



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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An Open and Affirming Church
The First Sunday of Lent

March 9, 2025

10:00 AM

Meditation:

The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart...

--Romans 10:8b

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *"What Wondrous Love Is This"*

American Folk Hymn/Arr. Craig Curry

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader & All

Leader: Are you restless and unsettled? This place is
for you.

People: **Let us worship God!**

Leader: Are you hungry for love and hope? This place is for you.

People: Let us worship God!

Leader: Are you searching for direction? This place is for you.

People: Let us worship God!

Leader: Do you have love to share? This place is for you.

People: Let us worship God together!

INVOCATION

GATHERING HYMN #211 (NCH)

“Lord Jesus, Who through Forty Days”

CALL TO CONFESSION

People: Gracious God, you hold us, but in times of stress, we fear that we are all alone. We hunger for easy comfort, even knowing that our appetite will return. We aim for power over uncertainty, forgetting that control is an illusion. Forgive us for choosing distraction to escape from chaos. Bring our focus back to you, to your word, your presence, and your child Jesus. Amen.

Silent reflection on these words

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Liturgist

Luke 4:1-13

SERMON Famished

HYMN OF RESPONSE

"Follow Jesus to the Jordan"

Tune: BEACH SPRING/Text: David Bjorlin, b.1984

Follow Jesus to the Jordan; find a strange and sacred scene where an outcast, awe-struck prophet washes one already clean. See the liberating Spirit swoop and hover like a dove: bear a voice sound from the heavens, "Heed my cherished child of love."

Follow Jesus in the river; brave with him the watery tomb; and in wonder watch the Savior turn the grave into a womb. Laugh in joy at death's reversal, join the cries of joyous birth, as new life cascades like fountains over every inch of earth.

Follow Jesus through the desert even when the path seems cursed: trust the Spirit's voice to guide you, tend your wounds, and quench your thirst. Then rejoice as gushing geysers flood your lands with streams of grace, as each scarred and sacred person grows in God's immense embrace.

Follow Jesus on the journey anywhere the river flows, though you wonder why it wanders, still uncertain where it goes. And when hope and courage shrivel may each puddle, lake, and sea echo God's "You we beloved," drown your fear and set you free.

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 family on the passing of Jane, Lucy Simond's nephew, Michael Hulse; Linda Caspar's brother-in-law, Conrad Guerra and nephew, William Lane; and Paula Hatfield's father, Paul Behrman. We pray for Carol & Dan Perkins; Bill & Mary Richards, Gerry Adams & Diane Schnellhammer, Bobby & Leeanna Wilbur, Tim & Sarah Johnson, Janice Bredeau, Georgie Gimbel and Patrick Egan. We pray for all those whose lives are impacted by natural disasters, gun violence, conflict, 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”

SERVICE OF GIVING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC *“In the Cross of Christ I Glory”*
Tune: RATHBUN/Arr. Gregg Sewell

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

CLOSING HYMN #202 (NCH)
“O God, How We Have Wandered”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES
“Solfeggetto in c minor”
C.P.E. Bach (1685-1750)

Portions adapted from: Worship Ways, Isaac re:Worship

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

- Pastor Scott Hatfield, **Leading Worship Service**
- Linda Jones, **Liturgist**
- Linda Caspar, **Deacon of the Week**
- Lucy Simonds, **Zoomigo**
- Sarah & Tim Johnson, **Coffee Hour**

~This Week:

- Handbell Choir Rehearsals, March 10, 8-9:30am
- Finance Meeting, March 10, 3:15pm, Zoom & East Rm
- Council Meeting, March 10, 4pm, Zoom & East Rm
- Moms & Babies Social, March 12, 9am, Barn
- Piano/Voice Lessons w/ Erin, March 11, 12 & 14
- Winter Women's Social, March 14, 10- 12pm, Barn

~Next Week:

- Worship Service w/ Rev. Stan Wheeler, March 16
- Handbell Choir Rehearsals, March 17, 8-9:30am
- Mahjong in the Barn, March 17, 1-3pm, Barn
- Deacons' Meeting, March 17, 4:00pm, E. Rm & Zoom
- Piano/Voice Lessons w/ Erin, March 18, 19 & 21
- Moms & Babies Social, March 19, 9am, Barn

<u>Pastoral Care Services</u>	Rev. Tony MacNaughton	207-864-3355
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<u>Council President:</u>	Cyndy Egan	207-864-2255
<u>Co-Chair of</u>	Claire Chase	207-712-0490
<u>Deacons:</u>	Lucy Simonds	207-462-2101
<u>Deacon of the week</u>	Linda Caspar	207-864-5539