

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***

Third Sunday of Easter

April 23, 2023

9:30 a.m.

(Services are being recorded)

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

April 23, 2023, 9:30 a.m.

All Members of the Church, Ministers

The Rev. Robert C. Fellows, Sabbatical Pastor

Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music

PRELUDE

Julie Oliver

GOD'S SPIRIT, LIGHT, AND WORD PRECEDE OUR WORSHIP

Deacons

WELCOME

Rev. Fellows

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Fellows

Sing praises to God, you faithful, give thanks to God's holy name!

Weeping may linger for a night, but joy comes in the morning.

You turn our weeping to dancing, God; you remove the garments of mourning and clothe us in gladness.

May we praise you and not be silent! We will give thanks to you, O God, forever!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Deacon

We come before you, O God, in Easter joy, seeking to be a people of the resurrection.

Be known among us. Grant us the assurance of your presence, your love, and your renewing power. Through your Word and Spirit, reveal to us your purpose in our lives. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our risen Savior. Amen.

*** HYMN**

Sing of One Who Walks Beside Us

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PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Deacon

God, we come before you as those who have been baptized into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ, and who seek to be raised to new life in Christ. Yet we confess our fear of necessary endings, and the pain of poverty, conflict, or sickness. We fear letting go of old ways, old relationships, old self-understandings. And sometimes we want to build shells to protect ourselves from people who are different from us, from change that comes too fast, from possibilities that seem bewildering.

God, help us trust our lives into your keeping, accept the embrace of your loving arms, and receive your forgiveness and your promise of life eternal in Jesus Christ. Raise us to walk in newness of life, through Jesus Christ, who has promised to be with us always. Amen.

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ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Fellows

*** GLORIA PATRI**

*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

Rev. Fellows

A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES Children are invited to come forward.

Rev. Fellows

CHILDREN DEPART As the children and their teachers depart to continue their worship and learning elsewhere, we offer them our blessing:

Congregation: God's love be with you.
Teachers & Children: And also with you.

*** HYMN**

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

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SCRIPTURE

*Hebrew Scripture Reading: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19
Gospel Reading: Luke 24:13-35*

Deacon

Pg. 491

Pg. 860

Hear the Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

We Rejoice in All Your Ways
Choir

by Vicki Bedford

SERMON

Are We on the Road to Emmaus?

Rev. Fellows

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Fellows

OFFERTORY – SHARING GOD'S GIFTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR WORLD

To initiate Online Giving: Go to <https://hollischurch.org/donations/>

*** DOXOLOGY**

*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. Fellows

*** CLOSING HYMN**

Christ Beside Me

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*** OUR COMMON COMMISSION**

Rev. Fellows

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**

*** THREEFOLD AMEN**

POSTLUDE

Julie Oliver

*** Please stand if you are able**

The Deacons this morning are Cindy Ryherd and Ann Siglin

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in Hardy Hall immediately following the service, provided this month by the Trustees.