

The Congregational Church of Hollis, UCC

3 Monument Square, Hollis, New Hampshire

An Open and Affirming Congregation

603-465-7797

www.HollisChurch.org



*Four Pillars of Our Mission:
Welcome, Worship, Learn, Serve*

**HOMECOMING SUNDAY
BECOMING CHANGE MAKERS...**

WEEK 1: COMPASSION

“At the Heart of Sacred Change: Compassion”

The Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C.

September 7, 2025, 9:30 a.m.

The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor & Teacher

Julie Oliver, Minister of Music

Kim Burton, Minister of Faith Formation

(Services are being recorded)

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PRELUDE

JULIE OLIVER

GOD’S LIGHT AND WORD PRECEDE OUR WORSHIP

DEACONS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. TANYA

Please take a moment to review the announcements in your bulletin.

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME

SUNG REFRAIN

CHOIR & CONGREGATION

(please join in the second time through)

Be the change you want to see in the world...

Be the change you want to see in the world...

Be the change you want to see in the world...

And change will come to you!

CALL TO WORSHIP & INVOCATION

DEACON

The world is changing. We see it everywhere. We feel it in our bones.

It seems to happen so much faster now than it used to.

The world is changing.

And also, the world *needs* to change. Children are hungry. Systems are unjust.

People are afraid. There are people on the streets who won’t make it a day longer.

The world needs to change.

God’s desire is that the world would change and become more like a holy commonwealth of equitable peace in which all have what they need.

And we are the changemakers!

We are called to work alongside the Holy Spirit. We are called to follow the way of Jesus.

May we be changed by this time of worship!

*** OPENING HYMN**

Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

#25

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

DEACON

We find change to be scary, and so when things need to change, we often don't show up.
All: Forgive us.

Change us again. Remake us now to be more like your son Jesus.
Open our hearts to all that you would have us change in this world. In Jesus' name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REV. TANYA

*** GLORIA**

#36

*** SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Beloved children of God, peace be with you!

And also with you!

As forgiven and freed people through Christ,
let us pass the peace of Christ with one another as the children come forward.

SUNG REFRAIN

A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES: Blessing of the Backpacks

Children are invited to come forward to join Pastor Tanya at the front. At the conclusion, we bless them as they depart with the words...

And now as you depart to continue your learning and worship somewhere else, we offer you our blessing:

[Congregation]: **God's love be with you.**

[Teachers and Children]: **And also with you.**

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Holy One, by the power of the Spirit, open our ears anew to your Word today. Free us of our cynicism and our certainty so that we may embrace fresh possibilities and grow in our faith. May these stories show us the way to become compassion-driven changemakers, like Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

FIRST LESSON Luke 10:25-37 (*Contemporary English Bible*) **(Page: 844)** **DEACON**

CHORAL ANTHEM *A Communion of Compassion* **Victor C. Johnson**

SECOND LESSON Mark 6:30-44 (*Contemporary English Bible*) **(Page: 818)** **DEACON**

SERMON "At the Heart of Sacred Change: Compassion" **REV. TANYA**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DEACON

For privacy reasons, we are not publishing our prayer list names on our website. If you are worshiping virtually and would like a copy of the prayer list, please send a request to the church office at admin@hollischurch.org

OFFERINGS AND PLEDGES

SHARING GOD'S GIFTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR WORLD

To initiate online giving, go to <https://hollischurch.org/donations/>



* DOXOLOGY

"Let Us Be Makers"

[sung to the tune of "Blessed Assurance"]

**Praise to the Maker, the One who gives breath.
Praise to Christ Jesus, who reigns over death.
Praise to the Spirit, our strength and our friend.
Three-in-One present, world without end.**

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

REV. TANYA

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION INVITATION

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Our Lord be with you!

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts, friends!

We lift them up now.

Let us give thanks to the Changemaking One.

We lift up our praises, God, Spirit and Son!

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

And so,

with your people on earth

and all the company of heaven,

we delight in your name and join their unending hymn:

"Let Us Be Makers"

[sung to the tune of "Blessed Assurance"]

**Holy are you, God, with power and might.
Heaven and earth fill with glory and light.
Sing we hosanna, we come in your name.
Sing we hosanna, the saints sing the same.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And so,
in remembrance of your wonder-filled acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves for changemaking as a holy and living sacrifice,
in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

THE 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 as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

COMMUNION IS SHARED

UNISON PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Holy One, we have met you at this table. Nourished by your holy food, send us out as one people, full of vision and courage, to shine your healing light in the shadowy and hurting places of this world. Filled with your grace, show us how to effect change and to live so that all may know your presence and work in this world, through our activities of hope and compassion. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*** CLOSING HYMN**

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

#503

*** OUR COMMON COMMISSION**

Let us now go forth into the world in peace, being of good courage, holding fast to that which is good, rendering to no one evil for evil, strengthening the faint-hearted, supporting the weak, helping the afflicted, honoring all persons, loving and serving the Lord, and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*** BENEDICTION**

REV. TANYA

*** CHORAL AMEN**

POSTLUDE

JULIE OLIVER

*** Please stand if you are able.**

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Announcements

Over the four weeks of September, we will be exploring Jesus' identity, and our own, as "changemakers."

Our series is inspired by The Changemaker Initiative, whose work is helping churches see that the work God is about these days is less about perfecting the church and more about changing the communities we live in. The problems in the world can be so overwhelming that we stop believing we can make a difference. But we *can*—if we change our own perception of what that looks like. Each one of us is called and equipped to make change; it's our true asset in this world. We, the people of the Body of Christ, have so much to give; we're going to practice reimagining together.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, September 13th,

when the team will gather in the Verrecchia Garden to help stain the cupola, weed, mow, and refresh the grounds. This is a great chance for all ages to pitch in, enjoy fellowship, and make a visible impact on our church home. We hope you'll join us for both the meeting and the hands-on service day as we continue to grow this important ministry together!

The American Red Cross Blood Drive will be held on Sunday, September 13, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. in Hardy Hall.

We invite you to consider giving the gift of life by donating blood. Every donation helps save lives and makes a real difference in our community. To schedule your appointment, please visit RedCrossBlood.org or call 1-800-733-2726. Thank you for supporting this vital ministry of care and compassion!

Pickleball Tournament at the tennis courts at Nichols Field!

Join us this Saturday at 9.00am for the Pickleball Tournament at the tennis courts at Nichols Field! Come down, bring a friend, and cheer on the players. It's a great way to enjoy fellowship, community spirit, and a fun morning outdoors. All are welcome, let's show our support for those playing!

Chimes Deadline

The Chimes deadline is the 15th of this month. Please submit all articles, announcements, and updates to admin@hollischurch.org by that date so the issue can be prepared and sent out on time. Thank you for your contributions in helping keep our church family connected and informed!

Hollis Old Home Days – September 19 & 20, 2025

Hollis Old Home Days is just around the corner, and we invite you to join the celebration of this beloved New England tradition that began in 1899! It's a time when our town comes together to share in food, fellowship, and fun while honoring our community's rich history.

The festivities begin on **Friday, September 19**, with a lively **Block Party** featuring delicious food vendors, music from a DJ, and activities for all ages. Then, on **Saturday, September 20**, the day kicks off with a **parade at 10:30 a.m.**, followed by a full schedule of events at **Nichols Field and Lawrence Barn**. You'll find an artisan market, midway rides, heritage demonstrations, and live entertainment throughout the day. The celebration concludes with a spectacular **fireworks display**, lighting up the sky in the evening (with a rain date scheduled for Sunday, September 21 at 8:00 p.m.).

This weekend is free and open to all, and it's a wonderful opportunity to connect with neighbors, support local traditions, and celebrate everything that makes Hollis special. Mark your calendars and be part of this community tradition!