

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

August 20, 2017: Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Please silence all electronic devices. Thank you!

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

Greetings and Announcements

***Opening Prayer**

Women: Among the poor, among the proud,

Men: among the persecuted, among the privileged,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

Women: In the private house, in the public place,

Men: In the wedding feast, in the judgement hall,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

Women: With a gentle touch, with an angry word,

Men: With a clear conscience, with burning love,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

Women: That the kingdom might come, that the world might believe,

Men: That the powerful might stumble, that the hidden might be seen

Christ is coming to make all things new.

Within us, without us, behind us, before us,

In this place, in every place, for this time, for all time,

Christ is coming to make all things new.

***Song of Praise:** Christ Be Beside Me

Insert

Prayer Response: Goodness is stronger than evil.

Love is stronger than hate.

Light is stronger than darkness.

Truth is stronger than lies.

Word of God

In the beginning was the Word

And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

A reading from Matthew 15, verses 10-28 (*scripture is read*)

For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us,

For the Word of God within us,

Thanks be to God.

Prayers of the People

Let us pray. Holy God, though this world depends on your grace, it is governed and tended by mortals. So we pray for those who walk the corridors of power, in this and other lands, whose judgements we value or fear. (names may be said aloud)

May they always consider those they represent, make decisions with courage and integrity, and resist any temptation to abuse the trust placed in them.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those who hold key positions in the worlds of finance, business, and industry, whose decisions may profit some or impoverish many. (names may be said aloud)

May they always value people higher than profit; may they never impose burdens on the poor which they would not carry themselves; and may they never divorce money from morality or ownership from stewardship.

Lord, graciously hear us.

We pray for those in the caring professions who look after, and listen to, kind, cruel, and cantankerous folk, and for those who make decisions regarding the health and welfare of states and nations. (names may be said aloud)

May they always sense the sanctity of life and every person's gifts; may they help and heal by their interest as well as their skill; and may they be saved from tiredness and an excess of demands.

Lord, graciously hear us.

And let us remember those for whom we are responsible, and to whom we are accountable, in what we do today. (names may be said) May we show them the thoughtfulness, acceptance, and loving-kindness of Jesus.

This we pray in Jesus' name. AMEN.

Lord, hear our prayers, and if today we might be the means by which you answer the prayers of others, then may you find us neither deaf nor defiant, but keen to fulfill your purpose, for Jesus' sake. **AMEN.**

Invitation to Offering

***Closing Response:**

From where we are, to where you lead us,

Jesus, now lead on.

From the security of what we know to the adventure you will reveal,

Jesus, now lead on.

To refashion the fabric of this world until it resembles the shape of
your kingdom,

Jesus, now lead on.

Because good things have been prepared for those who love God,

Jesus, now lead on.

Thanks to today's service participants:

Head/Asst Deacons: Mary Hartman, Ellen Parker, Julia Peacock

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Welcome to the Phippsburg Congregational Church! 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. Aug. 20 9:00 Regular service
 10:00 Fellowship time
 10:30 Praise & Prayer from Iona Abbey
 12:30 Blessing of the Fleet*

Tues. Aug. 22 7:00 Church Council

OFFICE HOURS FOR AUGUST 20-27:

Holly will be in the office Thursday, 10 AM – 4 PM. Please call or
email as needs arise: (207)504-0107 / revcelt@gmail.com.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE: On the Scottish island of Iona—an ancient site
of pilgrimage—a new community works to revitalize congregational
worship. Their work is shaped by Celtic traditions & the emerging
experience of Christians around the world. This morning's service is
drawn from the [Iona Abbey Worship Book](#) and [A Wee Worship Book](#),
© 2001 & 1999, respectively, by the Iona Community and their Wild
Goose Resource Group.

Morning Praise and Prayer with the Iona Community



We honor and respect those who have gone before,
lighting the candles of our faith and opening the doors
of our beloved church in welcome to all who enter.
We acknowledge and accept our responsibility to be
good stewards of this church and faith community.
We believe Jesus fully revealed our living God's unconditional love
and calls us to share that love with all so that we may
help transform the world and ourselves.
We value community and celebrate those distinct gifts
we each bring to our community.
We strive to actively practice generosity, hospitality,
and stewardship of all of God's creation.
And in all things we seek the Righteousness, Justice, and Peace
that is God's Shalom on earth as it is in heaven.

Rev. Holly Morrison, pastor & teacher

www.phippsburgucc.org

Office: 207-389-1767 Pastor: 207-504-0107

Christ be beside me

1. Christ be beside me,
Christ be before me,
Christ be behind me,
King of my heart.
Christ be within me,
Christ be below me,
Christ be above me,
never to part.
2. Christ on my right hand,
Christ on my left hand,
Christ all around me,
shield in the strife.
Christ in my sleeping,
Christ in my sitting,
Christ in my rising,
light of my life.
3. Christ be in all hearts
thinking about me,
Christ be in all tongues
telling of me.
Christ be the vision
in eyes that see me,
in ears that hear me,
Christ ever be.

Words: Adapted from 'St Patrik's Breastplate' (8th Century) by J. Quinn, S.J.
Tune: BUNESSAN / Morning Has Broken, Gaelic traditional

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