

The Congregational Church of Hollis, UCC

3 Monument Square, Hollis, New Hampshire

603-465-7797

www.HollisChurch.org



Four Pillars of Our Mission:

Welcome, Worship, Learn, Serve

First Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022

9:30 a.m.

**Masks and Social Distancing Required
(Services are being recorded)**

The CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HOLLIS, U.C.C.

First Sunday in Lent

March 6, 2022

9:30 a.m.

All Members of the Church, Ministers

The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Lead Pastor

Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music

WE GATHER

PRELUDE

Julie Oliver

WELCOME

Rev. Tanya

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

INVOCATION

"Good Enough"

(Recorded)

*What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of sorrow?
Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays, mistakes we made?
Sometimes we get what we get,
life disappoints us and yet,
God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.*

PRAYER OF APPROACH *Based on Psalm 91*

Deacon

Holy One, Our Refuge and Shelter, we call out to you, sometimes in praise, sometimes in distress, as life goes. Whether we perceive it or not, you are there. Open us this day to your presence in the smile of a friend, in the call of a bird – in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.

THE CHILDREN LEAD US: INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME

OPENING HYMN

"Our Lord, You Were Sent"

FOUNDATION 11.11.11.11 ("How Firm a Foundation")

Our Lord, you were sent to a place wild and vast
To ponder your mission, to pray and to fast;
Then hungry and weary, you faced night and day
The subtle temptations to turn from God's way.
How could it be wrong to want bread on the shelf?
To seek, in one's serving, to first serve one's self?
But by God's own word you remained ever sure:
It's only in God that our lives are secure.
How could it be wrong to step out and to dare,

To prove with great drama the depths of God's care?
But you knew God's word, true since all time began:
It's wrong to expect God to work by our plan.
How could it be wrong to just once bow the knee,
To shake hands with sin to achieve victory?
Yet you made it clear that no matter the cost:
Your path was obedience, your way was the cross.
Our Lord, in your struggle you chose to obey;
God's word filled your heart and you trusted God's way.
Now risen, you save us from sins that destroy;
You give us your Spirit, your peace and your joy.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Deacon

We find ourselves hungry for many things that we believe will bring us satisfaction. In today's Gospel, the devil lays a bet that Jesus will jump at the chance for glory, fame, and the quick fix. Who wouldn't? But Jesus keeps up the pithy one-liners long enough that the Tempster just has to slink away. What are the temptations that catch your ear, singing out promises that your life should be more special than it is? What if ordinary life is already holy—as is? Let us take a moment for silent reflection and confession or acknowledgement of our need for God's guidance...

[Silence for reflection and confession]

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Tanya

Hear this compassionate word from the Letter to the Romans: "The word is near you, on your lips and in your heart... Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved."

Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the temptations of the "not enough-ness" of our time, inviting us to love and revere the seeming ordinariness of the day-to-day so that we might recognize its true beauty.

And know that, despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, invited to start afresh, even now.

Thanks and glory be to God! Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

(recorded)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

SHARING THE PEACE 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.

WE PROCLAIM

FIRST READING

Psalm 91:1-2, 9-16

pg. 477

GOSPEL READING

Luke 4:1-13

pg. 835

A Word of God that is still speaking,
Thanks be to God.

SERMON

“Life and Faith Are Imperfect, Yet Still Holy”

Rev. Tanya

THE WORD IN MUSIC

“Jesus, Remember Me”
by L. Smith
presented by the Hollis Church Choir

(recorded)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

WE OFFER AND RECEIVE SANCTIFIED GIFTS

OFFERTORY

(please refer to separate Announcements page) To *initiate Online Giving: Go to*
<https://hollischurch.org/donations/>

DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, throughout these forty days.
Praise Christ, our Lord, whom God did raise.
And praise the Spirit who imparts
God’s love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

The invitation to Holy Communion comes from God in Christ, and all who wish to receive the grace offered at this table fellowship are welcome. We use gluten-free bread and grape juice.

THE GREAT PRAYER of THANKSGIVING

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Pastor will say the words, “Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal,” congregation will respond: **“Have mercy upon us.”**

The Pastor recites, “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 our faith”:

**Dying, you destroyed our death.
Rising, you restored our life.
Lord Jesus, come in glory.**

PASTORAL PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

LORD’S PRAYER (unison)

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 by pews. You may eat the bread when you are ready; please hold the cup until all have received so that we might drink as one body.

UNISON PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

Loving God, you have fed us generously at this table, as we have remembered Jesus and rejoiced that he is with us today. We are ready now to follow him, and to be your people in the world. May your Holy Spirit show us the way, make us holy and fill us with love. Amen.

WE DEPART TO SERVE

HYMN

“Open My Eyes, That I May See”

Open my eyes that I may see
Glimpses of truth Thou hast for me;
Place in my hands the wonderful key
That shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for Thee,
Ready, my God, Thy will to see;
Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit Divine!

Open my ears that I may hear
Voices of truth Thou sendest clear;
And while the wave notes fall on my ear,
Everything false will disappear.

Open my mouth and let me bear
Tidings of mercy everywhere;
Open my heart and let me prepare
Love with Thy children thus to share.

Open my mind that I may read
More of Thy love in word and deed;
What shall I fear while yet Thou dost lead?
Only for light from Thee I plead.

A BLESSING FOR A JOYFULLY GOOD-ENOUGH JOURNEY

*“Blessed are you who realize there is simply not enough – time, money, resources.
Blessed are you who are tired of pretending that raw effort is the secret to perfection.
It’s not. And you know that now.
Blessed are you who need a gentle reminder that even now, even today,
God is here, and somehow, that is good enough.”*

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 *“God is still here and somehow this faith is good enough.”* recorded

POSTLUDE

Worship Notes:

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