



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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An Open and Affirming Church
Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

February 2, 2025

10:00 AM

Meditation:

Jesus calls his followers to emulate his example of sacrificial love and to build what he called the Kingdom of God on earth. What would the sacrificial love of Jesus look like now?

--The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE "*Communion Meditation*"

Tunes: LET US BREAK BREAD & EUCHARISTIC
HYMN/Arr. Victor Johnson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader & People

Leader: Children of God, we come to worship today with human expectations: how we hope to feel, expectations of comfort, a need to belong.

People: We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here.

Leader: Sometimes we stop paying attention to what you're trying to tell us. We hear but don't listen to the Word. We sing without letting the music seep into our hearts. Yet, God is still here, moving and working among us.

People: We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here.

Leader: We may meet God in a familiar voice speaking a hard word, in a song we love that pierces our hearts, in a prayer that we receive in a new way. Because God is here, moving and working among us.

People: We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here.

Leader: Children of God, come! Let us worship, ready to embrace God's Word already at work among us, even when we are challenged to recognize God in the familiar and unfamiliar alike.

People: We come to worship, expecting God to meet us here. Thank be to God! Amen.

INVOCATION

***GATHERING HYMN #172 (NCH)**

"Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult"

CALL TO CONFESSION

People: God, you share with us words of hope, words of good news. But sometimes, we are unable to hear them because the source is too familiar, the words too difficult.

You call us to share the good news with those around us. But sometimes we are unable to share, even with those know us too well. You encourage us to send messengers near and far where they will be heard. But we can be jealous, wanting your blessings to be for us, not them.

In the multitude of ways, we can and have subverted your message of freedom and healing. We keep your message of compassion and forgiveness from those who need it. We have left the path of true wisdom and call upon your grace to lead us back.

Silent reflection on these words

WORDS OF GRACE AND ASSURANCE

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 13:1-13

Liturgist

Luke 4:21-30

SERMON Not What We Want to Hear

*HYMN OF RESPONSE (Lyrics follow)

“Sing Hey for the Carpenter”

Sing Hey for the Carpenter

Come with me, come wander, come welcome the world
where strangers might smile or where stones may be hurled;
come leave what you cling to, lay down what you clutch
and find, with hands empty, that hearts can hold much.

Chorus

Sing hey for the carpenter leaving his tools!

Sing hey for the pharisees leaving their rules!

*Sing hey for the fishermen leaving their nets! Sing hey for the
people who leave their regrets!*

Come walk in my company, come sleep by my side, come
savour a lifestyle with nothing to hide;
come sit at my table and eat with my friends,
discovering that love which the world never ends.

Chorus

Come share in my laughter, come close to my fears,
come find yourself washed with the kiss of my tears;
come stand close at hand while I suffer and die
and find in three days how I never will lie.

Chorus

Come leave your possessions, come share out your treasure,
come give and receive without method or measure;
come loose every bond that's resisting the Spirit,
enabling the earth to be yours to inherit.

Chorus

John L. Bell (b. 1949) and Graham Maule (b. 1958)

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: *Rev. Tony MacNaughton and the MacNaughton family on the passing of Jane, Heidi Ross, Janice Bredeau on her recent surgery, 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 all those who*

have been affected by the California fires, 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 "Thee We Adore"

Arr. Victor Johnson

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

In the United Church of Christ, we practice an open communion, which means all are welcomed to this

table...God's table. You don't have to be a member of this church or any church to partake in the sharing of the bread and drink of the vine.

Invitation

Let us lift up our hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Eucharistic Prayer

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you are a safe haven and a tower of strength and your love will never end.

From the womb of creation, you brought forth the earth and before any of us were born, you chose us and loved us into life. You put words in the mouths of your prophets that we might glimpse your truth, if only in part.

Fulfilling the words of the prophets, your child Jesus came, and in him we have seen you face to face. When his passion would not be tamed, his own people were filled with rage and handed him over to be killed, but you raised him back to life.

Now and forever, his love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things, and in his love the wholeness of all things is coming.

**Therefore, with our hearts lifted high,
we offer you thanks and praise at all times
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, for ever and ever.**

The Consecration

We remember that on the night of betrayal and desertion, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke the bread, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, Jesus took the cup, after supper saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.

Gracious God, we ask you to bless this bread and cup and all of us with the outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church your servant people, that we may be salt and

light, and leaven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

The body of Christ, the living bread.
The blood of Christ, the saving cup.

COMMUNION MUSIC #332 (NCH)

"As We Gather at Your Table"

Verse 1 As bread is being distributed

Verse 2 As the cup is being distributed

"

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Go now to all to whom God sends you,
and speak whatever words God gives you.
Rejoice in the truth and do not be afraid.
Let all that you do and all that you say
be filled with love, for love never ends.

And may God be with you always to deliver you;
May Christ Jesus put his gracious words in your
mouth;
And may the Holy Spirit bring you to completeness in
faith, hope and love.

**We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN (Insert)

“Though I May Speak With Bravest Fire”

*THE BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

Trumpet Voluntary, based on an old English hornpipe
Gordon Young

Portions adapted from: Discipleship Ministries

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

- Pastor Scott Hatfield, **Leading Worship Service**
- Cyndy Egan, **Liturgist**
- Joann Bean, **Deacon of the Week**
- Lucy Simonds, **Zoomigo**
- Sarah Johnson, **providing bread for Communion**
- Sarah & Tim Johnson, **Coffee Hour**

~This Week:

- Ecumenical Mahjong, Feb 3, 1-3pm, Barn
- Piano/Voice lessons, Feb 4, 5 & 7, 3-5pm, Sanctuary
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Feb 5, 11am, Barn

~Next Week:

- Pastor Scott Hatfield, Leading Worship, Feb 9
- Finance Meeting, Feb 10, 3:15pm, East Room & Zoom
- Council Meeting, Feb 10, 4pm, East Room & Zoom
- Piano/Voice lessons, Feb 11, 12 & 14, 3-5pm, Sanctuary

- Mom & Baby Social Hour, Feb 12, 11am, Barn
- Winter Women’s Social meets, Feb 14, 10-12am, 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>	Joan Bean	207-670-5000