

**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.  
May 24, 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)**

**PENTECOST**  
***DRAW THE CIRCLE WIDE: DRAW IT WIDER, STILL...***  
**The Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C.**  
**May 24, 2026 9:30 a.m.**  
**Guest Worship Leader, John Pfeifer**  
**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** **JOHN PFEIFER**

**CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP** *Draw the Circle Wide* **Mark A. Miller**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** **DEACON**

Let us rejoice and call upon God's name.

**Holy God, your people have gathered in this space.**

God, pour out your Spirit:

**Upon all people, young and old, near and far, friend and stranger—all neighbors.**

God, pour out your Spirit:

**Empower us to speak for justice.**

God, pour out your Spirit:

**Grant us visions of peace.**

God, pour out your Spirit:

**Inspire us with dreams for the future.**

God, pour out your Spirit:

**Renew the face of the earth.**

God, pour out your Spirit:

**Let us worship and praise!**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION** **DEACON**

**\* HYMN** *Come, O Spirit, Dwell Among Us* **#218**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** **DEACON**

**God of mercy, we confess to you the ways in which we have grieved your Spirit: by ignoring the needs of others to avoid our own discomfort, by being afraid of differences and slow to seek understanding, by letting our boundaries become barriers and our identities become idols. We have fanned the flames of anger and division. We have neglected our stewardship of your good creation. Forgive us, renew us, and remove from our hearts all fear, anger, and greed. Lead us by your Spirit into the way of compassion and mercy, for the sake of Christ Jesus. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

**JOHN PFEIFER**

**\* GLORIA**

**#36**

**\* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**JOHN PFEIFER**

May the Spirit and peace of the risen Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

The peace of Christ be with you all!

**And also with you!**

**UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**DEACON**

God of wind and fire, you send forth your Spirit and gather all people into your wide embrace. By your Word, inspire us to dismantle barriers that divide us, especially barriers of fear and ignorance. Teach us to listen to one another, to be humble in our learning and growth, and to pursue love and inclusion, following the way of Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**READING FROM SCRIPTURE**

**DEACON**

Acts 2:1-9, 11-21 (pg. 885)

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

**Thanks be to God.**

**CHORAL ANTHEM**

*Voices of Praise*

**Craig Courtney**

In the spirit of Pentecost, “Voices of Praise” is a global, musical expression through the use of English, Swahili, Spanish, and the universal word *hosanna*.

**SERMON**

**“Take the Peace”**

**JOHN PFEIFER**

**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/>

**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**JOHN PFEIFER**

**\* 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**

**JOHN PFEIFER**

**\* HYMN**

*This is the Day (verse 3 only)*

**#257**

**\* 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**

**JOHN PFEIFER**

**\* CHORAL AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

**JULIE OLIVER**

\* Please stand if you are able.

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## **Announcements**

### **Many Thanks!**

We extend our sincere thanks to the members of the IRSG team for the many hours they devoted to hosting Becky Field's art exhibition, *Finding Home: Portraits and Memories of Immigrants*. Through their welcoming presence, guidance, and hospitality in Hardy Hall, they helped create a meaningful experience for all who visited the exhibit and learned more about the stories of immigrants, refugees, and asylum seekers in New Hampshire.

### **Do You Feel Called to Serve the Flock?**

Last Sunday, we shared an invitation to anyone who may feel called to serve with The Flock. If that message stayed with you this week, we encourage you to reach out. Whether you have questions, feel curious, or would simply like to learn more about sharing your time and talents with our children and youth ministries, please email [ceboard@hollischurch.org](mailto:ceboard@hollischurch.org) or speak with a member of the CE Board after worship. We would be grateful to connect with you.

### **Memorial Day Observance on the Town Common - Monday, May 25**

All are welcome to attend the Memorial Day Observance on the Town Common at 5:00 PM. While this is not a church-sponsored event, we encourage members of the congregation to gather with the community in remembrance and reflection as we honor those who have served.

## Blessing of Graduating Seniors - Sunday, May 31

On Sunday, May 31, we'll have a moment of celebration and prayer of blessing for all of our graduates. If you'd like us to highlight your graduate, please email that information (school, degree, future plans) to [admin@hollischurch.org](mailto:admin@hollischurch.org) by May 24 to be included in the bulletin.

- **Everett Burton** (son of Kim and John Burton) will be graduating from Hollis Brookline High School on June 6, 2026. He will be attending Nashua Community College for the automotive program.
- **Eli Rasmussen** (son of Joel and Tanya) will graduate from Cambridge University (England) with a M.Phil. degree in Development Studies. He will work for Raedas Consulting, Ltd. in London.
- **Alexandra Bottamini** (granddaughter of Bruce Bottamini) is graduating from Notre Dame Academy in Worcester and will be attending Providence College in Rhode Island with a major in business.
- **Nate Loosian** (son of Brett and Kate Loosian, grandson of Roger and Irene Norian) will soon graduate from Arlington, MA High School and will attend the University of Florida in Gainesville for their pre-med program.



## Maintenance Needed for The Adam Verrecchia Memorial Community Garden



The AVMCG Memorial Garden has long been a sacred and meaningful space within our church community — a place for reflection, prayer, meditation, and remembrance. We would love to continue to care for this special space together as a congregation.

If you feel called to help tend the garden, we invite you to sign up for whichever task(s) and date(s) work best for you. While sign-up slots are listed on Saturdays, tasks may be completed any day during the week that is convenient for you.

This is also a wonderful opportunity for connection and fellowship. Tasks do not need to be completed alone — invite a friend, your family, or another church member to join you as we care for this peaceful space together.

Whether you can give an hour or several, your care helps preserve this meaningful place for all who visit.

Learn more about the garden here: <https://hollischurch.org/avmcg/>

Sign up through the QR code or this link:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0F4CADA23A4F58-63736951-garden>



## UCC Special Collection May 31

### Strengthen the Church: Sent Forth in Love

We will be collecting a special offering next Sunday for Strengthen the Church. This offering furthers the work of our conferences and the national UCC as we work together to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. For more information about this special collection, see <https://www.ucc.org/giving/ways-to-give/our-churchs-wider-mission/strengthen-the-church/>.



**A Semiquincentennial Celebration: Our Nation's 250th Anniversary - Sunday, July 5**

On Sunday, July 5, our church family will gather for a once-in-a-lifetime occasion as we celebrate our nation's 250th anniversary. We invite the wider community to join us for a special worship service centered on gratitude, remembrance, and hope, followed by a church-wide potluck luncheon. As we give thanks for the generations who came before us and the community we continue to build together, we hope you will join us in celebrating 250 years of faith, freedom, and God's enduring goodness.