

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC
Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

September 10, 2017: Land Sunday

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

A Prayer for Grounding

Prelude and Lighting of the Altar Lights

Variations on All Things Bright and Beautiful James Esmond

Call to Worship

Be it home land or strange land, here on this land we gather.

We are in your presence, God of earth and ocean and sky.

In difficult times, in difficult places, in new and known lands,
God's people gather to worship in spirit and truth.

And God is always here, always near--

Watching, waiting,

Listening, breathing,

God is native. God's a refugee. God is above & under our feet.

Ground of being, Source of all life, we worship You!

***Opening Hymn:** I Sing the Mighty Power of God Pilgrim Hymnal 68

Gathering Prayer: (from the Chinook Psalter, adapted)

**Ice mountain melted, ages ago, and made ridge and coastline,
place of changes. Now we are rooted in it: grassy meadow, forest of
hemlock and pine, beach-grass and seaweed among the rocks.**

**We are rooted in this place of changes. The wind shifts. The air
cools. Smoke rises, and leaves turn. Old wood rots.**

**O, Source & Soul, O Maker of dust, (maker of us), bless us! Bless us
with your gifts, for we reach back to you. Bless us, earth, as we give
back that which we have received to make a landscape of blessings,
for the future to grow upon. We pray with our earthly brother, Jesus:**

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: Exodus 3:1-12 KJV 45/CEB 42/MSG 85

A Witness for the Land

***Hymn:** Touch the Earth Lightly (NCH #569) Insert

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: *Pastoral Prelude* Jean Langlais

***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

New Testament Reading: Matthew 12:38-40 KJV 713/CEB 743/MSG 1347

Reflection: Grounded Rev. Holly Morrison

***Closing Hymn:** O How Glorious, Full of Wonder (NCH #558) Insert

Benediction

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

Postlude: *Postlude* Franklin Ashdown

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Ann Hartzler Lay Reader: Paula Palmer

Head/Asst Deacons: Ann Bradbury, Kathy Totten, Berenice Knight

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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. Sept. 10 Seasons of Creation: "Land Sunday"*
UCC Midcoast Association Fall Meeting:
3:00 Business mtg, Edgecomb UCC
4:00 Installation: Josh Fitterling, Wiscasset
- Tues. Sept. 12 Building & Grounds meeting 4 PM*
Deacons meeting 7 PM
- Sun. Sept. 17 Seasons of Creation: "Wilderness Sunday"*
2nd Annual "Pastor's Pasture Picnic" 3-6 PM
Buckets Due for Disaster Relief
- Mon. Sept. 18 Gentle & Yin Yoga begins, 6-7:30 PM (LTMH)*
- Fri. Sept. 22 Concert: Novel Jazz Septet plays Duke Ellington*
& Billy Strayhorn

OFFICE HOURS FOR SEPTEMBER 10-16:

This week, Holly will be in the office Tuesday and Thursday from 10 AM to 4 PM. (Other hours by arrangement.) Holly can be reached by phone or email as needs or concerns arise: (207)504-0107 / revcelt@gmail.com.

2nd ANNUAL PASTOR'S PASTURE PICNIC: See directions on the insert.

FALL BIBLE STUDY & BOOK GROUP: It's time to get back to the books – both Bible Study and Book Group will be meeting this season. Please indicate your best days/times for an 8-week session on the list posted in the Narthex or go to <https://tinyurl.com/ycbrwss5> to take an online poll. Book group will be reading "Take this Bread" by Sara Miles.

LAND SUNDAY



Ah to be alive
on a mid-September morn
fording a stream
barefoot, pants rolled up
holding boots, pack on,
sunshine, ice in the shallows
northern rockies.

Rustle and shimmer of icy creek waters
stones turn underfoot, small and hard on toes
cold nose dripping
singing inside
creek music, heart music,
smell of sun on gravel.

I pledge allegiance.

I pledge allegiance to the soil
of Turtle Island
one ecosystem
in diversity
under the sun –

With joyful interdependence for all.

– Gary Snyder

Rev. Holly Morrison, pastor & teacher

www.phippsburgucc.org

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