

*You are invited to share your joys and concerns with the congregation. Please place them in the prayer basket on the table to your right as you entered (prayer request sheets are in the basket), or if online use Zoom Chat or Facebook Comments. Please indicate if the request is not public (i.e., for the pastor alone). Your financial offerings can be placed in the offering box next to the prayer basket. Restrooms are found in the hallway to the right after exiting this room.*



## **Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church**

**Pastor – Rev. Diane Hoppe Hugo**

*The mission of Mid-Coast Presbyterian Church is to be in partnership with God to transform ourselves, our communities, and our world.*

### **Service for the Lord's Day ~ February 1, 2026 4th Sunday after Epiphany and in Ordinary Time**

**Welcome** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

#### **Lighting of the Christ Candle & A Time of Silence**

*We invite you to a time of silent meditation and companionship with God.*

#### **Call to Worship** *(responsive)*

In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

**Christ dwells among us and is one with us.**

Come now, all who thirst,  
**and drink the water of life.**

Come now, all who hunger,  
**and be filled with good things.**

Come now, all who seek,  
**and be warmed by the fire of love.**

**Come, let us worship together.**

#### **Prelude**

#### **Call to Reconciliation**

*If we want to truly live in God's presence, we must live as God's faithful people. Let us begin by confessing all the mistakes we have made, the wrongs we have done, the people we have hurt.*

#### **Unison Prayer for Forgiveness**

**What have we done to you, dear God? We dishonor you every time we treat another with disrespect. We shatter your heart when we find it easier to avoid risk than step up and stand up for others. We fill your ears with nonsense or worse as we speak about those around us.**

**You are wise enough to forgive our foolishness; you are strong enough to overcome our weakness; and you are loving enough to heal the hurt we cause to you and to others. Dear God, give us new hope and new life, transform us and make us new in Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.**

*Silence is kept*

#### **Assurance of Grace**

Beloved, God forgives your sins; know that you are pardoned and be at peace to love the Lord and serve the world.

Friends, believe the good news of the gospel,

**In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Amen.**

**Hymn for Illumination** (*please rise*)

*Let Every Christian Pray*

*Fred Pratt Green*

Let every Christian pray, This day and every day,  
Come, Holy Spirit, come!  
Was not the church we love Commissioned from above?  
Come, Holy Spirit, come!

The Spirit brought to birth The church of Christ on earth  
To seek and save the lost:  
God never has withdrawn, Since that tremendous dawn,  
The gifts at Pentecost.

Only the Spirit's power Can fit us for this hour:  
Come, Holy Spirit, come!  
Instruct, inspire, unite, And help us see Your light:  
Come, Holy Spirit, come!

**Scripture Lesson**

**Micah 6:1-8 and Matthew 5:1-12**

Come Holy Spirit (*silence is kept for reflection*). This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Sermon**

*Kingdom Living Now*

**Hymn** (*please rise*)

*How Blest Are Those*

*Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Tune: Forest Green  
Aka "All Beautiful the March of Days"*

How blest are those who humbly see how much they need the Lord.  
How blest are those who deeply grieve the suffering in this world  
How blest are those who find God's strength in gentleness and grace.  
How blest are those who long for truth and seek God's loving ways.

What joy! When mercy fills our lives— when kindness is our style.  
What joy! When— pure in heart— we strive to do what is worthwhile.  
What joy! When people work for peace— for justice in this land.  
What joy! When whole communities seek goodness, hand in hand.

When thousands join in peaceful song; when hundreds kneel and pray;  
When one, alone, stands up to wrong; when love becomes our way;  
When neighbors, by the things they do, reach out to those in pain;  
Lord Jesus, may we learn anew the blessings of your reign.

**Sharing Joys & Concerns** (*the Prayers of the People are brought during the Lord's Supper*)

**A Time of Offering**

**Offering Prayer**(*unison*)

Christ Comes! Our hearts are full, our joy is boundless. May this offering  
be a living message of peace, love, spirit, joy, and hope to this church,  
to this community, to this nation and the world. Amen

**Gathering at the Lord's Table**

**The Invitation**

## **The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right for us to give thanks and praise.**

Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high, These You deserve, O Lord, ...  
we will join with those of every time and place  
in singing your glorious praise, God in Community, Holy in One.

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might;**

**Heaven and earth are full of your glory, Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**

Holiness is your nature, God of our lives,...

As we seek to comprehend his life and as we are transformed by his grace,  
we speak of that mystery we call faith:

**Christ has died, Christ has risen, Christ will come again.**

### **Prayers of the People**

**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 debts,  
as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power  
and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### **The Prayer of Consecration and Words of Institution**

#### **Sharing the Bread and Cup**

*The bread and cup will be brought to each worshipper. The bread is gluten free and only juice is served.*

*Please hold the elements and we will all partake together at the direction of the Pastor.*

*[as the bread is shared]* The body of Christ, the bread of heaven. **Thanks be to God.**

*[as the cup is shared]* The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. **Thanks be to God.**

#### **Prayer after Communion** *(Responsive)*

Jesus invites us to a NEW way of being, meeting and feasting with the humble and poor.

**Let us walk his way with hope.**

Jesus beckons us to a way of risk, letting go of our security.

**Let us walk his way with trust.**

Jesus challenges us to listen to the voices of those who have nothing to lose.

**Let us walk his way with hope.**

Jesus points us to a way of self-giving, Where power and status are overturned.

**Let us walk his way with trust.**

Jesus calls us to follow the way of the cross,

Where despair is transformed by the promise of new life.

**Let us walk his way with hope and trust.**

**Hymn** (please rise) *Lord Let Your Servant Go in Peace* Text: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Tune: St. Peter

"Lord, let your servant go in peace; Your Word has been fulfilled."  
Because we've seen your saving grace We know that all is well.  
Through all the sorrow, pain and death, We dare, O God, to sing.  
For you once sent your Son to earth — And that changed everything.  
There's much we cannot understand, Nor order, nor control;  
We place our lives into your hands And trust you'll make us whole.  
Lord, let your servants daily know That we are not alone;  
And may we find, where'er we go, You'll lead us safely home.

**Charge to the Congregation & Benediction**

God is Good—All the Time. All the Time—God is Good.

**Hymn To Take With You And Sing**

*Song of Hope*

May the God of hope go with us every day,  
filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
bringing light and hope to every land and race.  
Praying, let us work for peace, singing, share our joy with all.  
Working for a world that's new, faithful when we hear Christ's call.

84 Main Street, Topsham, ME 04086 <a href="http://www.mcpconline.org">www.mcpconline.org</a> angel@mcpcmaine.net 207-729-3193	Pastor – Rev. Diane Hoppe Hugo Liturgist – Shirley Reese Accompanist – Buckley Hugo
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Hymn: *How Blest Are Those*; Text: Copyright © 2026 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. All rights reserved.  
Permission is given for free use of this hymn, including streaming online. Please share it with others. In her notes, Carolyn had this to say about the hymn "Bruce and I were very impressed by an outstanding sermon preached by Margaret Fox at the Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis on Sunday. PNS did a news story on it today, "Comforting words for a hurting city: The Rev. Margaret Fox's preaching at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Minneapolis resonates." Please listen to it and share it. <https://pcusa.org/news-storytelling/news/2026/1/26/comforting-words-hurting-city>  
The sermon, the tragic killing of the VA nurse Alex Pretti and the peaceful witness of the thousands in Minneapolis, inspired this new hymn:

Hymn: *Lord, Let Your Servant Go in Peace*; Biblical Reference: Luke 2:29-32

Tune: St. Peter composed by Alexander Robert Reinagle, 1836;

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Much of the liturgy for today's Lord's Supper comes from Thom Shuman who is currently involved in transitional (interim) ministry. Always on the lookout for new challenges and positions, especially in or near Columbus, Ohio. He has often contributed to Wildgoose Resources of the Iona Community, <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>