

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

September 16, 2018: Celebrating the Heavens

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

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

Setting by Clay Christiansen

Call to Worship:

The Heavens are telling the glory of God!

Dazzling stars and dark matter, light years away!

Messengers of marvels, Eclipse and Aurora, Comet & Eastern Star,

Discovered and undiscovered, beyond our imagination!

And we have our place in this cosmos,

Held and pulled by the gravity of God's grace!

So, with stratosphere and satellite, sunrise and moonset,

Currents and charged particles, mist and mighty clouds,

Oxygen and Hydrogen, elements rising up and raining down,

Let our praises fill—and include—the skies!

***Opening Hymn:** God of the Earth, the Sea, the Sky Pilgrim Hymnal 67

Gathering Prayer & The Lord's Prayer

God, our Creator, as we celebrate the world's wonders, help us to see your presence in the evening sky, your mercy in the calming storm, your Spirit in the sweeping winds. Widen our vision to include the creatures who migrate & the very currents that carry them. Help us understand our disruption, and awaken our creative power to heal the harm we've caused, so that all might breathe better and see farther. We pray in the name of your child, whose birth was signaled by a star:

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: Psalm 19:1-6 KJV435 /CEB 423 /MSG 703

Time for All God's Children

***Hymn:** The Heavens Declare Thy Glory, Lord Pilgrim Hymnal 257

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: "Jupiter"

Gustav Holst

***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: Mark 15:25-39 KJV 747/CEB777 /MSG1402

Message

Rev. Holly S. Morrison

***Closing Hymn:** God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens Insert

***Benediction**

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

Postlude: "The Heavens Declare The Glory of God" Benedetto Marcello

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Ann Hartzler Lay Reader: Ann Bradbury

Head/Assistant Deacons: Brad Hart / Kathy Totten & 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. 9/16 *Worship 10 AM – Celebrating the Sky*
Tues. 9/18 *Building & Grounds Mtg., 2 PM*
 Choir Practice begins, 6 PM
Fri. 9/21 *Book Group 12-2 PM*
Sat. 9/22 *Bath Area Food Bank Walk for Hunger, 8:30 AM*
 CONCERT: Noah Haidu trio, jazz piano, 7:30 PM
Sun. 9/23 *Worship 10 AM – Celebrating the Mountains*
Wed. 9/26 *Church Council Mtg, 4:00 PM*

PASTOR'S HOURS FOR 9/17-9/23:

Mon: Work from Home / Tue: Office 12-3 / Wed: Day Off / Thurs: Office 9-2 / Fri: Book Group 12-2 / Sat: Work from Home. Reach Pastor Holly by phone or email as needed: (207)504-0107 / revcelt@gmail.com

ALL GOD'S CRITTERS GOT A PLACE IN THE CHOIR...

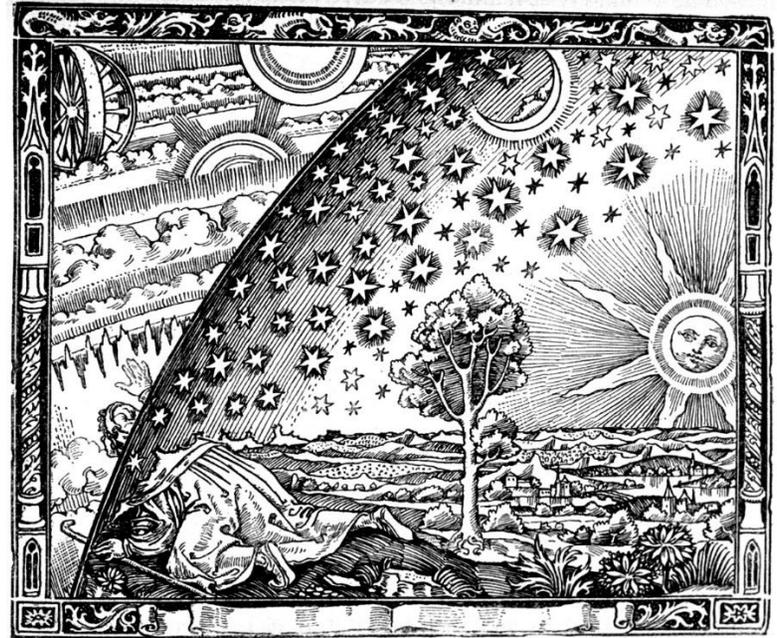
And you can be part of the joyful noise! No experience necessary. Ability to read music a plus. Vocal choir meets on Tuesdays at 6 PM in the Meeting House, starting September 18th. Bell choir will start in October.

FALL BOOK GROUP: Fridays, Noon-2 PM Bring a bag lunch and join our discussion of BRAIDING SWEETGRASS by Robin W. Kimmerer. This award-winning book has been called, "a hymn of love to the world." (Copies available at church, \$19 each, or at Gulf of Maine Bookstore, Brunswick.)

SUNDAY SCHOOL: Christian Education is offered for kids ages 3 & up during the 2nd half of each Sunday worship service. Thanks to Sandy & Berenice for kicking off the school year with special "Season of Creation" lessons during September!

COVER IMAGE: This engraving (artist unknown) appeared in Camille Flammarion's *L'atmosphère: météorologie populaire* (1888). The caption translates to "A medieval missionary tells that he has found the point where heaven and Earth meet..."

CELEBRATING THE SKY



Un missionnaire du moyen âge raconte qu'il avait trouvé le point où le ciel et la Terre se touchent...

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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