egan, **Liturgist**
- Linda Caspar, **Deacon of the Week**
- Lucy Simonds, **Zoomigo**
- Sarah Johnson, **providing bread for Communion**
- Sarah & Tim Johnson, **Coffee Hour**

~This Week:

- Ecumenical Mahjong, Nov 4, 1-3pm, Barn
- Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal resumes, Nov 4, 8-9:30am
- Piano/Voice lessons, Nov 5, 6 & 8, 3-5pm, Sanctuary
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Nov 6, 11am, Barn
- Women's Fellowship meet, Nov 8, 10am-12pm, Barn

~Next Week:

- Rev. Tony MacNaughton, Leading Worship, Nov 10
- Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal resumes, Nov 11, 8-9:30am
- Finance Meeting, Nov 11, 3:15pm, East Room & Zoom
- Piano/Voice lessons, Nov 12, 13 & 15, 3-5pm,
- Council Meeting, Nov 11, 4pm, East Room & Zoom
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Nov 13, 11am, Barn
- Women's Fellowship meets, Nov 15, 10-12am, Barn

ELECTION DAY November 5th GO VOTE



The Adult Respite Care Program (HARC) provides a fun and engaging social day program designed for seniors suffering dementia.

HARC enables caregivers to have a day of rest knowing that their loved ones are well-cared for.

Located in the basement of Rangeley Family Medicine.

Please call Jennifer at Health & Wellness, 864-4397

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<u>Co-Chair of Deacons:</u>	Claire Chase Lucy Simonds	207-712-0490 207-462-2101
<u>Deacon of week</u>	Linda Caspar	207-670-5073