



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

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United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Church
Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation:

*"In the Church of Jesus Christ, there can and should be
no Non-Theologians"*

-Karl Barth

*"In the Church of Jesus Christ, there can and should be
no Biblical illiteracy"*

-Jack Zappulla

July 26, 2026

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

"Hold on to Me"

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Come, let us sing joyfully to God! Raise a
shout to our Rock, our deliverance!

People: Let us come into God's presence with
thanksgiving, and sing our praises with joy.
Leader: For God is great, the great Sovereign, above all
other gods in our lives.
People: Come, let us worship God, our Maker.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

How awesome it is that You care for us, God of all life!
Your delight in us brings out our best. When You rejoice
in us, we come to believe in our capacity for goodness.
When Your light and salvation dawn in our lives, we want
to share the joy. Remind us now of the gifts You so freely
bestow. Help us to recognize them in ourselves and in one
another, that we may use them to serve people in need and
give glory to Your name; through Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

*GATHERING HYMN #4 (NCH)

"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You"

CALL TO CONFESSION

Leader: God knows the intent of our hearts as we come to
this time of repentance and is ready to hear our prayers. Let
us therefore come into God's presence confessing our sins.
Let us pray together ...

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Our hands are dirty, God, not from toil for You, but from
falsehood and deceit. Our hearts are stained, God, not
from faithful discipleship, but from the evil we have
accepted as part of life. Our lives are less than they could

be, God, not because of outward circumstances, but because of our disobedience to Your will. Draw us back to Yourself, Gracious God, and turn us from our fears and failures to receive the new life You promise.

Silent reflection on these words

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: God does not treat us as forsaken and desolate. We are welcomed as persons in whose salvation God delights. Let your hearts be lifted up. We are not bound by our old ways but are freed for a new identity. God reaches out to each of us with abundant blessings!

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 1:1-17

SERMON So, How Did We Get the Bible?

***HYMN OF RESPONSE #537 (NCH)**

"Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed"

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: Peter and Nini Christensen, Don & Susie Welch, Corinne Morton, 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 son, Granger, Bill & Mary Richards, Kathy & Jim Wilcox, Heidi Ross, Tim & Sarah Johnson, 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

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Just As I Am"

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)

The gift of Your Realm is precious to us, O God. It is worth our greatest efforts and our caring sacrifice. As we search for the best in life, we also want to share our faith discoveries with others. We do that personally and with our giving. May our outreach proclaim to all that nothing can separate us from Your love. We give You thanks that You have entrusted to us all that we are privileged to share in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN #318 (NCH)

"Almighty God, Your Word is Cast"

THE COMMISSION AND BLESSING

Leader: God remembers the covenant made with humanity. May we remember our part of that covenant.

People: **We believe nothing can separate us from God's love. In Christ, we are assured of God's love.**

Leader: We are invited to make God's Realm our first priority, loving God so much that we love nothing else too much.

People: We go forth to testify to the truth we find in
Jesus, the Christ. May we fear God enough
that we fear nothing else at all.

ALL: Amen.

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

"Let There Be Peace on Earth"

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

- Rev. Jack Zappulla **for leading our worship service**
- Nancy Zambraski, **Liturgist**
- Nancy Zambraski, **Deacon of the Week**
- Lucy Simonds, **Zoomigo**
- Erin Smith, **Music Leader**
- Tim & Sarah Johnson, **for providing Coffee Hour**

~This Week:

- Handbell rehearsal, July 27th, 9am, Sanctuary

~Next Week:

- Pastor Scott Hatfield providing worship, August 2
- Handbell rehearsal, August 3, 9am, Sanctuary
- Mahjong in the Barn, August 3, 1-3pm

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<u>Deacon of week</u>	Nancy Zambraski	207-864-2250