

**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*

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**WHAT CHILD *IS* THIS?**

**“Music Sunday”**

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

**December 21, 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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*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.*

CALL TO WORSHIP: LIGHTING OUR ADVENT WREATH

FORD FAMILY

Sung Refrain:

*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

DEACON

Here, at the nativity of your birth, give us the courage to face this moment with a steadfast love that casts out fear. Open us to new understandings of the unfolding story of your presence among us. Show us how to be with and for one another in ways that add to the flourishing of all creation. We pray in the name of the Child, the Love Enthroned in our hearts and lives. Amen.

\* HYMN

*The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came*

#123

\* SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Beloved of God, the Peace of Christ be with you!

And also with you!

## CHORAL CANTATA

Canticles in Candlelight	Joseph M. Martin
Narrators:	David Gilmour and Charles Lewis
Flute/Oboe:	Diane Fallier
Violin:	Andrea Weir
Handbells:	Matt Kopser

*In faithful succession, the sacred flames of Advent's candles shine against winter's cold gray shadows with an unrelenting message of hope, peace, love and joy. With great expectation, we gather close to the flickering flames and gather strength for our journey to dawn. As we gaze into the dancing gold we discover a deeper truth; we are the candles! We are a light on a hill and a beacon of hope, peace, love and joy in the night. We give ourselves to the miracle of the message; "Jesus, the Light of the World has come, and we are His children of Light."*

Prologue	
Processional	
Prepare and Celebrate	
Advent Longing	
Come, Long-expected Jesus	<i>Congregational Anthem (see insert)</i>
Awake! Arise! Rejoice!	
Carols of Joy and Hope	
Joy to the World	<i>Congregational Anthem (see insert)</i>
A Christmas Madrigal	
Turn Your Heart to Christmas	
A Festive Christmas Flourish	<i>Congregational Anthem (see insert)</i>

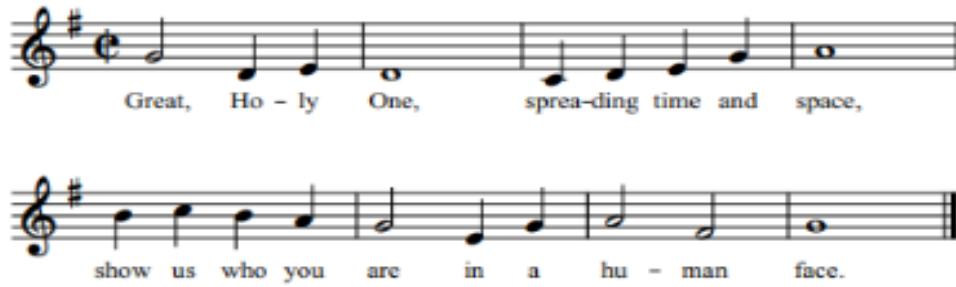
## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 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.



*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.*



## OFFERING AND PLEDGES

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

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

## \* DOXOLOGY

#53, 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

*People, Look East*

#116

## \* 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

JULIE OLIVER

\* Please stand if you are able.

## **HOLLIS CONGREGATIONAL CHOIR**

### **Sopranos:**

Sylvia Eggleston  
Ann Siglin  
Diane Fallier  
Dot Hyde  
Andrea Weir

### **Altos:**

Shirley Coleman  
Beth Harper  
Julie Kopser  
Jody Secules  
Lynn Goldberg  
April Springfield

### **Tenors:**

John Lumbard  
John Pfeifer  
Michael Mitchell  
Drew Mason  
Matt Kopser

### **Basses:**

Mike Secules  
Chris Hyde  
Ed Wigfield  
Joel Rasmussen

## **Announcements**

### **Advent & Christmas Worship:**

**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.

**Celebration of Life – Richard “Dick” Birch**

The Congregational Church of Hollis will host a Celebration of Life service honoring Richard “Dick” Birch on **Monday, December 29, at 11:00 a.m.**, with a reception to follow in Fellowship Hall. Dick was a devoted husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather, a faithful member of the Congregational Church of Hollis, and a deeply engaged member of the wider community. His life was marked by service, generosity, and a love for family, faith, and the outdoors. Dick served his church and community with quiet dedication, and his legacy continues through the many lives he touched. Friends and members of the congregation are warmly invited to attend this service as we gather in remembrance, gratitude, and hope, offering comfort and support to the Birch family as we celebrate Dick’s life and faith.