



**Second Christian Church of Kittery
North Church of Portsmouth
Worship for the Third Sunday during Lent
March 23, 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 always 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 God meets us week after week.

Many: Here in this place, God's children gather, and are met with love.

We come to this community, where all are embraced and welcome.

Here in this place, we all have room to grow, learn and believe.

We come to this time, ready to be made new, ready to bear good fruit for God.

Here in this place, God moves among us, bringing us to life again.

*** Hymn #284**

Gather Us In

GATHER US IN

*** Prayer for Transformation and New Life**

Faithful God, we pray that through our gathering today

we will be renewed in our hope: for ourselves, for each other, and for the world.

Too many times we have turned away, or given up, when it seemed like all was lost.

Remind us again that you are here, and help us to stay the course.

***We pray for transformation, for a chance to try again in our life of faith,
for an opportunity to grow. 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!

Special Music

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

A Prayer before the Scripture Reading

*God, wake us up to your grace again.
Remind us who you are.
Speak to us through these ancient words,
so we may hear your call to us today. Amen,*

The Scripture
The Message

Isaiah 55:1-9, Luke 13:1-9
"God Moves Toward Healing"

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 (#204 v. 4 only)

HUDSON

*But drops of grief can ne'er repay the debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give myself away - 'tis all that I can do.*

* Dedication of Gifts

*Generous God, we give thanks today for all the gifts given and we offer them up to you.
We pray this giving will inspire in us a desire to plant new seeds,
to grow in faith, to explore ways to be of service.
May the gifts given bring you glory, may the lives we lead do the same. Amen,*

WE GO OUT

* Hymn #565

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT

* A Blessing

* Response

Music

Boulton/Stanfield

*We are going – to a place where music – falls and fills up everything.
And though it might be a long time – I know it's gonna be alright,
'cause we've already started to sing!*

Music for Going Out

Gather Us In

*Here in this place,
the new light is streaming,
shadows of doubt are vanished away.*

*See in this space
our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.*

*Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in; our spirits inflame.
Call to us now, and we shall awaken;
we shall arise at the sound of our name.*

*We are the young - our lives are a mystery,
we are the old, who yearn for your face.
We have been sung
throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.*

*Gather us in - the rich and the haughty;
gather us in - the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly;
give us the courage to enter the song.*

*Here we receive new life in the waters;
here we receive the bread of new birth;
here you shall call
your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.*

*Give us to drink the wine of compassion;
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.*

*Not just in buildings, small and confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
here in this place the new light is shining;
now is God present, and now is the day.*

*Gather us in and hold us forever;
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.*

If You Will Trust in God to Guide You

*If you will trust in God to guide you
and hope in God through all your ways,
God will give strength, whate'er betide you,
and bear you through the evil days.
Who trusts in God's unchanging love
builds on the rock that will not move.*

*God will embrace your pain and weeping,
your helpless anger and distress.
If you are in God's care and keeping,
in sorrow will God love you less?
For Christ who took for you a cross,
Will bring you safe through every loss.*

*Sing, pray, and keep
God's ways unswerving;
so do your own part faithfully,
and trust God's word; though undeserving,
you'll find God's promise true to be.
God never will forsake in need
the soul that trusts in God indeed.*

WER NUR DEN LIEBEN GOTT
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WORDS and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1981
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Welcome to worship!

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

Our Ushers are Mark Fecteau and Lois Marshall, and Pam Woodward 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.

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, March 24:

6:00pm Seacoast Gay Men

Tuesday, March 25:

7:00pm Maine Conference - Zoom Meeting with Former Ambassador Maulian Bryant, Director of the *Wabanaki Alliance*
See Pastor Brad for more information

Wednesday, March 26:

10:00am AA

6:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, March 27:

2:00pm No Prayer Time this week as Pastor Brad will be traveling back from Augusta

Friday, March 28:

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

Sunday, March 30:

10:00am ***Worship for the Fourth Sunday during Lent***
Rev. Brad Hirst, preaching

4:30 - 6:30pm ***Girl Scout Troop 919 Spaghetti Supper!***
\$12. Adults, \$7. "Kids", Under 3 are free!

