

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

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

9:30 a.m.

**Masks Optional and Social Distancing Encouraged
(Services are being recorded)**

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

Second Sunday of Easter

April 24, 2022

9:30 a.m.

**All Members of the Church, Ministers
The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor
Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music
Jill Slocum, Guest Organist**

PRELUDE

Jill Slocum

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

Rev. Tanya

This is the Easter Season! Easter is not just one day of proclaiming that life and love are more powerful than death and hatred, but a whole "week of weeks," as we call it—seven more weeks of daring to dance our dances with hope and passion, culminating on Pentecost. So let us continue our praise!

*Dare to dance with dreamers, sing their song,
Dare to dance their stories, sing out strong.
Dare to dance with freedom your whole life long,
Dare to dance again!*

Dancing requires that we pay attention to our dance partners. It requires finding a rhythm together. The Sunday after Easter brings the story of Jesus appearing to the disciples and breathing the Holy Spirit on them, and gifting them with peace. Our other scripture lessons this morning point to the ways human relationships can go horribly wrong when we don't understand or honor those whose lives dance alongside our own. What does it take to dance together? Today, we welcome the Rev. Leaf Seligman, an itinerant preacher, teacher, restorative practitioner, lover of trees, and advocate of the gospel of tenderness wherever she goes.

HYMN

Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

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PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

Deacon

O Life that surges through all living things and is their Source, open us to your presence here this morning. We confess that we have often closed ourselves off and prevented the river flow of life through us. We have lost touch with the unique worth of the life each of us has to live. Our eyes can fail to perceive beauty in people and in the world, and our actions can stifle the flow of their dances and songs. Open our eyes and our hearts afresh, that we may walk in newness of life through the One who is the Resurrection and the Life. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Tanya

Friends, hear the gospel message Christ Jesus came to make known: Every life is precious to God, whose love for us is both so humble and so great it accepted the vulnerability of human flesh, submitted to a cruel death, and conquered the power of death by rising to New Life. There is nothing we have done or left undone that can separate us from God's love for us: **Thanks and glory be to God!**

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

Beloved, having been reconciled to God, let us share the peace and joy of that relationship with one another! Those of you joining us remotely, please type a greeting in the YouTube Live chat feature with your name and greeting to others if you haven't already. Here in the Meetinghouse, please greet those who are joining us remotely with a wave to the camera (at the back of the Meetinghouse), and then greet those around you with words of peace and connection.

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 4:1-7

pg. 3

John 20:19-22

pg. 883

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

SERMON

A Sabbath Meditation on the Nature of Welcome

Leaf Seligman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

OFFERTORY

*To initiate Online Giving: Go to <https://hollischurch.org/donations/>
Please take a moment to **sign our Friendship Register** and pass it to your neighbor. If you're visiting with us and would like to be included on our mailing lists for hardcopy or electronic newsletter or remote church information, please be sure to include your contact details. And, as you pass the Friendship Registers, take note of the names of those who are sitting near you and greet them by name following the service if you haven't already.*

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

CLOSING SONG

I Hope You Dance
By LeeAnn Womack, sung by Julie Oliver

(Recorded)

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

Leaf Seligman

CHORAL RESPONSE

(Recorded)

POSTLUDE

The flowers this morning are presented to the glory of God in celebration of Julie Kopser's birthday by Barbara and Jerry Amos and family.

Deacons this morning are Jenna Dakalovich and Ann Siglin.

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in Hardy Hall immediately following service. For those joining remotely, please click [here](#) to join via Zoom, the meeting ID is 755502991 and the password 837130.

Worship Notes:

Liturgy and leader parts Marcia McFee © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/easterdance. Used and adapted with permission.