

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

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 4, 2022

9:30 a.m.

(Services are being recorded)

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

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 4, 2022, 9:30 a.m.

All Members of the Church, Ministers

The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor

Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music

PRELUDE

GOD'S SPIRIT, LIGHT AND WORD PRECEDE OUR WORSHIP

WELCOME

Rev. Tanya

Grace, mercy, and peace be with you. I greet you in the name of Christ Jesus, who draws us together as one Body, inclusive of all our varied stories and journeys. It doesn't matter where you've come from or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

CENTERING PRACTICE

INVOCATION AND CALL TO WORSHIP

From the rising of the sun till its setting in the west,

God's holy name be praised.

On the lips of children, by babies at the breast,

God's holy name be praised.

In the visions of the old and the dreaming of the young,

God's holy name be praised.

In the banquet hall of heaven and the forgotten corners of our hearts,

God's holy name be praised.

Let all that has life and breath praise the Lord.

Amen. We praise the Lord!

***HYMN**

Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

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PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION

Deacon

O God our Creator, your kindness has brought us the gift of a new morning. Help us to leave yesterday, and not to covet tomorrow, but to accept the uniqueness of today. (Silence)

By your love celebrated in your Word, seen in your Son, brought close by your Spirit, take from us what we need to carry no longer, so that we may be free again to choose to serve you and to be served by each other. (Silence)

Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon us.

Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon us.

I believe that God forgives and sets us free.

We believe that God forgives and sets us free; and at the day's beginning, we commit ourselves to following where Christ calls and to loving one another. Amen!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

O LORD, you have searched me and known me. ²You know when I sit down and when I rise up; you discern my thoughts from far away. ³You search out my path and my lying down, and are acquainted with all my ways. ⁴Even before a word is on my tongue, O LORD, you know it completely. ⁵You hem me in, behind and before, and lay your hand upon me. ⁶Such knowledge is too wonderful for me; it is so high that I cannot attain it. ⁷Where can I go from your spirit? Or where can I flee from your presence? ⁸If I ascend to heaven, you are there; if I make my bed in Sheol, you are there. ⁹If I take the wings of the morning and settle at the farthest limits of the sea, ¹⁰even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me fast. ¹¹If I say, "Surely the darkness shall cover me, and the light around me become night," ¹²even the darkness is not dark to you; the night is as bright as the day, for darkness is as light to you. ¹³For it was you who formed my inward parts; you knit me together in my mother's womb. ¹⁴I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; that I know very well. ¹⁵My frame was not hidden from you, when I was being made in secret, intricately woven in the depths of the earth. ¹⁶Your eyes beheld my unformed substance. In your book were written all the days that were formed for me, when none of them as yet existed. ¹⁷How weighty to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! ¹⁸I try to count them—they are more than the sand; I come to the end—I am still with you. ¹⁹O that you would kill the wicked, O God, and that the bloodthirsty would depart from me— ²⁰those who speak of you maliciously, and lift themselves up against you for evil! ²¹Do I not hate those who hate you, O LORD? And do I not loathe those who rise up against you? ²²I hate them with perfect hatred; I count them my enemies. ²³Search me, O God, and know my heart; test me and know my thoughts. ²⁴See if there is any wicked way in me, and lead me in the way everlasting.

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

REFLECTION BY ONE AND MANY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

(from the Native American Indian tradition)

Lord, make our hearts places of peace and our minds harbors of tranquility. Sow in our souls true love for you and for one another; and root deeply within us friendship and unity, and concord with reverence. So may we give peace to each other sincerely and receive it beautifully.

(from the Salvation Army)

Lord, give to all those people who have authority over others the wisdom to govern well, and the grace to know in their hearts that nothing is firm which is not just, and that the test of justice is to turn people from following after evil to seek what is good.

(from the Scottish Celtic tradition)

God, kindle within our hearts today a flame of love for our neighbors; for our foes; for our friends; for our people; for the brave; for the cowardly; for the thoughtless ones. O Son of the loveliest Mary, in all that we love may we serve you, from the lowliest thing that lives, to the name that is highest of all.

(from the Church in Ghana)

O Lord our God, listening to us here, you accept also the prayers of our siblings in Africa, Asia, the Pacific, the Americas, and Europe. We are all one in prayer. So may we, as one, rightly carry out your commission to witness and to love in the church and throughout the world. Accept our prayers graciously, even when they are somewhat strange. They are offered in Jesus' name.

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.

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

THE CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Let us pray.

God be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to God Most High. **It is right to give God our thanks and praise.**

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Pastor will offer a prayer of thanksgiving, culminating with the words: "...be united with you, *Christ Jesus, and with one another, and we may continue faithful in all things.*"

In the strength Christ gives us, we offer ourselves to you, eternal God, and give thanks that you have called us to serve you. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AFTER RECEIVING

We thank you, God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth your praise in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***CLOSING CHORUS**

Go Now in Peace

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***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

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you now, and forevermore. Amen.

***POSTLUDE**

*All who are able are invited to stand.

Deacons this morning are Kevin Duquette and Ann Siglin.

Please join us for fellowship ON THE FRONT LAWN AFTER WORSHIP.

Worship Notes:

Liturgy and leader parts from Wild Goose Worship Group, A Wee Worship Book, Morning Liturgy E (36-42).