

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

December 30, 2018: First Sunday of Christmas

Please silence all electronic devices. Thank you!

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

Prelude & The Ringing of the Church Bell

'Infant Holy, Infant Lowly' ('W Zlobie Lezy') Don Freudenburg

Greetings and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Lights

Call to Seek the Light: Lighting the Christ Candle

Into this world, this broken world, fractured by fighting,
full of shattered dreams and unwieldy empires:

God came as a child: Emmanuel, God with us.

God came as a child, crying, hungry, reaching out...

**A child who looked like us, and like every child,
everywhere, laughing, crying, all around the world.**

And now this child is born again, among us.

**And this is Christmas. Not a day, but a season,
A season of promise and growing light.**

And so we light the Christ candle.

And the light of Christ is renewed in all our hearts!

***Hymn:** "Hark, The Herald Angels Sing" Pilgrim Hymnal 120

Responsive Reading See Insert

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!**

Lectionary Reading: Colossians 3:12-16 KJV /CEB / MSG

Time for All God's Children

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: *'Of the Father's Love Begotten'* Wilbur Held

***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

Gospel Reading: Luke 2:1-20 KJV /CEB /MSG

Christmas Carol Sing: *(Please call out titles and page numbers of your
favorite carols. We will sing two or three verses of each carol—your
choice! We will finish with "Joy to the World.")*

***Closing Hymn:** "Joy to the World" Pilgrim Hymnal 130

Benediction *(Responsive)*

God has come to live with us!

Cosmic and comic, with eyes still full of stars,

Emmanuel, God-With-Us:

Here, with hands and feet and a face like ours!

Blessed and beloved, we go, to embody this Holy Love!

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

Postlude: *'My Dancing Day'* David Schelat

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Ann Hartzler Lay Reader: Chip Simpson

Head/Asst. Deacons: Berenice Knight / Laurie Simpson & Ann Bradbury

Copyrighted material used with permission: CCLI License #1674439

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 12/30 *Worship 10 AM: COME-AS-YOU-ARE CAROL SING*
Fri 1/4 *Restore & Renew Yoga, 5:30-7 PM*
Tues 1/8 *Building & Grounds Mtg, 2 PM*
 Deacons Mtg, 7 PM
Fri 1/11 *Book Group resumes, 12-2 PM*
Sat 1/12 *CONCERT: New Orleans Jazz w/ Hadacol Bouncers, 7:30 PM*
Tues 1/15 *Budget & Finance Mtg, 10 AM*
Wed 1/16 *Church Council Mtg, 4 PM*
Sun 2/3 *Annual Mtg after Church Worship*

PASTOR'S HOURS FOR 12/30-1/5: Mon: Day Off / Tue: Day Off / Wed: 10-4 / Thurs: Office 10-4 / Fri - Sat: Work from Home. Holly can be reached by phone or email as needed: (207)504-0107 / revcelt@gmail.com

Amanda's Hours: Thursday 10-3 PM

SPECIAL OFFERING

Today's offering goes to the CHRISTMAS FUND for the VETERANS OF THE CROSS and the EMERGENCY FUND.

A CALL FOR "STAR" STORIES

Last year on Epiphany, we handed out star words to guide you through the year. In January, we'd like to share some of the ways those words have been shining in your lives. Start thinking about your own star story. We'll share them during this year's Epiphany season!

ANNUAL REPORTS DUE

Please prepare your annual reports for church committees and groups so we can compile our annual report prior to the congregation's Annual Meeting on February 3rd. Thank you!

Cover Image: Shepherds and Angels (detail), Artist unknown, circa 1885

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS



Shepherd mornings precede all others.
In those first rays, on that new day,
we, with our nostrils full of sheep,
our tongues woolly from wind and no sleep,
squinted at dull, dusty faces
but spoke like maids about our joy.

-- Kevin M. Connors, "Shepherd Morning," © 2001

Rev. Holly S. Morrison, pastor & teacher

www.phippsburgucc.org

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

PSALM 148 (responsive reading)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from heaven!

Praise God on the heights!

Praise God, all of you holy messengers!

Praise God, all of you who comprise the heavenly forces!

Sun and moon, praise God! All of you bright stars, praise God!

You highest heaven, praise God!

Do the same, you waters that are above the sky!

Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because God gave the command and they were created!

God set them in place always and forever.

God made a law that will not be broken.

Praise the Lord from the earth,

you sea monsters and all you ocean depths!

Do the same, fire and hail, snow and smoke,

stormy wind that does what God says!

Do the same, you mountains, every single hill,

fruit trees, and every single cedar!

Do the same, you animals—wild or tame—

you creatures that creep along and you birds that fly!

Do the same, you monarchs of the earth and every single person,

you rising leaders and every ruler on earth!

Do the same, you young men and young women!

you who are old together with you who are young!

Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because only God's name is high over all.

Only God's majesty is over earth and heaven.

God raised the strength of these people,

the praise of all God's faithful ones—people of Israel,

And all people who God holds close,

Praise the Lord!

--Common English Bible, adapted

PSALM 148 (responsive reading)

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from heaven!

Praise God on the heights!

Praise God, all of you holy messengers!

Praise God, all of you who comprise the heavenly forces!

Sun and moon, praise God! All of you bright stars, praise God!

You highest heaven, praise God!

Do the same, you waters that are above the sky!

Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because God gave the command and they were created!

God set them in place always and forever.

God made a law that will not be broken.

Praise the Lord from the earth,

you sea monsters and all you ocean depths!

Do the same, fire and hail, snow and smoke,

stormy wind that does what God says!

Do the same, you mountains, every single hill,

fruit trees, and every single cedar!

Do the same, you animals—wild or tame—

you creatures that creep along and you birds that fly!

Do the same, you monarchs of the earth and every single person,

you rising leaders and every ruler on earth!

Do the same, you young men and young women!

you who are old together with you who are young!

Let all of these praise the Lord's name

because only God's name is high over all.

Only God's majesty is over earth and heaven.

God raised the strength of these people,

the praise of all God's faithful ones—people of Israel,

And all people who God holds close,

Praise the Lord!

--Common English Bible, adapted