



Rangeley Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ  
Rangeley, Maine

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

April 27, 2025

10:00 AM

**Meditation:**

“The ultimate test of a moral society is the kind of world that it leaves to its children”

*-Dietrich Bonhoeffer*

**ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE**

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

*“The Risen Lord”*

Tunes: GELOBT SEI GOTT & EASTER HYMN/ Arr. Eugene Butler

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Liturgist**

CALL TO WORSHIP

**Leader & People**

Leader: God of peace, we enter this holy room  
knowing the gospel’s cornerstones of grace  
and mercy are often rejected in our world.

People: **Yet we understand that rejection is not the  
end of the story. We know that those we have**

**come to know as the builders and the rulers  
of the world do not have the final word.**

**Leader:** The Gospel of Grace is the Lord's doing.

**People:** **Despite powers and principalities, despite the  
clamoring of meanness and cruelty, this is the  
day that the Lord has made.**

**Leader:** Grace is the ground upon which we walk.

**All:** **Let us rejoice and be glad.**

#### **INVOCATION (Unison)**

**Into your presence we come, God of Grace and Peace, who  
was, and is and ever shall be the eternal One. Into  
fellowship we come, bound together in the love that died  
and rose again for us, our Savior Jesus Christ, in whose  
name we pray. Amen.**

**GATHERING HYMN #193 (PH).**

*"Thine Is the Glory"*

#### **CALL TO CONFESSION**

##### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)**

**Holy God, we have found ourselves in fear. We have lost  
ourselves in anxiety so loud we have not heard your voice.  
We have not recognized you on the move in the world. We  
have believed in the finality of your death and assumed all  
is left to our own meager efforts. We have refused to see,  
so we might not have to believe the gospel and live our  
lives accordingly. God of new life, restore hope  
throughout our bodies. Help us to breathe again.  
Strengthen us for the joy that is before us. Grant us eyes to**

**see your beloved people all around us and ears to hear your good news through all the noise. Even as we have looked away, come to see us, call us forth from our locked rooms and bring us out to walk with you in the world you so love. Amen.**

*Silent reflection on these words*

#### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The God of truth is present to us in the speaking of truth.  
The Spirit of grace is present to us in the sharing of grace.  
The Good News of the Gospel is that in Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

### **THE WORD OF GOD**

#### **SCRIPTURE**

Isaiah 65:17-25

**Liturgist**

Luke 24:1-12

**SERMON**     I Have Seen the Lord

**\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #249(NCH)**

*"Peace I Leave with You, My Friends"*

### **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: The family & friends of Meredith Loudon on her recent passing, the Hatfield family on the recent passing of Paula's father, Paul Behrman, Dave Walker's nephew, Jameson Walker; Marlene Knowles' father, Mac Brackett; Linda Caspar's brother-in-law, Conrad Guerra and nephew, William Lane. We pray for Ray Franson, Carol & Dan Perkin, Bill & Mary Richards, Gerry Adams & Diane Schnellhammer, Kathy & Jim Wilcox, Heidi Ross, Tim & Sarah Johnson, and Georgie Gimbel. We pray for all those whose lives are impacted by natural disasters, gun violence, conflict, and war around the world and here at home.*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### 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)  
(Sing 3x)

*"Halleluja"*

## CALL FOR THE OFFERING

### OFFERTORY MUSIC

Gabriel Fauré/Arr. Lani Smith

*"Pie Jesu"*

## 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 DEDICATION (Unison)

**God of abundance, take these gifts, which were already yours, and use them to knit us closer to each other and closer to the world you so love. Amen.**

## \*CLOSING HYMN

*“Christ is the Truth, the Way”*

Tune: DIADEMATA/Words: Ruth Duck

Christ is the truth, the way, the center of our life.  
Christ shares the struggles of our day, our earthly joy and strife.  
Redeeming what is lost, and healing those in pain,  
Christ walks the valley of the cross, the servant's glad domain.

Christ is the power of peace, of lasting harmony,  
In Christ, the wars of earth shall cease; Christ is our unity.  
The lion shall lie down in peace beside the lamb.  
The mighty shall lay down their crowns before the great “I Am”.

Christ is our living head, our sole authority.  
By Christ's own spirit we are led to serve humanity.  
We follow where Christ leads when others' pain we bear;  
Responding to our neighbors' needs, Christ's cross and crown we share.

## \*THE BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

*"The Day of Resurrection"*

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

- Rev. Stan Wheeler, **Leading Worship Service**
- Rick Baker, **Liturgist**
- Joann Bean, **Deacon of the Week**
- Claire Chase, **Zoomigo**
- Sarah & Tim Johnson, **Coffee Hour**

**~This Week:**

- Rev. Stan Wheeler, Leading Worship, April 27
- Handbell Choir, April 28, 8- 9:30am, Sanctuary
- Piano/Voice lessons, April 29, 30, & May 2, 3-5pm,
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, April 30, 9am, Barn

**~Next Week:**

- Handbell Choir, May 5, 8- 9:30am, Sanctuary
- Mahjong in the Barn, May 5, 1-3pm, Barn
- Piano/Voice lessons, May 6, 7 & 9, 3-5pm, Sanctuary
- Mom & Baby Social Hour, May 7, 9am, Barn
- Women's Fellowship, May 9, 10-12pm. Barn

<u>Pastoral Care Services</u>	Rev. Tony MacNaughton	207-864-3355
<u>Church Secretary</u>	rangeleyucc@gmail.com	207-864-5966
<u>Minister of Music:</u>	Sue Downes-Borko	207-864-3951
<u>Council President:</u>	Cyndy Egan	207-864-2255
<u>Co-Chair of Deacons:</u>	Claire Chase Lucy Simonds	207-712-0490 207-462-2101
<u>Deacon of the week</u>	Joann Bean	207-670-5000