

Rangeley Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
January 11, 2026
Service of Quiet and Contemplative Prayer

INVITATION

Listen

“The first word in the Rule of Benedict is “Listen”. This means not simply hearing the sound of words, but listening attentively with our whole being. As Benedict would say:

‘Listen . . . with the ear of your heart.’

Wisdom Speaks to The Heart - Interlude (MWP)

MEDITATION

“We embody God’s justice.

Without our hands and our hearts, how will God’s love be manifest to our world?

Without prayer how can we give birth to new vision?”

BEING OPEN TO GOD’S PRESENCE

Opening Our Lives - Prelude (MWP)

Prayer for Meditation

“O God, we come to you, we pray, “Open our lives.

Open our lives for the good of this world”

We are your hands; we are your heart.” Amen

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 46:1-3 *adapted (Unison)*

You are my refuge and my strength

A very present help in trouble

Therefore, I shall not fear, though

The earth should change, though the mountains

Shake in the heart of the sea; though the waters roar and foam . . .

COMING INTO PRAYER

(Unison)

To bear one another’s burdens in prayer is a holy privilege.

It also demands a willingness to be a channel for God’s power.

Open our hearts to the needs of others.

Open our hearts to God’s love and power.

TIME FOR SILENT AND SHARED PRAYER

CLOSING OUR TIME OF PRAYER

Wisdom at Play - Postlude (MWP)

Meditation

“Day after day, God’s wisdom at play in the universe,
Delighting to be with us, the children of earth.”

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

(Unison)

**We give praise and thanks to you, O God!
In Jesus Christ, you have given us life;
brought ministry, forgiveness, healing, and peace;
commanded the disciples to heal the sick;
and continued the healing ministry among us to this day.**

Keep us mindful of your love and mercy

That we may be faithful

Throughout all of our days,

In the name of Jesus Christ.

Amen

BENEDICTION

May God Bless you and keep you.

May God’s face shine upon you
and be gracious to you.

May God look upon you with kindness
and give you peace.

SONG OF PARTING

NCH 438 When Peace, Like a River

Music and liner notes are from the album “Wisdom at Play, and experience in prayerful listening” by the Monks of Weston Priory (MWP). 2011.