



Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Rangeley, Maine

Rangeley Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Church
Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

Meditation:

“It took me a long time to understand that God is not the enemy of my enemies. God is not even the enemy of God’s enemies.”

— Martin Niemöller

August 30, 2026

10:00 AM

ORDER OF WORSHIP

OUR GATHERING AND PRAISE

RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE

“Light of a Clear Blue Morning”

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Liturgist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Seek the Lord! Seek God in the wilderness.

People: **Seek God in the sanctuary.**

Leader: Seek God in the burning bush.

People: **Seek God in the burning heart.**

Leader: The Lord is here! This place is holy!

People: **We are standing on holy ground.**

*GATHERING HYMN #588 (NCH)

"Let Justice Flow like Streams"

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

Almighty God, we come before You today with grateful hearts. Thank You for gathering us in Your name. Quiet our minds, open our hearts, and draw us near to You. Let every song sung and word spoken bring honor to Your holy name. Fill this place with Your peace and guide our time of worship. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Sin casts us out into the cold, but the warmth of God's forgiveness welcomes us back. Trusting in God's love, let us confess our sins to God:

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

God of wonders, we confess that we do not understand why you call us when we are scared, clumsy, busy or flawed. We confess that we think we know better than you do who is qualified to do your work. Forgive our fears and excuses and self-doubts. Lend us your fire and your strength, as we go about the work of serving our neighbors, building up your church, loving your children, and tending to the scorched places of our world. Help us to burn for you, without burning up or burning out. Give us a purpose and the courage to pursue it. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

Silent reflection on these words

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE

Romans 12:9-21

Matthew 16:21-28

Liturgist

Liturgist

SERMON Do Not Be Overcome By Evil

*HYMN OF RESPONSE #596 (NCH)

“Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me”

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: Peter and Nini Christensen, Don & Susie Welch, Corinne Morton, Cyndy Egan’s parents David & Dianne Scammon, Sheila Raymond, Marlene Knowles’ daughter-in-law, Shannon Linder, Crystal Haley, Susan & Jack Tourtillotte, Maxie & AJ Elmes and their son, Granger, Bill & Mary Richards, Kathy & Jim Wilcox, Heidi Ross, Tim & Sarah Johnson, and finally, we pray for all those whose lives are impacted by natural disasters, violence, war, and those suffering from personal life challenges 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 #812 (NCH)

"Threefold Amen"

SERVICE OF GIVING

CALL FOR THE OFFERING

With gratitude for all God has given us, let us return our offerings to God.

OFFERTORY MUSIC

"Grant Us Wisdom to Perceive"

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)

**Generous God, we offer our gifts to you, grateful for all
you have given us, and grateful for the chance to give to
others. Build up your church through these offerings, that**

**we might be a place where your goodness is seen,
practiced, and shared. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN #77 (NCH)**

“Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing”

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE AND EXTINGUISHING OF THE CANDLES

“Time Waits for No One”

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

- **Rev. Stan Wheeler for leading worship service**
- **Nancy Zambraski, Liturgist**
- **Linda Caspar, Deacon of the Week**
- **Lucy Simonds, Zoomigo**
- **Erin Smith, Music Leader**
- **Millie Hoekstra, for providing Coffee Hour**

~Next Week:

- **Pastor Scott Hatfield provides worship on Sept. 6**
- **Mahjong in the Barn, Sept. 7, 1-3pm**
- **Women’s Fellowship meets Sept. 11, 10-12, Barn**

*If you have a need for pastoral care, please get in touch with
a Deacon or Scott Hatfield. All numbers are listed below.
If you are in need of pastoral care at Franklin Hospital,
Rev. Stan Wheeler may be called and, if he is available, will
attend to your pastoral needs.*

Pastor Scott Hatfield 207-670-8141
Rev. Stan Wheeler 207-491-5824

Deacons:

Lucy Simonds 207-462-2101
Claire Chase 207-712-0490
Linda Caspar 207-670-5073
Fred Dubay 207-864-5234
Nancy Zambraski 207-864-2250
Joann Bean 207-670-5000

<u>Church Secretary</u>	rangeleyucc@gmail.com	207-864-5966
<u>Song Leader:</u>	Erin Perkins Smith	207-670-5153
<u>Council President:</u>	Cyndy Egan	207-864-2255
<u>Co-Chair of</u>	Claire Chase	207-712-0490
<u>Deacons:</u>	Lucy Simonds	207-462-2101
<u>Deacon of week</u>	Linda Caspar	207-670-5073