



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Church
Third Sunday of Easter

Mediation:

“There is no pit so deep that God’s love is not deeper still.”

-Corrie Ten Boom

April 19, 2026

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

“Colors of the Wind”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 116) Leader & **People**

Leader: I will offer to you a thanksgiving sacrifice and
 call on the name of the Lord.

People: **I will pay my vows to the Lord in the
 presence of all his people,**

Leader: in the courts of the house of the Lord, in your
 midst, O Jerusalem.

People: **Praise the Lord!**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Holy and gracious Creator of all, reveal yourself to us in the reading and proclamation of your Word. Give us ears to hear your voice, eyes that see you among us, and hearts that are willing to follow where you lead. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN #386 (NCH)

"The Church's One Foundation"

CALL TO CONFESSION

1 Peter 1:21 says, "Through Christ you have come to trust in God, who raised Jesus from the dead and gave him glory, so that your faith and hope are set on God." It is because of our trust in the resurrection that each week we confess together the ways our faith and hope have not been set on God. When we confess, we name our sins and commit to turn toward the life God calls us into again. With that in mind we join our voices praying together.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, even as we proclaim the saving life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, we fail to see the living Christ in our midst. We find ourselves preoccupied with our own well-being and success, forgetting your imperative to love our neighbor as ourselves. Show us again how to live a resurrection faith, a faith that sees life and hope in the midst of death and destruction. Transform our hearts so that where they are hardened toward you, neighbor and self, they may once again be filled with love

and moved to actions of grace and mercy. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

Silent reflection on these words

THE ASSURANCE OF PARDON

In Acts 2:39, Peter says: "For the promise is for you, for your children, and for all who are far away, everyone whom the Lord our God calls to him." Receive the good news, Children of God, you are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen!

THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:14a, 36-41

1 Peter 1:17-23

Luke 24:13-35

Liturgist

Liturgist

SERMON "But We Had Hoped..."

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #229 (NCH)

"Were You There?"

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: Don & Susie Welch, Corinne Morton, Tony MacNaughton, Cyndy Egan's parents David & Dianne Scammon, Sheila Raymond, Marlene Knowles' daughter-in-law, Shannon Linder, Crystal Haley, Susan & Jack Tourtillotte, Maxie & AJ Elmes and their baby, Granger, Carol & Dan Perkins, Bill & Mary Richards, Kathy & Jim Wilcox, Heidi Ross, Tim & Sarah Johnson, Sue Downes and those serving in the Peace Corp: and finally, we pray for all those whose lives are impacted by natural disasters, violence, war, and those suffering from personal life challenges 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

THE CALL FOR THE OFFERING

Just as those who walked the road to Emmaus with the risen Christ, we too want to tell of our encounters with Jesus. One way we tell those stories is to share the gifts we have been

given by God. Gifts of time, talent, and treasure. Gifts that demonstrate the transformation we have experienced in Christ. With hearts filled with love, let us give generously.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"I Greet You, Sure Redeemer"

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)

Lord, we know that every good and perfect gift comes from you. We pray that the gifts of time, talent and treasure we have offered today will work for the good of the world, so that your love will be known not just in word but in action. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #249 (NCH)

"Peace I Leave with You, My Friends"

CHARGE and BENEDICTION

May you be embraced by the relational nature of our faith. May you hear the truth of God's love that binds us as one family. May you receive God's word with awe, allowing it to shape how you live and love.

And may you go with the grace and peace of the God who created you, the God who redeems you, and the God who sustains you now and forevermore!

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

“Let There Be Peace on Earth”

*Today’s liturgy is adapted from The Presbyterian Outlook, written by Ashley Mertz, and is used with permission.

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

- Rev. Stan Wheeler **for leading worship service**
- Bob Silvia, **Liturgist**
- Lucy Simonds, **Deacon of the Week**
- Claire Chase, **Zoomigo**
- Tim & Sarah, **Coffee Hour**
- Erin Smith, **Music Leader**

~This Week:

- Rev. Stan Wheeler leading Worship Service, April 19
- Mahjong in the Barn, April 20, 1-3pm, Barn
- Deacons’ Meeting, April 20, 3pm, East Room & Zoom

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<u>Deacon of week</u>	Lucy Simonds	207-462-2101