

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)



*reflecting the sacred*

Advent/Christmas 2022

*Four Pillars of Our Mission:*

*Welcome, Worship, Learn, Serve*

**First Sunday of Advent - HOPE**

**November 27, 2022**

**9:30 a.m.**

**(Services are being recorded)**

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

**First Sunday of Advent - Hope**

**November 27, 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!

**CENTERING OURSELVES IN THE PRESENCE OF THE HOLY**

**SUNG REFRAIN**

**Choir/Soloist**

**ADVENT WREATH LITURGY:**

**Roland Noyes and Janice Durgee**

We pray for Hope this day.

**We pray for Hope this day.**

We open ourselves to see the Sacred reflected in all things.

**We open ourselves to see the Sacred reflected in all things.**

We open ourselves to see each moment

**We open ourselves to see each moment**

as a gift of holy presence.

**as a gift of holy presence.**

This is the gift of the Christ Mystery,

**This is the gift of the Christ Mystery,**

lighting the way to hope.

**lighting the way to hope.**

**CONGREGATIONAL SONG REFRAIN: (as first purple candle is lit)**

*Upon this moment, upon this people, upon this place, the holy comes.  
And sacred knowing brings sacred being for sacred doing of God's plan.*

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Roland Noyes and Janice Durgee**

Living God, Christ Mystery, Spirit of Hope, we give you thanks for this holy moment together.

As we take in the hope you offer, may we be a reflection of your light, expanding the sacred time of "right now" into the sacred time of "always and for all time." **Amen.**

**HYMN**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

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**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**Deacon**

With humble hearts, grateful for God’s infinite goodness, let us acknowledge our need for divine grace as we offer our prayer of confession.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (by Richard Herman)

**Almighty God: you love us, but we’ve not loved you. You bless us, but we’ve not thanked You. You call, but we’ve not listened. We turn away from neighbors in need, too wrapped up in our own concerns. We ignore or condone evil, prejudice, warfare, and greed. God of grace, help us to admit our sin, so that as you come to us in mercy, we may repent, turn to you, and receive forgiveness, especially the sins we now acknowledge in the quiet of our own hearts: [Silent Confession] ... through Jesus Christ our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**Rev. Tanya**

Beloved of God, hear the Good News: the One in whose name we pray has assured us of our pardon, and invites us to embrace the joy of reconciliation and new life in Christ.

**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**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME**

**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.**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**Deacon**

**First Reading**

*Romans 13:11-14 (The Message)*

pg. 923

**Second Reading**

*Matthew 24:36-44 (NRSV)*

pg. 806

A word of God that is still speaking. **Thanks be to God!**

**SERMON**

*Sacred Time*

**Rev. Tanya**

**ANTHEM**

*We Wait for Thee*

Johnson

**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.**

**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 all heavens and the earth  
reflecting the sacred story.*

*This, this is Christ the One  
who mirrors hope for all of us.  
Haste, haste to bring him laud,  
the Word of time eternal.*

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**REFRAMING THE SACRED: ANOINTED TO SACRED TIME**

**\*CLOSING HYMN**

*O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

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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**

**\*THREE-FOLD AMEN**

**POSTLUDE**

*\*Please stand if you are able.*

**The Deacons this morning are Peggy Gilmour and Jessica Marchant.**

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

*Liturgy and music permissions granted by Marcia McFee and Worship Design Center*