

**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*

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**WHAT CHILD *IS* THIS?**

**“Son of Mary”**

**The Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C.**

**December 14, 2025, 9:30 a.m.**

**The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor & Teacher**

**Julie Oliver, Minister of Music**

**Kim Burton, Minister of Faith Formation**

**(Services are being recorded)**

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## Pageant Sunday

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*Like the iconic figures gathered around the Christ Child in our nativity scenes, we gather together because we want to know Jesus more as we seek to bring his Reign of Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love on earth.*

## PRELUDE

JULIE OLIVER

## **GOD'S LIGHT AND WORD PRECEDE OUR WORSHIP**

## DEACONS

## WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. TANYA

*Please take a moment to review the announcements in your bulletin.*

What Child is this, who, laid to rest,  
On Mary's lap is sleeping?  
Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,  
While shepherds watch are keeping?

## CALL TO WORSHIP: LIGHTING OUR ADVENT WREATH

## WEIR FAMILY

**This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!**

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION & CONFESSION**

**Here, at the nativity of your birth, give us the courage to face this moment with an uncanny joy. Open us to new understandings of the unfolding story of your presence among us. Show us how to praise you even when songs and carols feel empty. We pray in the name of the Child, the One Who Uplifts our hearts and lives. Amen.**

\* HYMN

## **Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old**

#113

## THE PAGEANT

**Narrators:** Norah Lockwood  
Eli Weir

**The Entrance of Mary & Joseph****Mary:** Allie Ford**Joseph:** Ryan Bonczar**“O Little Town of Bethlehem” vs. 1 & 2**

#151

**Entrance of the Animals at the Stable****Animals:**  
Kira Funk  
Isla Lockwood  
Micah Weir**Benjamin Tibbetts**  
**William Lockwood**  
**Maeve Wilmot****“Away in a Manger” vs. 1 - 3**

#150

**The Angels Appear****Angels:**  
Paige Bonczar  
Taylor Bonczar  
Adelaide D'Ambrosio  
Haylee Fowler**Aubrey Millen**  
**Penelope Sage**  
**Verabelle Weir****“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing” vs. 1 & 2**

#137

**The Shepherds Hear the Good News****Shepherds:**  
Jensen Dyer  
Julian Dyer**Taiao Mason**  
**Jack Wilmot****“Go, Tell It on the Mountain” vs. 1 & 2**

#160

**The Magi Make Their Way, Following the Light****Wise People/Magi:** Caroline D'AmbrosioNora Ford  
Arya Millen**“Silent Night” vs. 1 & 2**

#142

**All the World Celebrates the Light of Christ, Come to Us****“Joy to the World” vs. 1 & 3**

#134

***Cameo moment for photos*****The Children Depart****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)*

Be with us as we seek to be the Body of Christ in the world.  
We pray this in the way you taught us, saying...

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kin-dom 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 kin-dom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

*[Prayer continues in verse, sung by soloist and joined by choir & congregation in bold]*

*Hidden one, how can we find you,  
when our world is filled with pain,  
and our praying is in vain?  
If we knock and get no answer,  
and we cannot cope, help us still to hope.*

*Sung response at end of prayer sung by congregation and choir:*

***Great, Holy One, spreading time and space,  
show us who You are in a human face.***



Great, Ho - ly One, sprea-ding time and space,  
show us who you are in a hu - man face.

### OFFERING AND PLEDGES

#### —SHARING GOD'S GIFTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR WORLD

To initiate online giving, go to <https://hollischurch.org/donations/>



### \* DOXOLOGY

#153, vs 3

*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him;  
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.*

### \* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

REV. TANYA

\* HYMN

*Now Bless the God of Israel*

#122

\* 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

SUNG RESPONSE

This, this is Christ, the King,  
Whom shepherds guard and angels sing:  
Haste, haste to bring Him laud,  
The Babe, the Son of Mary!

POSTLUDE

\* Please stand if you are able.

JULIE OLIVER

*Thank you to the Faith Formation team of volunteers who help in the Flock, Nursery and in the background as Board Members. Your help and support are greatly appreciated. I look forward to more fun in the next semester. Blessings & Peace, Kim Burton*

**Faith Formation Volunteers:**

Maddie Barich  
Britta Bergeron  
Linnea Bergeron  
Hannah Burton  
Allison D'Ambrosio  
Cassidy Engle  
Carli Ford  
Cameron Fowler

Audrey Hertenstein-Perez  
Joy Lockwood  
Norah Lockwood  
Hannah Mason  
Kristen Migliaccio-Walle  
Irene Norian  
Annalise Walle  
Andrea Weir

Mark Weir  
Jacqueline Wilmot

# Announcements

*"The flowers this morning are presented to the glory of God in gratitude for the loving and supportive fellowship of our church."*

## Advent & Christmas Worship:

**Dec. 14th:** Third Sunday of Advent: Pageant, (**Special Christmas Collection**)

**Dec. 21st:** Fourth Sunday of Advent: Music Sunday, (**Poinsettias in Church**)

**Dec. 24th, 4 pm:** Christmas Eve Family Service, (**In Person Only**)

**8 pm:** Christmas Eve Lessons & Carols, (**Live Streamed**)

**Dec. 28th:** No Flock

## Holiday Office Hours Announcement

The office will be closed the week between Christmas and New Year's.

**Revised office hours: Tuesday – Thursday: 8:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

You can reach us by phone at 603-465-7797 or schedule a visit by appointment.

## Christmas Eve Worship Services – December 24

As we prepare our hearts for the joy of Christ's birth, we invite you to join us for our Christmas Eve worship services on Wednesday, December 24. We will offer two opportunities for worship:

### **4:00 PM – Family Christmas Service**

A warm and engaging service designed especially for children, youth, and families. All are welcome as we celebrate the wonder of the Nativity together.

### **8:00 PM – Candlelight Christmas Service (Livestreamed)**

A beautiful traditional service featuring scripture, carols, candlelight, and the message of Christmas. This service will also be livestreamed for those joining from home.

We hope you will join us for one or both of these meaningful services as we celebrate the birth of Christ with joy, community, and light.

## Special Collection Today: The Christmas Fund

Today, our church is receiving a special offering for The Christmas Fund, a mission initiative of the United Church of Christ (UCC). The Christmas Fund provides vital financial support to retired and active clergy, lay employees, and their surviving spouses who are experiencing financial difficulties. Through this offering, the UCC is able to offer:

- Emergency financial grants
- Health premium assistance
- Supplemental annuity support
- Christmas "thank-you" checks for those who have served the church faithfully

This special collection is a meaningful way for our congregation to express care, gratitude, and compassion for those who have dedicated their lives to ministry and service.

We invite you to give generously today as we join churches across the denomination in supporting this important mission.

### **We're Looking for a New Communications Administrator!**

We're seeking a **Part-Time Communications, Website, and Social Media Administrator (25 hrs/week)** to support strong internal and external communication for the Congregational Church of Hollis. This role coordinates weekly announcements, bulletins, and the *Chimes* newsletter; maintains our website and Facebook presence; collaborates with staff, boards, and committees to gather information; and helps improve online calendars, forms, and room reservation systems. The position also supports livestreaming by preparing online materials for Sunday services and works closely with administrative staff to share and cross-train responsibilities. Ideal candidates have experience with desktop publishing (newsletters, bulletins, emails), WordPress, social media, Constant Contact, Google Docs, basic IT tasks, and strong interpersonal skills. This flexible role offers the chance to contribute creativity and process improvements. To apply, please send a cover letter and resume to [personnel@hollischurch.org](mailto:personnel@hollischurch.org).



### **Loaves & Lessons — Advent Thursday Evenings**

**December 18 • 5:30–6:45 p.m. • Hardy Hall**

Take a break from the holiday hustle and bustle and spend some sacred time in community during Advent. Join us on Thursday evenings for Loaves & Lessons —a warm meal, fellowship, and meaningful conversation based on our Advent theme: What Child IS This?

Each week includes a delicious home-made meal (vegetarian and gluten-free options available). Please sign up for each session you plan to attend — this helps with meal prep and allows you to note any dietary restrictions.



Loaves & Lessons Menu & Sponsors:

- December 18 – Host & Meal TBD (Host, Volunteer/ Cooks Needed)

Nourish your body and spirit as we prepare for the sacred season of Christmas with food, fellowship, and reflection. We hope you can join us!