

***Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC***

*Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!*

**December 31, 2017: First Sunday of Christmas**

*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**

**Centering Prayer**

**Prelude and Lighting of the Altar Lights**

*"The Herald Angels" Stults*

Helene Thomas & Bill Gilman

**Lighting of the Christmas Candle**

**Psalm 148 Responsive Reading**

Kitty Paiste

Praise God from heaven, praise him from the mountaintops;

**Praise him, all you his angels, praise him, all you his warriors,**

Praise him, sun and moon, praise him, you morning stars;

**Praise him, high heaven, praise him, heavenly rain clouds;**

Praise, oh let them praise the name of God—

**he spoke the word, and there they were!**

He set them in place from all time to eternity;

**He gave his orders, and that's it!**

Praise God from earth, you sea dragons, you fathomless ocean deeps;

**Fire and hail, snow and ice, hurricanes obeying his orders;**

Mountains and all hills, apple orchards and cedar forests;

**Wild beasts and herds of cattle, snakes, and birds in flight;**

Earth's kings and all races, leaders and important people,

Robust men and women in their prime, and yes, graybeards and little

children.

**Let them praise the name of God—it's the only Name worth praising.**

His radiance exceeds anything in earth and sky; he's built a

monument—his very own people!

**Praise from all who love God! Israel's children, intimate friends of**

**God. Hallelujah!**

**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,  
and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. 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!**

**Time for All God's Children**

Berenice Knight

**Congregational 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!**

**Offering & Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**\*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.**

**\*Hymn: O Come All Ye Faithful**

Pilgrim Hymnal 132

**Hymn Sing (Congregational Requests)**

**\*Hymn: Joy To The World**

Pilgrim Hymnal 130

**Benediction**

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

**Postlude**

**Thanks to today's service participants:**

Organist: Bill Gilman      Lay Reader: Kitty Paiste

Head/Asst Deacons: Berenice Knight & George Langbehn

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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. Dec. 31:      10 AM: First Sunday of Christmas, Carol Sing

Sun. Jan. 7:      10 AM: Second Sunday of Christmas

Tues. Jan 9:      10 AM – 3 PM Boundary Awareness Training  
7 PM: Deacons Meeting

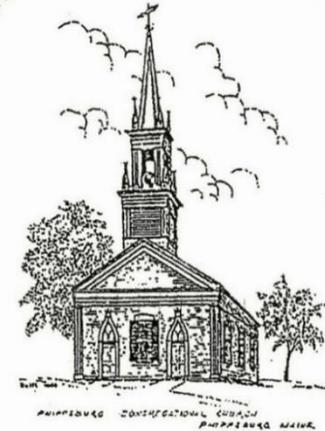
**2018 Boundary Awareness Training Opportunity Sponsored by the Maine Conference UCC**

**"Ready, Set, NO: Setting Limits and Doing Better at Self-Care"** with Rev. Darren Morgan. In his life and ministry, Jesus took time away to feast with friends. Consider this your invitation to do likewise, to be nourished and fed with the Spirit of colleagues in ministry, and to embrace better self-care.

**10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 9, 2018 @ Congregational Church of Wells, 1695 Post Road, Wells. \$25. Includes a box lunch.**

**Register at [maineucc.org/boundary-awareness-training-registration](http://maineucc.org/boundary-awareness-training-registration)**

Phippsburg Congregational Church



United Church of Christ  
est. 1765

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.

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**Rev. Holly S. Morrison, pastor & teacher**

**[www.phippsburgucc.org](http://www.phippsburgucc.org)**

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