

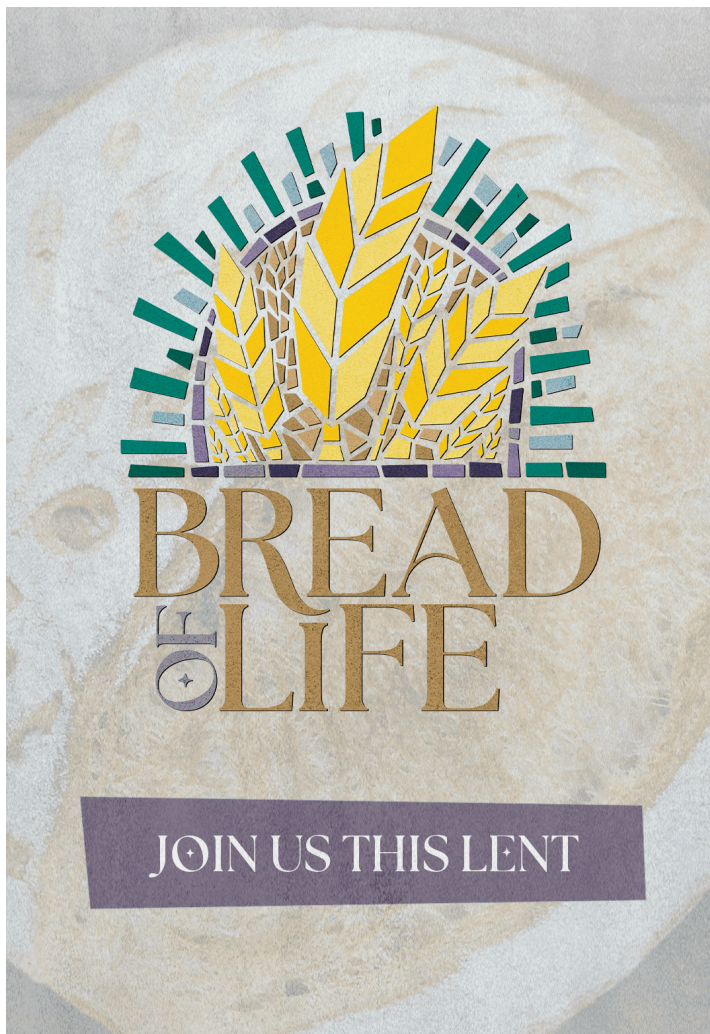
The Congregational Church of Hollis, UCC

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*

**First Sunday in Lent
March 9, 2025, 9:30 am
(Services are being recorded)**

First Sunday in Lent
The Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C.
March 9, 2025, 9:30 am
All Members of the Church, Ministers
The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor & Teacher
Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music

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.

OPENING REFRAIN

Bread of Life (video)

(insert included)

CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us gather together, hungry and thirsty. Come, all who long to be filled with good things.

The bread of life satisfies our hunger and thirst.

Let us open our hands to receive from God's son, our brother and friend.

The bread of life loves us and knows our needs.

Let us quiet our minds and awaken our hearts to be transformed by God's Spirit,
who redeems us.

The bread of life has come to sustain us. Believing this promise, let us worship together!

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

DEACON

Holy God, throughout history you have fed people in body, mind, and spirit.

As we gather in worship today, we rest in the knowledge that you continue to care for us.

We come into this space with complicated lives, different needs, and unique situations.

You know all of our longings, and you look at us with compassion and love.

Because we know the bread of life, Jesus, is the sustaining source of hope, we lean into this hour of worship with expectancy and faith. You have provided for our needs from the beginning, and you will meet us once again today. Amen.

*** OPENING HYMN**

Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above

#25

CALL TO CONFESSION

DEACON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, even though we choose to follow Jesus, live his way, and share in the bread of life, we confess we have overlooked the hungry in our midst. We confess it is easier to avoid people and places that demand our attention and resources and go about our days turning our eyes from those in need. But Jesus shows us a different way—a way of sharing, a way of justice. Forgive us for the times we have looked away from those who are hungry and their needs for food, clothing, friendship, or anything else. Forgive us for neglecting our neighbors and our community. Help us be faithful to this calling. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REV. TANYA

***GLORIA**

(MEINEKE)

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

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.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 6:25-40 (Page: 867)

This is a Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHORAL ANTHEM

Bread of Heaven

Mock and Lopez

SERMON

“Feasting on the Bread of Life”

REV. TANYA

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DEACON

Prayer List: Nancy Bell, Dick & Nancy Birch, Deb Blannin, Don & Ginny Brooks, Shirley Coleman, Thomas Cuddeback, Louise Demontigny, Susan Gorham, Tim Hildreth, Don & Judy McCoy, Nancy Phillips, Poirier family, Dick & Doris Rafferty, Lorna Rupert, Jan Trivasos, Susan Vautin, Bill & Dee Wagner.

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Bread of Life, 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.

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

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**

*** CLOSING HYMN**

Go Forth for God

#352

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We believe Jesus Christ is the bread of life.

Born to live among us, suffering every human frailty, even unto death.

Empowered not to rule with force but by invitation; not with a sword, but by sacrifice.

Filled with compassion, always caring about the physical needs of the people.

Rejecting earthly fortune, meeting daily needs, turning no one away.

Jesus turned bread lines into feasts, welcoming everyone to the table.

Jesus gave freely to all in need, even when they gave nothing in return.

We believe Jesus Christ is the bread of life. Amen.

*** 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 RESPONSE**

POSTLUDE

JULIE OLIVER

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

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Announcements

Help celebrate Easter with joyful ringing!

A bell group will be forming to play for our Easter service on April 20th. We will be practicing for the five weeks before immediately following Coffee Hour on March 16, Mar. 23, Mar. 30, April 6, and April 13. Both experienced and inexperienced players are welcome. Ability to read music is helpful but not required. If you have always wanted to try out handbells or have not played in a while, now is your chance. We would love to have you join us for a joyous Easter Ring.

Questions? Contact April Springfield - phone # -603 943-9452 or email at aprilLCspringfield@gmail.com.

Loaves and Lessons

Thursday evenings, we warmly invite you all to participate in Loaves & Lessons, where this year we will go back to some of our spiritual basics, as we look at Marcus Borg's

Embracing an Adult Faith: What it Means to Be Christian.

Each Thursday evening, from 5:30-6:45 p.m. on March 13th through April 10th, we'll gather in Hardy Hall to enjoy a simple, delicious meal and then share edifying conversation about our personal experiences and understandings about the following basic themes (by week): ***God (Mar. 13); Jesus (Mar. 20); Salvation (Mar. 27); Practice (Apr. 3); and Community (Apr. 10).***

The Faith Formation/ Christian Education Board will be providing childcare each week so that parents and Flock children can also be nourished in new ways

Church ByLaws

The work of the Bylaws Task Force is not finished!

The next step is to gain feedback and answer questions. We will hold information sessions after church on **three Sundays, March 16, April 6, and May 4**. We will consider all comments and make further adjustments if needed before calling a special Congregational Meeting on June 1 where we will vote on the amended bylaws that reflect our current structure and operational processes.

Bread of Life

Lyrics and Music by Andrea Hamilton
and Amanda Meisenheimer

Verses

1. If you're hun-gry, come, tired_ and un - done, there's a
2. Bring your wear - y mind, ev - ery tear you've cried, there is

place for you, a place for you at the ta - ble._
peace for you, ___ peace for you at the ta - ble._

If you're lone - ly, come, fill your emp-ty cup, there's a
Lay your bur-dens down, hope is all a-round, you are

drink for you, a drink for you at the ta - ble._
wel-come here, ___ wel-come here at the ta - ble._

Refrain

Bread of life, Je-sus with us, ___ heal-ing our hearts with love.

Bread of life, bro-ken for you, ___ share with a - noth - er too.

There is e - nough. Oh there will al-ways be, so

take this bread with me. ___

Bridge

Free-ly_ giv-en to us_ so we might give_ free-ly to oth - ers.

Free-ly_ giv-en to us_ so let us give_ free-ly to oth - ers.

Free-ly_ giv-en to us_ so we might give_ free-ly to oth - ers.

Free-ly_ giv-en to us_ so let us give_ free-ly to oth - ers.

Final Refrain

Bread of life, Je-sus with us, ___ heal-ing our hearts with love.



Bread of life, bro-ken for you, — share with a - noth - er too.



There is e - nough. Oh there will al-ways be, so



take this bread with me. — So take this bread with me. —