

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

January 7, 2018: First Sunday of Epiphany

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

How Lovely is the Morning Star

Johann Pachelbel

Call to Worship

Arise, shine, for your light has come.

The glory of the Lord has risen upon us

For darkness shall cover the earth,

But the Lord will arise upon us.

Nations shall come to this light,

And monarchs to this brightening dawn.

They shall bring gold and frankincense

They shall praise and proclaim the glory of God!

***Hymn:** Arise, Your Light Has Come (NCH 164)

Insert

Prayer of Confession

Star-child, Earth child, we meet you on the edge of this new year.
From eternity into our daily grind, you come. Your love is revealed,
shocking as a blizzard's blast, radiant as the warmth of a woodstove.

Yet the cold has seeped into our bones. It is tempting to tighten
our grip, to dwell on the old aches, to resent the dirty footprints you
make, Jesus. Help us open the door to you anyway. Help us thaw
out our hearts and let you inside, to share this space and bring new
light to our lives.

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 1:1-5 KJV 1 /CEB 1 /MSG 19

Time for All God's Children

***Hymn:** Brightest and Best of the Sons of the Morning

PH 126

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: *Impression on We Three Kings*

Alfred Fedak

***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.

Prayer of Dedication

Gospel Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

KJV 703 /CEB 733 /MSG 1331

Message: Shining in the Storm

Rev. Holly S. Morrison

A Gift of Music: Home By Another Way

Three Wise Men

The Sacrament of Communion *(GF bread is in the small cups on plates)*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Benediction

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

Postlude: *Fanfare and Toccata on The First Noel*

Dennis Janzer

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Ann Harltzler Lay Reader: Berenice Knight
Head/Asst Deacons: Laurie Simpson/ Berenice Knight & Chip Simpson
Special Music: Chip Simpson & sons
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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. Jan. 7: 10 AM: Feast of Epiphany
 Special Offering – The Christmas Fund
Tues. Jan 9: Deacons Meeting 7PM, LTMH
Fri. Jan. 13: CONCERT: State Street Jazz Band, 7:30 PM

Jazz Up The New Year: These Old-school New Orleans jazz musicians are bonded by a passion to play and preserve traditional New Orleans "Preservation Hall" jazz. Find out more and buy tickets online at www.phippsburgucc.org/concerts.

Christmas Fund Offering: Today's special offering, one of five UCC offerings through the year, brings vital assistance to retired and low-income church workers whose service has placed them in financial need. Funds cover emergency grants, medical cost assistance, pension assistance, and thank-you gifts to retired clergy of limited means.

Annual Reports Due: Please send committee reports to Amanda at pccoffice1@gmail.com so she can compile them prior to our Annual Meeting. Reports may be also be mailed/brought to the church office.

New England Women's Celebration: April 6-8, 2018, Portland, ME
2018 Theme: "A Seat at the Table." Keynoters include Leslie Lewin of *Seeds of Peace* & National UCC leader, Rev. Traci Blackmon. More info at <http://www.uccwomenscelebration.org/home>.

The Feast of Epiphany



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 S. Morrison, pastor & teacher

www.phippsburgucc.org

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