

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



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

**The Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C.**  
**March 8, 2026 9:30 a.m.**  
**The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor & Teacher**  
**Julie Oliver, Minister of Music**  
**Kim Burton, Minister of Faith Formation**  
**(Services are recorded)**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT  
THE WORK OF IMAGINATION  
"RIGHTEOUS CONFRONTATION"**  
The Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C.  
March 8, 2026 9:30 a.m.

**The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor & Teacher  
Julie Oliver, Minister of Music  
Kim Burton, Minister of Faith Formation**

**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.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**DEACON**

Come into God's presence, you who imagine and you who seek, you who disrupt and you who repair.

**By the Spirit, we gather in hope.**

Come into God's abundance, you of great faith, and you who grasp at crumbs; you who resist, and you who persist.

**In Christ, we gather and are transformed.**

Come into God's presence, singing for joy and for justice; bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance. To God be the glory! We gather to praise!

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

Compassionate God, you listen to the cries of all your children and are quick to respond with mercy. As Jesus' heart was opened by the pleading of a neighbor in need, open our hearts to the sighs and longings of our world. Teach us to be courageous in faith, speaking up for justice and persisting in hope that makes all things new. We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

**\* HYMN**

*Help Us Accept Each Other*

**#376**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Siblings in Christ, let us confess our sins to God, for God knows our temptation to be cruel to one another, and yet imagines for us a life of mutual blessings. Let us pray:

**God of mercy and compassion, we confess we have not always treated our neighbors, friends, or even family members with dignity. We have used dehumanizing language or stereotypes. We have been critical when we should have been encouraging. We have told lies when we should have been honest with hard truths. We have excluded people when we should have widened the invitation. Forgive us for the ways that we have failed our neighbors, friends, and family with unkind words. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**REV. TANYA**

**\* GLORIA**

**#37**

### \* **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

Beloved of God, as we walk through the wild wilderness of Lent, we imagine a world where all creation is at peace. We imagine a world without war, where creation flourishes and children are safe. Let these dreams of peace begin here as we share the peace of Christ with one another.

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

### **A MOMENT FOR ALL AGES**

**REV. TANYA**

*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.**

### **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**God who breathes meaning and inspiration into our sacred scriptures, who crafts stories of redemption, liberation, and love, may these words help us imagine the world you intended. May we receive the challenge to join you in this holy work, bringing heaven to earth as we follow Jesus in love and justice. Amen.**

### **READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

**Numbers 27:1-11 (CEV) – pg. 128**

**Matthew 15:21-28 (CEV) – pg. 797**

Through these ancient words of Holy Scripture, God still speaks to us today.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **CHORAL ANTHEM**

*O Rest in the Lord*

**Mendelssohn/Bertalot**

### **CHARACTER NARRATIVE**

**DIANE FALLIER**

A journal has recently been recovered from a Canaanite woman in ancient biblical times. We have someone here who will share this remarkable personal account with us today!

### **SERMON**

*“Righteous Confrontation”*

**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](mailto:admin@hollischurch.org).*

### **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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.**

### **OFFERING AND PLEDGES—SHARING GOD'S GIFTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR WORLD**

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

**\* DOXOLOGY**

**#46**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.*

**\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**REV. TANYA**

**\* HYMN**

*Out of the Depths, O God, We Call*

**#393**

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

Let us affirm our faith as we participate in the holy work of imagination.

**We believe in the dignity of human beings as image bearers and dearly beloved children of God. We believe all people carry God-given dignity— across every age, race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, language, accent, documentation status, refugee status, appearance, ability, illness, relationship status, social media following, family history, criminal background, education, geographical location, clothing, wealth or poverty, religion, hobbies, possessions, parents or non-parents, mental health, height, weight, hairstyle, tattoos, piercings, talents, or weaknesses. We believe human dignity is inescapable and irrevocable.**

**\* 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.

---

## **Announcements**

### **Trustees Hosting March Fellowship**

Thank you to the Trustees for hosting March Fellowship Hour! Food and beverages may be dropped off in Hardy Hall prior to the service. For questions, please email [trustees@hollischurch.org](mailto:trustees@hollischurch.org).

### **Volunteers Needed for Vacation Bible Camp (Week of July 13-16)**

There's still time to sign up to serve at Vacation Bible Camp! Can you help for one day—or all week? Would you be willing to serve as a floater where needed? If you're interested in supporting this important ministry, please email Kim at [ce@hollischurch.org](mailto:ce@hollischurch.org).



## Loaves & Lessons Lenten Series: “The Work of Imagination”

### Thursday evenings at 5:30 in Hardy Hall

This Thursday, March 12, we invite you to gather for *Reinterpret, Reconfigure, Re-translate*, a session in *The Work of Imagination* series. Each session will include a homemade meal—with vegetarian and gluten-free options available—followed by thoughtful conversation and reflection grounded in our Lenten theme. Register through this link if you’d like to help prepare meals:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050849ACAC29A7FF2-61796938-loaves#/>

### Flock Families — Mark Your Calendars!

You are invited to join us on Thursday, March 19 at 5:30 pm for a special combined Loaves & Lessons and Flock Family Pizza Night! Come enjoy a shared meal, meaningful conversation, and time together as a church family. More details to come.

### Special Offering Collection - March 15

We will be taking a special collection Sunday, March 15 for the One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) ministry of the UCC. When disasters strike, or when individuals are displaced due to violence or poverty, OGHS ensures immediate response and ongoing recovery.

Through your support, OGHS funds comprehensive development programs in areas such as healthcare, education, agriculture, food security, microfinancing, and women's empowerment. Your contributions help meet urgent needs while addressing the root causes of vulnerability, ensuring long-term, sustainable solutions for affected communities. For more information, see [www.ucc.org/oghs](http://www.ucc.org/oghs).



### Horton Center Virtual Info Session for New Campers

**March 26, 6:00 - 7:00 PM**

Horton Center, the outdoor ministry of the NHCUCC, is located in the heart of the White Mountains. It offers a welcoming setting for people of all ages to build friendships, experience inclusive community, enjoy the beauty of God’s creation, and grow in faith together.

Curious to learn more or plan a camping trip? Join them for an informative session on March 26 at 6:00 PM! Fill out the RSVP form here: [tinyurl.com/newcamperinfo2026](http://tinyurl.com/newcamperinfo2026).



## Board and Committee Service Opportunities

We value your gifts and invite you to consider serving in a Board or Committee role as we shape the future of our church together. A few positions remain open; full summaries are available from the Nominating Committee upon request ([nominating@hollischurch.org](mailto:nominating@hollischurch.org)).

- **Board of Deacons** - Help with liturgical leadership during worship services, and lay pastoral care of our congregation.
- **Stewardship Board** - Help with the spiritual understanding of tithing and pledging in support of church ministries.
- **Nominating Committee** - Help welcome visitors and new members, find ways to serve the congregation and wider community.

# HOLY WEEK

## Schedule

MARCH 29  
9:30 AM

### PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

Join us for Palm Sunday worship with special music and a joyful children's Procession of Palms

APRIL 2  
7:00 PM

### MAUNDY THURSDAY

Our traditional Maundy Thursday service, including Holy Communion and Tenebrae. The community cross will be draped in black through Holy Saturday.

APRIL 5  
6:15 AM

### EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE

Join us at Triple Knoll Farm at 11 Pepperell Road, Hollis  
The service traditionally begins about 15 minutes before sunrise.

APRIL 5  
9:30 AM

### EASTER WORSHIP SERVICE

Join us for joyous music from the choir. You are invited to bring cut flowers to adorn the community cross and celebrate Resurrection!