

Rangeley Congregational Church United Church of Christ Rangeley, Maine

Rangeley Congregational Church United Church of Christ An Open and Affirming Church **Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost**

November 17, 2024

Meditation:

"(I pray) not because God is good and I am good so I get what I ask for, but because God was, is and will be, meaning that God is already present in the future I am fearing..."

-Nadia Bolz-Weber

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Tune: FAITHFULNESS/Arr. Greg Howlett

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

What brings us together in this place? Leader:

People: We are here to worship Christ, who loves us, who freed us from our sins by his blood and

10:00 AM

Liturgist

| | who made us a kingdom, priests serving his | |
|---------|--|--|
| | God and Father. | |
| Leader: | To him be glory and dominion forever and | |
| | ever. | |
| People: | Amen. | |
| All: | Let's prepare our hearts and minds to | |
| | worship Jesus Christ, our king. | |

INVOCATION (Unison)

Open us, Holy One, to your Word and your Way. Clear our minds of daily distractions. Fill our hearts with the humility we need to hear and receive the message you intend for us today. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN #408 (NCH) *"All My Hope on God is Founded"*

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Eternal God, too often we settle for the way things are. We embrace what is comfortable and disengage from the work of necessary change. We fail to hope for a new day and a new world because our present reality feels good enough. Forgive us. Have mercy upon us. Fill us with the passion to live and work towards a world made just and equitable and new. Amen.

... time for silent confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Matthew 9:2) "When Jesus saw their faith, he said..."Take heart...your sins are forgiven." Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Daniel 12:1-3 Mark 13:1-8

Liturgist

SERMON As Much As You Can, Choose Love

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #438 (NCH) "When Peace Like a River"

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, Linda Caspars' brother-in-law, Conrad Guerra, Patrick Egan, 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 (2 Corinthians 9:11) "You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God." Let us present our tithes and offerings to the Lord.

OFFERTORY MUSIC "Come, Ye Thankful People, Come" Tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR/Arr. Thygerson

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)

O God, maker and provider of all, you have blessed us with many gifts. Use us, and what we have gathered, to feed the world through your love; through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN (Insert) "The Peace of the Earth"

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES "All People That on Earth Do Dwell" Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH/Arr. Lloyd Larson

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

- Rev. Stan Wheeler, Leading Worship Service
- Linda Caspar, Liturgist
- Joann Bean, Deacon of the Week
- Lucy Simonds, Zoomigo
- Sarah & Tim Johnson, Coffee Hour

~This Week:

- Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal, Nov 18, 8-9:30am
- Ecumenical Mahjong, Nov 18, 1-3, Barn
- Deacons' Meeting, Nov 18, 4pm, East Room & Zoom
- Piano/Voice lessons, Nov 19, 20 & 22, 3-5pm, Sanctuary
- HOLLY FAIR, Saturday, Nov 23, 10am-2pm, Barn

~Next Week:

- Pastor Scott Hatfield, Leading Worship, Nov 24
- Hand Bell Choir Rehearsal, Nov 25, 8-9:30am
- Piano/Voice lessons, Nov 26, 27 &, 29, 3-5pm, Sanctuary
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Nov 27, 11am, Barn

| Pastoral Care | Rev. Tony | |
|--------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| <u>Services</u> | MacNaughton | 207-864-3355 |
| Church Secretary | rangeleyucc@gmail.com | 207-864-5966 |
| Minister of Music: | Sue Downes-Borko | 207-864-3951 |
| Council President: | Cyndy Egan | 207-864-2255 |
| Co-Chair of | Claire Chase | 207-712-0490 |
| Deacons: | Lucy Simonds | 207-462-2101 |
| Deacon of wk | Joann Bean | 207-670-5000 |
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