



**Second Christian Church of Kittery  
North Church of Portsmouth  
Worship with Holy Communion  
for the Fourth Sunday after Epiphany  
February 2, 2025 - 10:00 AM**

Welcome one and all! Whether you are gathering with us on-site or on-line,  
*Remember: No matter who you are, no matter who you love,  
no matter where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here!*

( \* You are invited to stand as you are able)

**WE GATHER**

**Gathering Music**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Centering Music**

**Call to Community †**

One: We come to this place where we can rest, and be at home.

***Many: Here in this place there is room for us.***

***Here in this place there is love for us.***

We come together from all the places we have been, from all the life we have lived.

***Here in this place no one is too much, no one is not enough.***

We come together to worship God, who calls us by name, who knows our souls.

***Here in this place, here in this time,***

***we open our hearts and minds to the God who calls us His children.***

**\* Hymn #289**

***What Is This Place***

KOMT NU MET ZANG

**\* Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

***Lord, we give thanks for the ways you surprise us.***

***Thank you for standing out to us in the people we have always known,  
and in the people we have just met.***

***Forgive us for turning away from your presence in the eyes of another,  
or for underestimating the grace you want us to share.***

***May we begin a new week ready to offer grace and peace,  
love and generosity to all we meet. Amen,***

**\* Words of Grace**

**\* Gloria**

Hirst/Effenberger

***Glory to you, creating One!  
Glory to you, redeeming Son!  
Glory to you, O Spirit, come!***

***Meet us now, make us one, glory to you, O God!***

**The Anthem**

***They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love***

Scholtes, arr. Hayes

## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

### A Prayer before the Scripture Reading

Help us to hear your words in a new way today, Lord.  
May your ancient words speak to us now, may they move within our hearts.  
May we be transformed by the lessons you seek to teach us. Amen,

The Scripture Jeremiah 1:4-10; Luke 4:21-30

The Message "Home, Again." Rev. Jenn Mazur

## WE RESPOND

### We Share our Joys and Concerns

Rev. Brad Hirst

### The Prayers of the People

### The Prayer of Our Savior

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread,  
and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen,*

### An Invitation to Offering

### Special Music

### \* Response ††

ST. ANNE

*Praise God who calls us to arise and journey through the night,  
who by a star still gleaming guides the way to Christ our Light!*

### \* Dedication of Gifts

*Loving God, we ask for your blessing on these gifts we offer.  
We pray that they will bring more light and love to the world,  
and inspire more ministry and mission in every place. Amen,*

## WE GATHER AT THE TABLE

### We Are Invited

### We Remember

### We Bless the Gifts

*Come and dwell among us, O Holy One.  
In the breaking of bread, be our nourishment and generosity.  
In the sharing of the fruit of the vine, be our joy and courage,  
and our light on the hard paths home, again.  
Sharpen our vision to be the Church you call us to be.  
Enflame our hearts for a renewed world of justice and peace,  
and make us a true and welcoming light  
to gather all your children together. Amen,*

## **We Share the Gifts**

(M. Tirabassi, alt.)

One: The bread we share is blessed and broken.

The Light of the world is in your hand.

**Many: When we share this Light, we will never be hungry.**

The fruit of the vine in your hand is blessed and shared  
like the overflowing of tears and joy.

**When we share this deeply, we will never thirst.**

## **We Give Thanks**

**We thank you for your presence among us, O God of light,  
in this gathering of your people, and in this sacred meal of loaf and cup.**

**As we have received this gift of sacrifice and love,  
may we be transformed into your light and love and life in the world,  
shining among all your people. Amen,**

## **WE GO OUT**

\* Hymn #540

**O Love That Will Not Let Me Go**

ST. MARGARET

\* A Blessing

\* Response

**Let Your Little Light Shine \*\***

P. Warrick-Smith

**Let your little light shine, shine, shine. Let your little light shine, O my Lord.**

**'Cause there might be someone down in the valley tryin' to get home.**

**It might be me or it might be you, it might be a brother or a sister too,  
but you know there's someone down in the valley tryin' to get home. So...**

## **Music for Going Out**

† Some of this morning's liturgy is adapted for our use from  
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†† by Mary Luti, from *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow*, © 2024 The United Church of Christ. Permission granted.

## **Welcome to worship!**

You have been greeted this morning by Adam and Cassie Baran.

Our Ushers are Charlie and Nadine Donnell. Barb Bolko, from North Church, is our Liturgist.

We welcome the Rev. Jenn Mazur and all of our friends from North Church to share worship  
with us while their sanctuary is being remodeled for a new season of ministry!

We invite you to please keep your name tag on when you join us downstairs following worship  
for a time of refreshment and fellowship.

While you're downstairs, be sure to fill out an order form for your **Super Bowl Subs!**  
All donations will go to support our friends at *Footprints Food Pantry* who are working all year  
long to reduce the impact of hunger in our communities.

## **Second Christian Church of Kittery - UCC**

**An Open and Affirming Congregation**

**33 Government St., Kittery, ME 03904**

**207-439-3903    church@2ccucc.org**

Rev. Brad Hirst, Pastor • Mike Effenberger, Music Director • Charles Donnell, Treasurer

**Welcoming... Learning... Going Out...**

### **The Week Ahead:**

#### **Monday, February 3:**

6:00pm    Seacoast Gay Men

#### **Wednesday, February 5:**

10:00am    AA

***No Choir Rehearsal Tonight!***

#### **Thursday, February 6:**

2:00pm    *In-person* Prayer Time

#### **Friday, February 7:**

9:00am    Breakfast with Brad at *Kasha's Kitchen*

#### **Saturday, February 8:**

9:00am    Hearts and Crafts!

10:00am - noon    **Mainspring Collective - *Grand Opening!***

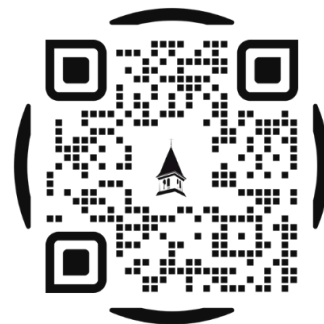
RSVP Requested

#### **Sunday, February 9:**

10:00am    ***Second Sunday Jazz Worship***

Rev. Brad Hirst, preaching

11:00am    **Super Bowl Subs** - pick-up at Coffee Hour



### **Valentines Tea and Fashion Show!**

Our annual fundraiser for Fair Tide will be held on **Sunday, February 16, at 3:00pm.**

See Tom or Linda Baran to reserve your Table (\$100 - seats 8) or individual seat (\$15).

Tea, finger sandwiches, and sweets will be served. We'll have some members and friends modeling outfits from the Thrift Store, and we'll auction off the beautiful centerpieces from the tables and wonderful treasures from our friends at Fair Tide.

### **Reception of New Members**

Second Christian will be welcoming new members into our church during worship on **February 23.** If you are interested in becoming a Covenant Member of Second Christian, please speak with Pastor Brad or one of our Deacons.

## What Is This Place

*What is this place where we are meeting?*

*Only a house, the earth its floor,  
walls and a roof sheltering people,  
windows for light, an open door.  
Yet it becomes a body that lives  
when we are gathered here,  
and know our God is near.*

*Words from afar, stars that are falling,  
sparks that are sown in us like seed.*

*Names for our God,  
dreams signs and wonders  
sent from the past are what we need.  
We in this place remember and speak  
again what we have heard:  
God's free redeeming word.*

*And we accept bread at this table,  
broken and shared, a living sign.  
Here in this world, dying and living,  
we are each other's bread and wine.  
This is the place where we can receive  
what we need to increase:  
God's justice and God's peace.*

KOMT NU MET ZANG

WORDS: Huub Oosterhuis, 1967; tr. David Smith, 1970

MUSIC: *Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck*, 1626;

arr. B. Huijbers, 1967

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## O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

*O Love that wilt not let me go,  
I rest my weary soul in thee;  
I give thee back the life I owe,  
that in thine ocean depths its flow  
may richer, fuller be.*

*O Light that followest all my way,  
I yield my flickering torch to thee;  
my heart restores its borrowed ray,  
that in thy sunshine's blaze its day  
may brighter, fairer be.*

*O Joy that seekest me through pain,  
I cannot close my heart to thee;  
I trace the rainbow through the rain,  
and feel the promise is not vain,  
that morn shall tearless be.*

*O Cross that liftest up my head,  
I dare not ask to fly from thee;  
I lay in dust life's glory dead,  
and from the ground there blossoms red  
life that shall endless be.*

ST. MARGARET

WORDS: George Matheson, 1882

MUSIC: Albert L. Peace, 1884

\*\* Let Your Little Light Shine  
Words and music by Pamela Warrick-Smith,  
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