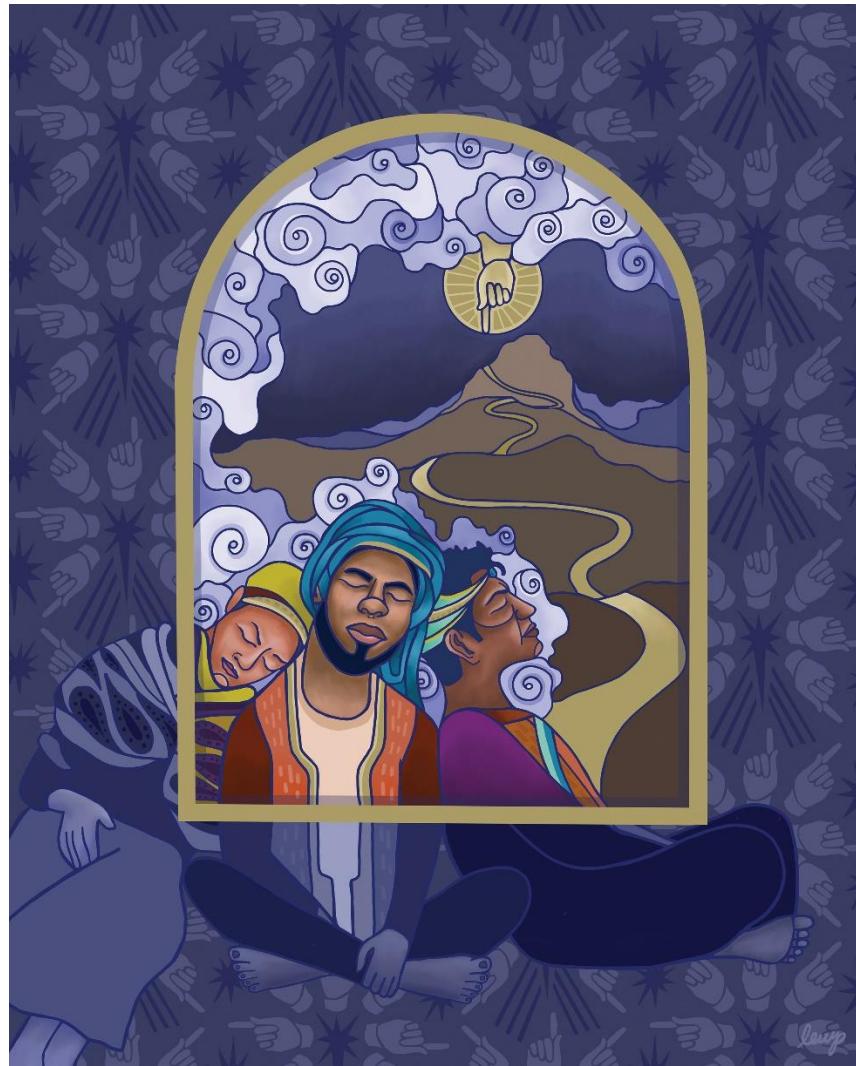


The Congregational Church of Hollis, UCC  
3 Monument Square, Hollis, New Hampshire  
603-465-7797  
[www.HollisChurch.org](http://www.HollisChurch.org)



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

Epiphany  
Communion Sunday  
January 2, 2022  
9:30 a.m.

(Services are being recorded)

The CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HOLLIS, U.C.C.  
Epiphany  
Communion Sunday  
January 2, 2022  
9:30 a.m.

All Members of the Church, Ministers  
The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Lead Pastor  
Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music

**PRELUDE**

**GOD'S LIGHT AND WORD PRECEDE OUR WORSHIP**

**GREETING**

Grace, mercy, and peace be with you. I greet you in the name of Christ Jesus, who breaks down the barriers that divide us. It doesn't matter where you've come from or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Rev. Tanya

We come to this place—

**each of us on our own path.**

The path is winding,

**and the path is not always clear,**

and the path changes,

**but we are here.**

God is walking us home.

**What a gift it is to not walk alone.**

Let us worship Holy God.

**\*HYMN**

*Arise, Your Light Is Come!*

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**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Rev. Tanya

I imagine that, for the Magi, walking to Bethlehem was not easy. I imagine that following a star for navigation was definitely not easy. However, I imagine that the hardest part might have been not knowing where the road would lead. Friends, we are not always the best versions of ourselves when we are faced with uncertainty or changing plans. Facing the unknown pulls on every ounce of our anxiety and fear. It rings all our stress alarms and can erode our patience, our calm, our sense of perspective. Fortunately for us, we worship a God who is gracious beyond imagination and meets us on every twist and turn of the road home. So let us pray together now, knowing that even in our worst moments, we are held by God.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Deacon

God of changed plans: the Magi, and Joseph, all heard that they were to take a new way home. A different path, an untraveled road. And to our amazement, they did just that. The Magi packed their bags and went home by another way. Joseph and Mary became asylum-seeking refugees. We wish that change could be easy for us, but usually, when whispers of change come, we tend to clench and hold tight to what we know, resisting change that might be holy. Forgive us when we forget that there is more than one road home. Forgive us for failing to hear your invitation. Guide our steps to unfamiliar places. Gratefully we pray, amen.

## **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

No matter which roads we take in this one wild and precious life, God walks with us. God never leaves our side. When the road changes and we find ourselves on a new path home, God is always there. So hear and believe this good news:

**No matter where we go, no matter what we do, we are claimed, loved, and held by God. Thanks be to God for a love like that.**

## **\*GLORIA PATRI**

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Holy God, you speak to us in Scripture and in prayers, in sunrises and sunsets, in friends and in strangers, in dreams and in songs. You are speaking all the time, and how often do we miss it? Quiet our minds so that we can listen with a depth that we have not heard before. Still our hearts so that we can receive with open arms what it is you are offering us today. We know you are speaking, so we are listening. Gratefully we pray, amen.

## **INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME**

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

**Matthew 2:1-23**

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Hear the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

## **SERMON**

*Home By Another Way*

Rev. Tanya

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## **SHARING THE PEACE AND JOY OF CHRIST**

Passing the Friendship Register: please let us know you were here, and if you'd like for us to contact you by including your phone, address or email. Please feel free to take notice of the names of those sharing a pew with you, in case you have opportunity to greet them after the service.

## **INVITATION TO GIVE & RECEIVE DIVING GIFTS (Including Star Words)**

(please refer to separate Announcements page)

Financial contributions are gratefully received at the entrances to Meetinghouse and Fellowship Stairs; or, to initiate Online Giving: Go to <https://hollischurch.org/donations/>

## **OFFERTORY**

## **DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise him all creatures here below;  
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

\*Prayer of Dedication

## **THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION\***

### **GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Sovereign God.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

**It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

## EUCARISTIC PRAYER

The Pastor will offer a prayer of thanksgiving, culminating with the words:

“...Therefore with all your people in heaven and on earth we sing the triumphant hymn of your glory:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of power and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

The Pastor recites The Words of Institution, ending with words:

“...Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

## 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

*Please come forward to receive the Communion elements via the center aisle at the direction of our Deacons, returning to your seat via the side aisles. When you have been seated, you may eat the bread in acknowledgement that each of us shares a unique and personal relationship with God in Christ. We ask that you hold onto your cup so that we might all drink as one Body.*

## PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**Lord Jesus Christ,**

**you have put your life into our hands;**

**Now we put our lives into yours.**

**Take us, renew and remake us.**

**What we have been is past;**

**What we shall be, through you,**

**Still awaits us.**

**Lead us on.**

**Take us with you. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*As with Gladness Men of Old*

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## THE LIGHT AND WORD GUIDE US OUT INTO THE WORLD

### \*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

### \*CHORAL RESPONSE

### \*POSTLUDE

\*All who are able are invited to stand.