

Phippsburg Congregational Church, UCC

Open and Affirming: All are Welcome Here!

March 31, 2019: Fourth Sunday of Lent

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

*“Chorale Prelude on ‘Nun Bitten Wir’”
(We Implore Thee)*

Dietrich Buxtehude

Greetings and Announcements

Lighting of the Altar Lights

Call to Worship

Welcome Home! It has been too long!

Piano: You can't mean me. I've failed too often. I've done wrong.

Organ: You can't mean me. I'm here already. I've never failed.

Welcome Home! All of you! Come, Beloved Family! Come and sing!

***Hymn: Gather Us In**

Hymn Binder

Psalter Reading from Psalm 32

Happy are those who are forgiven, the ones God releases from blame

God doesn't dwell on our mistakes, but loves an honest spirit

When I kept silence, my secrets devoured me. My body kept score.

Then I confessed. God's forgiveness made me whole!

Stranded by sin, I feared the flood. But let the faithful pray to God:

God, our hiding place. You preserve us from from trouble,

You surround us with songs of rescue and relief!

God, our teacher, who watches us with wise and loving eyes

Who does not beat us like a stubborn mule, or yank our reins,

but shows us gently the way we should go

Those who choose evil are haunted by consequences,

but those who trust God are surrounded with steadfast love.

Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous,

and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

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!

Lectionary Reading: 2nd Corinthians 5:16-21 KJV /CEB /MSG

Time for All God's Children

Choral Anthem: “Hymn of Promise”

Natalie Sleeth

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: “Pie Jesu”

Gabriel Faure

***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 15:1-3, 11b-32

KJV /CEB /MSG

Message: “Prodigal”

Rev. Holly S. Morrison

***Closing Hymn: O God, How We Have Wandered (NCH 202)**

Insert

Benediction

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

Postlude: “Toccata in D minor”

Johann Froberger

Thanks to today's service participants:

Organist: Ann Hartzler Lay Reader: Marcia Beach

Head/Asst. Deacon: Sandy Stenquist / George Langbehn

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Cover image: "Prodigal Son," Relief sculpture, Galway Cathedral, Ireland

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 3/31 Worship 10 AM
CONCERT: Carrie Newcomer, 4:00 PM*

Tues 4/2 Choir Practice, 6:00 PM

Thurs 4/4 Tai Chi, 10-11 AM

*Sun 4/7 Worship 10 AM
Spring Meeting Midcoast Assoc., 2:30-4:00 PM,
Bath Neighborhood UCC
CONCERT: Alasdair Fraser & Natalie Haas, 4:00 PM*

PASTOR'S HOURS FOR 3/31-4/6: Mon: Day off / Tues: Office 11-3 / Wed: Work from home/Visits by appt / Thurs: 11-5 / Fri & Sat: Work from home/Visits by appt. Holly can be reached as needed: (207)504-0107 / revcelt@gmail.com **Amanda's Hours:** Tues & Thurs 1-3:30 PM

EASTER FLOWERS: The Flower Committee will purchase Easter lilies. If you wish to donate a lily, you may give \$10 to Beth Brewer by April 7th. Or you may bring a spring flower of your choice to church on Easter Sunday.

FARM FRESH FUNDRAISER: Eggs on Sale for Lent

Delicious eggs from Holly & Sue's farm for sale now through Easter: suggested donation \$5/dozen. All funds will go to Heifer Project International. (Empty cartons needed!)



Fourth Sunday of Lent



And the stone on the roadside said then,
'How heavy your steps have grown.'
And the stone said, 'Will you return now
To your forgotten home?'

And the sign-post by the roadside
Cried 'Stranger!' in its scorn;
And the sign-post by the roadside
Stabbed him like a thorn.

'Your lips are dry,' cried the fountain;
And called from the roadside near.
And he knelt and drank of the water,
And a tear touched a tear.

--excerpt, "The Prodigal Son," Leah Goldberg
(Translated by Jean Shapiro Cantu)

PHIPPSBURG CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

Rev. Holly S. Morrison, pastor & teacher

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