

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

August 27, 2017: Twelfth 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**

O God, you summon the day to dawn,
you teach the morning to waken the earth

Great is your name. Great is your love.

For you the valleys shall sing for joy,
the trees of the field shall clap their hands

Great is your name. Great is your love.

For you the monarchs of the earth shall bow,
the poor and persecuted shall shout for joy.

Great is your name. Great is your love.

Your love and mercy shall last for ever,
fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise.

Great is your name. Great is your love.

***Song of Praise:** Song for Love

Insert

Prayer Response: One: Hallowed be your name.

ALL: Hallowed be your name.

Early in the morning, in the multicolored company
of your Church on earth and in heaven, we celebrate
your creation, your life, your death & resurrection, your interest in us:

So to you we pray:

**Lord, bring new life where we are worn and tired,
new love where we have turned hard-hearted,
forgiveness where we feel hurt and where we have wounded,
and the joy and freedom of your Holy Spirit
where we are prisoners of ourselves.** (a time of silent prayer)

To all and to each, where regret is real, God pronounces pardon
and grants us the right to begin again. Thanks be to God!

AMEN!

Word of God

The scripture is found in Paul's letter to the Christians in Rome,
chapter 12, verses 1-8. Let us listen for the Word of the Lord.
(scripture is read)

This is the Word of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Prayers for the day

Let us prepare ourselves for the day before us,
and claim its potential sent by God.

Let us pray.

We bring to God our concerns for today...

*(concerns may be named. Each concern is met by this shared
response: **Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.**)*

We bring to God the people of this day...

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

And let us pray for ourselves...

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Lord, give us wisdom before we speak, understanding while we listen,
sensitivity towards those we meet, and the perspective of your
kingdom, in which to see the things of the earth.

Bring us to this day's ending,
blessed through having shared the day's beginning.

In Christ's name we ask this. **Amen.**

***Song of Response:** We Rejoice to Be God's Chosen

Insert

Blessing

May God bless us; may God keep us in the Spirit's care
and lead our lives with love.

**May Christ's warm welcome shine from our hearts
And Christ's own peace prevail through this and every day,
Till greater life shall call. AMEN.**

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. Sept. 3 *FALL WORSHIP TIME: 10:00 AM (one service)*
Seasons of Creation: "Forest Sunday"
- 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 AUGUST 27-SEPTEMBER 2:

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

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP: SEASONS OF CREATION

Celebrate the gifts of the earth—and our call to care for Creation! This year's themes include Forest, Land, Wilderness, and River. If you have related hymns, poems, or quotes—or a personal reflection--on any of these themes to share, please contact us: pccoffice1@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

SONG FOR LOVE

Words: Anna Briggs / Tune: AR HYD Y NOS (“All Through the Night”)

Now we sing to praise love's blessing, all through our lives.

Laughter, joy, surprise confessing, all through our lives.

Love that dreamed a new creation,

Love that dared an incarnation,

Love that offers transformation, all through our lives.

How our wounds ache for love's healing, all through our days.

How our world needs love's revealing, in all its ways.

Fearful hearts suspect the stranger,

Hardened nations arm for danger,

Love lives on, the powerful changer,

all through our days.

Love's the grace that makes us caring, all through our lives.

Urges us to warmth and sharing, all through our lives.

Speaks in us, oppression naming,

Strives in us, injustice shaming,

Lives in us, true peace proclaiming,

all through our lives.

Love's the clown that mocks at winning, all through the world,

Midwife of a new beginning, all through the world.

In the struggles that confound us,

In the chaos all around us,

Love's wide arms with hope surround us,

all through the world.

WE REJOICE TO BE GOD'S CHOSEN

Words: John L. Bell & Graham Maule

Tune: NETTLETON (“Come Thou Fount of Ev'ry Blessing”)

We rejoice to be God's chosen

Not through virtue, work or skill,

But because God's love is gen'rous,

Unconformed to human will.

And because God's love is restless,

Like the surging of the sea,

We are pulled by Heav'n's dynamic

To become, not just to be.

We rejoice to be God's chosen,

To be gathered to God's side,

Not to build a pious ghetto

Or be steeped in selfish pride;

But to celebrate the goodness

Of the One who sets us free

From the smallness of our vision

To become, not just to be.

We rejoice to be God's chosen,

To align with heav'n's intent,

To await where we are summoned

And accept where we are sent.

We rejoice to be God's chosen

And, amidst all that we see,

To anticipate with wonder

That the best is yet to be.

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