

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

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY
September 18, 2022
9:30 a.m.

(Services are being recorded)

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

Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 18, 2022

9:30 a.m.

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

PRELUDE

Julie Oliver

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!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Everett Burton

Happy are those who delight in the Word of God. They are like trees planted by streams of water, and they will flourish.

INVOCATION

Extravagant God, you pour out blessings upon us and lead us on the path of true life. Help us to choose your way again and again, that we might revel in your love and reflect it to all we meet. In the name of Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

HYMN

I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry

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CALL TO CONFESSION

Kate Brosnan

In penitence and in faith, let us confess our sin to the One who waits to pour out mercy upon us.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy God, we confess that we fail to put our trust in you completely. Instead, we calculate our gains and losses, hoarding the things that do not lead to abundant life. Forgive us, and help us to treasure only you, that we may follow you faithfully and discover the blessings only you can give. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Rev. Tanya

Beloved, your sins are forgiven. Therefore be at peace to follow the good road, for the Lord watches over the way of the righteous.

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

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME: A CELEBRATION OF FAITH FORMATION

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

The Congregation: God’s love be with you.

Teachers & Children: And also with you.

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

God of wisdom, by your Spirit speak this day a word of life, and plant in us the power of your righteous love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 14:25-33 (*The Message Translation*) **Cassidy Engle**

One day when large groups of people were walking along with him, Jesus turned and told them, “Anyone who comes to me but refuses to let go of father, mother, spouse, children, brothers, sisters—yes, even one’s own self!—can’t be my disciple. Anyone who won’t shoulder his own cross and follow behind me can’t be my disciple. “Is there anyone here who, planning to build a new house, doesn’t first sit down and figure the cost so you’ll know if you can complete it? If you only get the foundation laid and then run out of money, you’re going to look pretty foolish. Everyone passing by will poke fun at you: ‘He started something he couldn’t finish.’ “Or can you imagine a king going into battle against another king without first deciding whether it is possible with his ten thousand troops to face the twenty thousand troops of the other? And if he decides he can’t, won’t he send an emissary and work out a truce? “Simply put, if you’re not willing to take what is dearest to you, whether plans or people, and kiss it good-bye, you can’t be my disciple.

SERMON

Following Jesus Is a Big Deal

Rev. Tanya

CHORAL ANTHEM

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus/Kum Ba Ya

arr. D. Elrich

CELEBRATING AND CONFIRMING THE VOWS OF BAPTISM

Being Baptized: Cassidy Engle; Confirming their Christian Faith: Kate Brosnan, Everett Burton, Abigail Kellner, Samuel Kellner & Luke Verrecchia.

INTRODUCTION TO CONFIRMATION

QUESTIONS OF THE CANDIDATES

CANDIDATES COVENANTAL VOW (*Confirmands pray this vow in unison.*)

O God, my God, known to me in Jesus Christ, I give myself to you as your own, to love and serve you faithfully all the days of my life. Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY BAPTISM

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION

Almighty God, who in baptism received these your servants into the church, forgive their sins, and promised them eternal life, increase in them the gifts of your Holy Spirit. Grant love for others, joy in serving you, peace in disagreement, patience in suffering, kindness toward all people, goodness in evil times, faithfulness in temptation, gentleness in the face of opposition, self-control in all things. Thereby strengthen them for their ministry in the world; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

ACT OF CONFIRMATION WITH LAYING ON OF HANDS

PRAYER OF CONFIRMATION

QUESTION ABOUT PARTICIPATION

***WELCOME**

THE CONGREGATION'S PROMISE

We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

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 – SHARING GOD'S GIFTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR WORLD

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 God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CLOSING HYMN

Here I Am, Lord

S11

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

POSTLUDE

The Flowers this morning are presented to the glory of God in loving memory of Veronica Suarez, from Nora, Charles, Gabriel and Natalie Lewis.

Deacons this morning are Jenna Dakalovic and Jessica Marchant.

Please join us for fellowship and refreshments in Hardy Hall immediately following service.

Worship Notes: Liturgy reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from *Feasting on the Word* © Worship Companion Copyright 2013.