

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*

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
“Freedom to Rise Again”**

Mother’s Day

May 11th, 2025, 9:30 am

All Members of the Church, Ministers

The Rev. Tanya Stormo Rasmussen, Pastor & Teacher

Julie Oliver, Minister of Christian Music

Kim Burton, Minister of Faith Formation

(Services are being recorded)

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Justin McCarthy, Guest Organist

PRELUDE

Justin McCarthy

GOD’S LIGHT AND WORD PRECEDE OUR WORSHIP

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

CONGREGATIONAL REFRAIN

I will take the cup of freedom and call on the name of God.

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PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of Freedom, our spirits rise because you have revived and restored us. Let us rouse ourselves from sleep so that all may know freedom in you. We come to you in this moment, cups running over with thanksgiving. Amen!

***OPENING HYMN**

Now the Green Blade Riseth

#208

CALL TO CONFESSION

DEACON

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O Creating God who loved us into being, we your children praise you. When we fall, you lift us up. When we fail you restore us. When we are wounded you nurse us. When we grieve you weep with us; when we celebrate you laugh with us.

But sometimes we don’t reach out to you, we are embarrassed, or we forget, or we feel silly. Help us to reach out to you at any and all times of our lives we pray.

Help us also to live as those created in your image, to do as you do: reaching out to others who need our support, our forgiveness, our compassion. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

REV. TANYA

***GLORIA**

“Glory to God”

#37

***PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

The peace of the risen Christ be with you.

And also with you.

I invite you to pass that peace with joy, greeting those around you and those joining us remotely!

A MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Children are invited to come forward to join Pastor Tanya at the front. At the conclusion, we bless them as they depart with the words...

And now as you depart to continue your learning and worship somewhere else, we offer you our blessing:

[Congregation]: God's love be with you.

[Teachers and Children]: And also with you.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 9: 36-43

(Page: 894)

SERMON

"Freedom to Rise Again"

REV. TANYA

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

"As truly as God is our father, so just as truly is God our mother.
In our father, God Almighty, we have our being;
in our merciful mother we are re-made and restored.
Our fragmented lives are knit together and made perfect.
And by giving and yielding ourselves, through grace, to the Holy Spirit
we are made whole."
~ Julian of Norwich

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/>



OFFERTORY

JUSTIN MCCARTHY

***DOXOLOGY**

*Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing today with one accord.
The life laid down, the life restored.
Alleluia! Alleluia. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

***CLOSING HYMN**

Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing

#333

***BENEDICTION**

***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.

***POSTLUDE**

JUSTIN MCCARTHY

* Please stand if you are able.

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Announcements

Children's Day Brunch - Sunday, May 18th, 10:30 am

Join us as we celebrate the close of our program year on Sunday, May 18, during a special Children's Day Worship Service led by our children, their teachers, and our Minister of Faith Formation, Kim Burton.

After worship, all are invited to a Children's Day Brunch in Hardy Hall and out on the Squires Patio (weather permitting). If you're able, please bring something to share — anything from a homemade dish to donuts from Dunkin'!

Have lawn games, bubbles, sidewalk chalk, or something fun to contribute? We'd love that too! Set-up and clean-up help is always appreciated.

Let's come together to honor and celebrate our children and the amazing work they've done this year!

Church's Mission Trips and Service Programs - Monday, May 19th, 6:30 p.m

We're excited to announce that a new Ministry Team has been approved, creating an opportunity to revive and reimagine our church's Mission Trips and service programs for both youth and adults!

This group will investigate a variety of hands-on mission possibilities in marginalized communities, as well as train and support those who want to participate in a trip or event. This was a previously successful and fun group from 2000 – 2019. If you are interested in learning more, please join Tonda Davies and Amy Zapp, on **May 19th, 6:30 p.m.** at the church. We will be getting together to begin the plan toward renewing this treasured tradition in our faith community for our teens and adult mentors.

Summer Chimes – Submissions Due May 15

The Summer Edition of the Chimes (covering **June, July, and August**) is coming soon!

Please submit all announcements, articles, events, or reflections by **Thursday, May 15**.

Be sure to check your calendars and include any summer plans, programs, or updates you'd like to share with the congregation. Thank you for helping us keep our community informed and connected!

Send submissions to: Admin@hollischurch.org

Special Congregational Meeting – Sunday, June 8

All members are encouraged to attend a Special Congregational Meeting immediately following worship on Sunday, June 8, 2025.

We will gather to vote on the Proposed Interim Bylaws, which have been revised based on feedback from previous information sessions. This is an important step in affirming our updated structure and aligning with our church's ongoing mission.

Printed copies of the proposed bylaws are available in the church office, and digital copies can be found on our website.