



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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An Open and Affirming Church
Second Sunday after Christmas
New Year's Communion

January 5, 2025

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *"I Saw Three Ships"*

Traditional English Carol/Arr. Penny Rodriguez

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive reading) **Leader & People**

Leader: God, you have searched us and known us.

People: **You know when we sit down. You know when we rise up.**

Leader: You discern our thoughts from far away.

People: **Where can we go from your spirit?
Where can we flee from you?**

Leader: Wherever we go, you are there – in the highest heaven, in the deepest of places, everywhere in between.

People: You are with us. We are never alone.

INVOCATION

*GATHERING HYMN #143 (PH)

“We Three Kings of Orient Are”

CALL TO CONFESSION (Unison)

Liturgist

Merciful God, You call to each of us by name. You know us better than we know ourselves, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made. You love us, not because of what we have done, but often in spite of what we have done. Still, when we hear you call, we do not answer. We ignore you or we run away and cower in shadows. We don't always view your presence among us as a blessing, but rather as a burden that we wish away out of fear and shame. Though you know us and love us completely, we often see ourselves as unknowable, unlovable, and utterly incomplete. Lord, in midst of all of our mess, redeem us. Forgive us. Cleanse us. Help us to start fresh that we might follow Jesus with our whole selves and, like Christ, love you, our neighbors, and ourselves with everything we have.

Silent reflection on these words

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Unison)

2 Corinthian 5:17

Hear the sound of love poured out: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. Sisters and brothers, in the name of the Christ I declare that

your story is known, your sin is forgiven, your life is made new. Let us live as those reborn. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 4:20-27

Liturgist

SERMON Look Ahead To A Great Future

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #485 (PH)**

"This Is My Father's World"

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: *Lucy Simonds' nephew, Michael Hulse; Linda Caspar's brother-in-law, Conrad Guerra and nephew, William Lane; the Hatfield family & Paula's parents; Georgie Gimbel, The Wetherill family, on the passing of Ben; Erin Smith's parents, Carol & Dan Perkins; Bill & Mary Richards, Gerry Adams & Diane Schnellhammer, Bobby & Leeanna Wilbur, Tim & Sarah Johnson, Kris Nozal, and Patrick Egan. We pray for the victims of gun violence in the US and for all those whose lives are impacted by conflict, violence, and war around the world and here at home.*

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 *"Still, Still, Still"*

Traditional Austrian Carol/Arr. Ben Logan

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

COMMUNION LITURGY

THE CONSECRATION

COMMUNION MUSIC #288 (PH)

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*CLOSING HYMN #97 (PH)

“God of Our Life, Through All the Circling Years”

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

“Good King Wenceslas”

Traditional English Carol /Arr. Penny Rodriguez

HAPPY NEW YEAR

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

- Rev. Tony MacNaughton, **Leading Worship Service**
- Kathy Brittain, **Liturgist**
- Lily Stevens, **Special Reading**
- Lucy Simonds, **Deacon of the Week**
- Claire Chase, **Zoomigo**
- Sarah Johnson, **providing bread for Communion**
- Tim Johnson, **Coffee Hour** and for the unwavering help of Kathy Brittain & Zenna Inness

~This Week:

- Ecumenical Mahjong, Jan 6, 1-3pm, Barn
- Piano/Voice lessons, Jan 7, 8 * 10, 3-5pm, Sanctuary
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Jan 8, 11am, Barn
- Winter Women's Social, Jan 10, 10am-12pm, Barn
- HOLA Homeowners Board Mtg, Jan 11, 5-6:30pm, Barn

~Next Week:

- Rev. Tony MacNaughton, Leading Worship, Jan 12
- Finance Meeting, Nov 13, 3:15pm, East Room & Zoom
- Piano/Voice lessons, Jan 14, 15 & 17, 3-5pm,
- Council Meeting, Jan 13, 4pm, East Room & Zoom
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Jan 15, 11am, Barn

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

<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>	Lucy Simonds	207-462-2101