

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

March 11, 2018: Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

Chorale Prelude on Martyrdom

C. Hubert Parry

Call to Worship:

Be it snow or desert, God, we've been through the wasteland.

Drought years, grief's tears, yes. We've been there.

Uneasy here, unsure about the future, unwilling to go back...

Bad food, bad moods, yes. We've been there.

God, we're in this together, right?

Lord, bring us through, and we will sing your praise.

*Hymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Pilgrim Hymnal 93

Gathering Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

I don't know how it is for you, God,

but this wilderness thing is hard for us.

I want comfort. Life gives me challenges.

I want rest. The world's worries keep me up at night.

I want a cool drink, and there's nothing but sand and ice.

Give me a sign, God. Give me a direction to turn.

Help each of us be less like a stagnant pool

and more like a stream, flowing onward, out of this desert.

Following Jesus together, we pray:

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, 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!

Lectionary Reading: Numbers 21:4-9 KJV 130 / CEB 119 / MSG 200

Time for All God's Children

*Hymn: Ye Who Would Valiant Be

Pilgrim Hymnal 371

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: Chorale on *Ah, Holy Jesus*

Johannes Brahms

*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: John 3:14-21

KJV 780 / CEB 810 / MSG 1459

Message: Snakes on a Plain

Rev. Holly S. Morrison

*Hymn: God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending (verses 1 & 4) Insert

Benediction

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

Postlude: *O Word of God Incarnate*

Harold Stover

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Ann Hartzler

Lay Reader: Sally Gray

Head / Asst Deacons: Brad Hart / Julie Peacock & 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. Mar 11: Worship 10 AM
Lenten Lunch, 11:30 AM*

*Tues. Mar 13: Buildings & Grounds Mtg, 4 PM
Choir Practice, 6 PM*

Wed. Mar 14: Tai Chi: 10:30 AM, LTMH

*Fri. Mar 16: Lectionary Bible Study, 12-2 PM, LTMH
Community Song Circle & Potluck, 5-8 PM*

*Sun. Mar 18: Worship 10 AM
Offering: One Great Hour of Sharing*

Mar 19 & 20: Interfaith Advocacy Days, Augusta

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

*Sun. Mar 25: **Palm/Passion Sunday**, Worship 10 AM*

*Thur. Mar 29: **Tenebrae / Service of Shadows**: 7 PM*

*Fri. Mar 30: **Good Friday**, Sanctuary open 12 PM – 6PM*

*Sun. April 1: **Easter Sunday**
6:15 AM, Easter Sunrise Service
7:00 AM, Light Breakfast fare, LTMH
10:00 AM, Easter Sanctuary Service*

PASTOR'S OFFICE HOURS FOR MARCH 11 – MARCH 17

Mon: Day Off / Tues: Office 10-4 / Wed: in & out (office/local visits) / Thurs: Office 10-4 / Fri: in & out (office/local visits) / Sat: sermon writing (working from home)

Please contact Holly as needs arise: 207-504-0107/revcelt@gmail.com

SPRING SING: Friday, March 16, 5-8 PM

Bring a song with a "spring" theme to share, or just join in on the choruses and enjoy listening! Songsheets will be provided to start the evening off. If you have a copy of the "Rise Up Singing" songbook, please bring it along--instruments welcome too. *Potluck supper starts at 5:00 PM, singing starts around 6:00. All ages and voices welcome.*



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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