

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

September 3, 2017: Forest Sunday

Please silence all electronic devices. Thank you!

** indicates times when you're invited to rise in body or spirit*

Gathering Music & The Ringing of the Church Bell

Greetings and Announcements

A Prayer for Roots

Prelude and Lighting of the Altar Lights

Fantasy on 'When Morning Gilds the Skies' Dan R. Edwards

Call to Worship *(from the Chinook Psalter)*

How lovely are thy holy groves, God of heaven and earth

**My soul longs and faints
for the circle of thy trees**

My heart and flesh sing with joy to thee

O God of life!

***Opening Hymn:** All Things Bright and Beautiful Pilgrim Hymnal 478

Prayer of Confession: *(from U.N. Environmental Sabbath Program)*

Holy One, we have forgotten who we are.

We have forgotten who we are.

We have alienated ourselves from the unfolding of the cosmos.

We've become estranged from the movements of the earth.

We have sought only our own security.

**We have exploited simply for our own ends. We have
distorted our knowledge. We have abused our power.**

We have forgotten who we are.

**Now the land is barren and the waters are poisoned and the
air is polluted. We have forgotten who we are.**

Now the forests are dying and the creatures are disappearing

And humans are despairing. We ask forgiveness.

We ask for the gift of remembering who and Whose we are.

We ask for the strength to change.

Words of Assurance

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

trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And

lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine

is the kingdom, & the power, & the glory, forever. Amen

***Gloria Patri: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the**

Holy Ghost, as it was in the beginning, is now,

and ever shall be, world without end! Amen, Amen!

Hebrew Scripture Reading: Genesis 2:4-9

KJV 2/CEB 1/MSG 21

A Witness for the Forest

Keith Turdo

Pastoral Prayer: May the Lord be with you

And also with you

Lift up your hearts

We lift them up unto the Lord

Let us give thanks to the Lord

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

Offertory: *Song of Hope*

Iouri Grichetchkine

***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

New Testament Reading: Revelation 22:1-3 KJV 917/CEB 948/MSG 1719

Reflection: Into the Woods

Rev. Holly Morrison

Sacrament of Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Closing Hymn:** Like a Tree Beside the Waters (NCH #313) Insert

Benediction

Extinguishing the Altar Lights: *Take the Light of Christ into the world!*

Postlude: *Forest Green*

Traditional English melody

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Sharon Bond Lay Reader: Kathy Totten

Head/Asst Deacons: Ann Bradbury, Kathy Totten, Berenice Knight

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Welcome to the Phippsburg Congregational Church! Please sign our guest book in the narthex and stay for refreshments and fellowship in the Linden Tree Meeting House following the service. No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

Need a Large-print bulletin, bible, or hearing-assist device? Please ask one of our deacons for these.

CALENDAR

- Sun. Sept. 3* **FALL WORSHIP TIME: 10:00 AM (one service)**
Seasons of Creation: "Forest Sunday"
- Tues. Sept 5* *Bell Choir Handbell Polishing, 1 PM*
- Thurs. Sept 7* *Bell Choir Handbell Polishing, 9 AM*
- Sun. Sept. 10* *Seasons of Creation: "Land Sunday"*
UCC Midcoast Association Fall Meeting:
3:00 Business meeting, Edgecomb UCC
4:00 Installation of Rev. Josh Fitterling
- Sun. Sept. 17* *Seasons of Creation: "Wilderness Sunday"*
2nd Annual "Pastor's Pasture Picnic" 3-6 PM

OFFICE HOURS FOR SEPTEMBER 3 – 10: This week, Holly will be in the office Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 4 PM. (Other hours by arrangement.) Holly can be reached by phone or email as needs or concerns arise: (207)504-0107 / revcelt@gmail.com.

BUCKET LIST FOR HURRICANE HARVEY RELIEF:

Maine UCC Churches are assembling disaster cleanup kits for Church World Service. Please find shopping/assembly lists in the Narthex. All buckets due by Sept. 17th!

2nd ANNUAL PASTOR'S PASTURE PICNIC: SEPT 17th

An invitation to all PCC Members, Family & Friends: Please join us at Holly & Sue's Farm at 44 Leighton Rd, Pownal, for a Pot-luck Picnic from 3-6 PM. Watch for driving directions in next week's email newsletter and bulletin. Plan your carpool now!

FOREST SUNDAY



Let the trees be consulted before you take any action
every time you breathe in thank a tree
let treeroots crack parking lots at the world bank headquarters
let loggers be druids specially trained and rewarded
to sacrifice trees at auspicious times
let carpenters be master artisans
let lumber be treasured like gold
let chainsaws be played like saxophones
let soldiers on maneuvers plant trees
give police and criminals a shovel and a thousand seedlings
let businessmen carry pocketfuls of acorns
let newlyweds honeymoon in the woods
walk don't drive
stop reading newspapers
stop writing poetry
squat under a tree
and tell stories

--John Wright

Rev. Holly Morrison, pastor & teacher

www.phippsburgucc.org

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