



Rangeley Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Rangeley, Maine

**Rangeley Congregational Church**  
**United Church of Christ**  
*An Open and Affirming Church*  
**Easter – Resurrection Sunday**

March 31, 2024

10:00 AM

***Meditation:*** *“Hearts rebuilt from hope resurrect dreams killed by hate.”*  
--Aberjhani, *The River of Winged Dreams*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE**

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE *“Prelude on “Victory”*  
Palestrina (1591)/Arr. Garrett Parker

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Liturgist**

GREENING OF THE CROSS

HYMNS FOR GREENING OF THE CROSS

#233 (NCH) *“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”*

#245 (NCH) *“The Day of Resurrection”*

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We gather in the presence of God's love to celebrate the best love story ever told.

**People: The Holy Story of the risen Christ!**

Leader: A story of the risen Christ who came as a sacrificial lamb to heal a hurting world.

**People: The divine sign of God's love and grace.**

Leader: The story of three women who rose early to care for Jesus' body in the tomb.

**People: An act to honor God's loving presence sent to be among us.**

Leader: These women arrived and saw an empty tomb; they were shocked and afraid.

**People: They remembered the symbol of human shame of the old rugged cross.**

Leader: But the story did not end with the crucified Jesus. An Angel of God appeared in the empty tomb, and their terror transformed into amazement.

**People: God's love had once again been revealed.**

Leader: The journey of the three women continued; they were asked to go out and spread the good news of God's love, peace, and justice found in the risen Christ!

**People: Today, we receive this good news; Christ is risen. He is risen as he said!**

## PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\*GATHERING HYMN #230 (NCH)

*"Come You Faithful Raise the Strain"*

## CALL TO CONFESSION

**People:** Gracious and patient God, we come before you with so many things which weigh us down. We would like an easy faith, one that doesn't cause us to look within ourselves, to identify those many ways in which we have forsaken you. But faith is never easy. It requires our very souls. Forgive us, God, for all those things which we have neglected to do that would have helped someone else to be closer to you. Heal our hearts from the wounds which have been inflicted upon us by the anger and misunderstandings which occur in relationships. Prepare our lives to be of service to you. We long for your presence and your healing touch. Amen.

Silent reflection on these words

WORDS OF GRACE AND ASSURANCE.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE

Acts 10:34-43

**Liturgist**

Mark 16:1-8

SERMON "What Happened Next?"

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #231 (NCH)

*"Because You Live O Christ"*

## SERVICE OF PRAYER

### PRAYER FOR ALL GOD'S PEOPLE

*(As you name a joy or concern later in the prayer, please finish by saying "This is my prayer." The church family responds by saying "This is our prayer.")*

**We pray for:** *Donald Knowles, Priscilla St. Louis, Kit & Linda Caspar, Linda Caspar's sister Marilyn Dixon, Forrest Stephens, Kris Nozal, Anne Crump, Jeff & Carol Ellinwood, Bobby & Leeanna Wilbur, Tim & Sarah Johnson, Erin Smith's parents Carol & Dan Perkins, Patrick Egan, and we pray for all those who guide and lead us in worship.*

### OUR 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, sins, trespasses) as we forgive those who (sin,  
trespass) against us. And lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the  
power and the glory forever and ever. AMEN.**

### CHORAL AMEN #236 (NCH)

*"Halleluja"*

## SERVICE OF GIVING

### INVITATION / OFFERING

Leader:        Loving God, the abundance of your generosity  
                      is exemplified in the dawning of the sun.

**People:**       **Thank you for the joy and hope of new mercies found in the morning sun.**

Leader:       Even in moments when we are showered by the rain, remind us that your love never fails.

**People:**       **Rain down your abundant love and redeeming grace upon us.**

Leader:       Let us give our offerings with generosity and joy to the One who has faithfully and generously given to us love, grace, and mercy.

OFFERTORY MUSIC *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”*

Tune: CORONATION/Arr. Janet Vogt

#### DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God all creatures here below;

Praise God above ye heavenly host;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

#### \*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION

#### CLOSING HYMN #249 (NCH)

*“Peace I Leave With You My Friends”*

#### BENEDICTION

#### POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

*“The Day of Resurrection”*

Tune: LANCASHIRE/Arr. Larry Shackley

**~Special thanks to all who contributed their time, talents and gifts for today's service:**

- Pastor Scott Hatfield, **Leading Worship Service**
- Rick Baker, **Liturgist**
- Claire Chase, **Deacon of the Week**
- Lucy Simonds, **Zoomigo**
- Sarah & Tim Johnson, **Coffee Hour**

**~This Week:**

- Piano Lessons w/ Erin, April 1, 2, 3, & 5 Sanctuary, Apr 4, 3-5pm, East Room

**~Next Week:**

- Total Solar Eclipse, April 8
- Finance Meeting, April 8, 2:45pm, East Room & Zoom
- Piano Lessons w/ Erin, April 8, 9, 10 & 12, Sanctuary, April 11, 3-5pm, East Room
- Women's Winter Social, April 12, 10am-12pm, Barn

Pastoral Care Services	Rev. Tony MacNaughton	207-864-3355
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<u>Deacon of week</u>	Claire Chase	207-712-0490

