

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*

**Advent Week 4: Angels Among Us,
“Love Came Down at Christmas: #morelove”**

December 22, 2024, 9:30 a.m.

(Services are being recorded)

Advent Week 4: Angels Among Us
“Love Came Down at Christmas”
The Congregational Church of Hollis, U.C.C.
December 22, 2024, 9:30 am
All Members of the Church, Ministers
The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor & Teacher
Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music

PRELUDE

JULIE OLIVER

Handbell Choir directed by April Springfield
“Joy to the World” Handel, arr. Stan Pethel

GOD’S LIGHT AND WORD PRECEDE OUR WORSHIP

DEACONS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

REV. TANYA

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

OPENING REFRAIN

“Angels Among Us”

CHOIR

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

MASON FAMILY

CONGREGATIONAL REFRAIN

There are angels among us,
there are angels among us,
there are angels among us,
bringing love on earth.
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid
Do not be afraid.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy Living God, Blessed Jesus, Guiding Spirit,
alight within us your flame of love this day.
Grant us openness to hear your message.
Grant us courage to be your messengers in the world,
creating more love in the midst of fear.

*** OPENING HYMN**

“Angels From the Realms of Glory”

136

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

DEACON

Holy, Hidden One, we confess that we often doubt your presence in our life or in this world, especially when life feels tough and we don't feel enough love. Help us to see how love does its greatest work in the face of distress, firing up our imagination and mobilizing abilities that otherwise lie dormant in better times. Help us to forgive others when they act in ways that reflect a lack of love or grace; help us also to forgive ourselves when we ourselves fall short. Restore in us the hope of your salvation, and equip us to be your angelic messengers of love to a world that is dying for it. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REV. TANYA

*** GLORIA** **“Angels We Have Heard on High” (refrain only)** **135**

*** SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

DEACON

Micah 5:2-5a (p.756)

Psalm 80:1-7 (p.470)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

DEACON

***Prayer List:** Nancy Bell, Dick & Nancy Birch, Deb Blannin, Don & Ginny Brooks, Shirley Coleman, Thomas Cuddeback, Paige Cutting, Louise deMontigny, Bill & Susan Gorham, Chuck & Nancy Hildreth, Lynn Jeungel, Don & Judy McCoy, Nancy Phillips, Poirier family, Dick & Doris Rafferty, Lorna Rupert, Ed Scibilia, Jan Travasos, Susan Vautin, Bill & Dee Wagner, Arthur Parkhurst.*

THE 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

OFFERING AND PLEDGES—SHARING GOD'S GIFTS TO STRENGTHEN OUR WORLD

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



Special Offering to benefit the UCC Christmas Fund

Handbell Choir directed by April Springfield
“Greensleeves (*What Child is This?*)” trad. English, arr. Robin Benton

*** DOXOLOGY**

(Tune: O Come, O Come Emmanuel)
Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God, all Spirit messengers below.
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Rejoice! Rejoice!
Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

CHORAL CANTATA

“Love Came Down at Christmas” by Joel Raney
Presented by the Hollis Congregational Church Choir
Narrator - David Gilmour

*** 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**

POSTLUDE

JULIE OLIVER

* Please stand if you are able.

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IMPORTANT CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Support the Christmas Fund for the Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund

This week's bulletin includes Christmas Fund envelopes for your donation. We encourage you to give generously to support those who have dedicated their lives to ministry and service.

For over 100 years, The Christmas Fund has been a lifeline for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the United Church of Christ. This fund provides emergency grants, supplements small annuities and health premiums, and gives Christmas "Thank You" gift checks to clergy retirees each December. As one of the UCC's special mission offerings, churches are encouraged to hold an offering in December to support this important cause. You can also donate directly online or by mail.

Make checks payable to: Congregational Church of Hollis with "UCC Christmas Fund" on the memo line.

Music Sunday & Poinsettias in the Sanctuary

This Sunday, we celebrate Music Sunday and the beautiful tradition of decorating our sanctuary with poinsettias. These vibrant flowers have been lovingly donated by members of our congregation in honor and memory of loved ones.

Attached to this bulletin is a form listing the names of donors and the individuals they are honoring.

The Giving Tree – Thank You!

We extend a heartfelt thank you to everyone who contributed to the Giving Tree this year! Your generosity has brought joy to the children at the Nashua Children's Home and made this Christmas a season of love, care, and giving.

No Flock/Nursery on December 29th

The Flock will return on **January 5th, 2025**

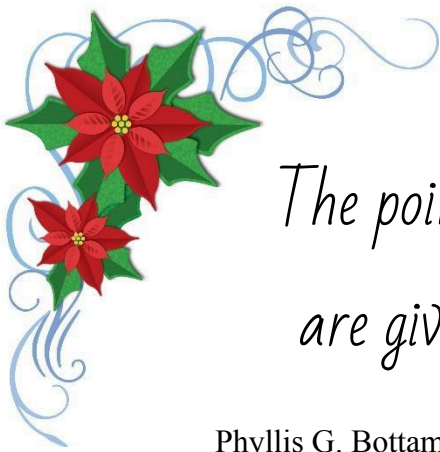
Thank You to Our Food & Fuel Ministry Team!

We want to extend our deepest gratitude to the incredible Food & Fuel Ministry Team for their dedication and hard work.

A special thank you to:

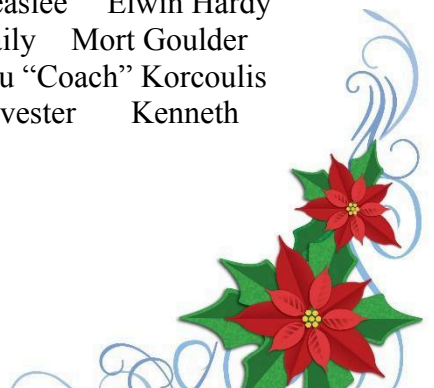
- Tanya and Eli Rasmussen
- Thom Davies
- Charlie Seddon
- Tom Hildreth and Rowen
- Roger and Irene Norian
- Dot and Chris Hyde
- Bruce Bottamini
- Carol Birch
- Lynn and Scott Goldberg
- Chris Bergeron

Your efforts ensure that our community is cared for and supported. We deeply appreciate all you do for the church and our community.



*The poinsettias placed in the church today
are given in loving memory of:*

Phyllis G. Bottamini
by Bruce Bottamini
Gosta, Etta and Ruth Romberg
George and Margaret Burton
by Tom and Susan Burton and family
Robert and Rachel Roy
John and MaryAnn Lloyd
by the Burton family
My parents, William and Alice Cordell
by Patricia Cordell
Lynn Stauble
Bob and Jean Burns
Sheila Richardson
by Allison, Dan, Caroline, and Adelaide D'Ambrosio
Jonathan Gilmour
Ethel Gilmour de Uribe
Betsy Gilmour Hyde
by David and Peggy Gilmour
Judson and Elaine Hyde
John and Dorothy Detwiller
by Chris and Dot Hyde
Carleton Jones
by Craig and Vickie Jones and family
Harold and Everdean Hills
Mark Lasko
Margaret Longland
by Steve and Wendy Hills-Longland
Frank Howarth Uncle Jess Pedro Auntie Ada Pedro Jim Gathercoal Austin Barrett
Alice Simonds John Hills Betty Hardy Andrew Stauble David Leibovic
Marian Leibovic Ray Simoneau Linda Piper Mary Chadwick Dotsie Prozeller
Kay Marshall Robert Franklin Smith Joe Cohen Grammie Peaslee Elwin Hardy
Nick and Phyllis Coniaris Emily Courtemanche Aunt Jean Lyford Baily Mort Goulder
Grammie Bellman Hollis and Ellen Nichols Maurice Spike Marvel Lou "Coach" Korcoulis
"Aunt" Louise Kimball Dr. Scott Lorber Lee Anne Whittemore Sylvester Kenneth
Trow



Uncle Peter Lyford Harold and Everdean Hills “Aunt” Libby and “Uncle” Henry Hills
Dr. Edmund Telage Deborah Arthur Robert Ortiz Heather Joy Josette Howarth
Bianca Lewis Fred Lyford Jean-Luc Burin
by Dr. Arthur Lyford and Sophie Howarth

Manaia Maxwell Gray
by Taiao Luke Mason
Darlene Nichols Crosby
by Richard and Jane Nichols

Jean and Ted Sattler
Allen Hornyak
by the Sattler Family

Sara Saunders
Kay Saunders Smith
by Roger and Addie Saunders

1st Lieutenant Jeffrey Haynes Peterson
Mr. and Mrs. Edgar S. Peterson
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald Mann Westberg
by Lin and Jim Westberg

Annette and Frank Adamec
Mattie and Jim Widner
by Eileen and Paul Widner

Russell Dutton Worcester
Lucille Larrabee Worcester
by Joy Worcester Hire and Debby Worcester Woodard

Poinsettias are also given in honor of:

Gordon Beattie
by Susan Lindeberg and Drew Mason



