

First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
3 Gray Road, North Yarmouth, Maine 04097
Organized in 1806



The Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost
November 26, 2023 ~ 9:30 a.m.
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We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Give Thanks (A Cool Chorale)
Now Thank We All Our God

J. Biery
G. Sewell

All Sing: God welcomes all! Strangers and friends!
God's love is strong! And it never ends!
Words: John L. Bell; Music: Trad. South African melody
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Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: God is a shepherd tending the entire flock

Many: We are led to pastures and still waters

One: God finds us when we stray

Many: God's mercy and love is always with us

One: God rescues us and brings us into tender care

Many: Let us give thanks for the care that always finds us

All: Come Let Us Worship Together.

Silent Grounding Prayer

***Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. — Response: **And also with you.**

***Hymn Come, Christians, Join to Sing**

CH #90

Words: Christian Henry Bateman, 1843, alt

Music: Traditional Spanish melody; harm. David Evans, 1927

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!

Loud praise to Christ we bring: Alleluia! Amen!

Let all with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise we with grateful choice: Alleluia! Amen!

Come lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!

Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!

Christ is our Guide and Friend on whom we can depend;

his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!
Praise yet our Christ again: Alleluia! Amen!
Life shall not end the strain: Alleluia! Amen!
On heaven's blissful shore his goodness we'll adore,
singing forever more: Alleluia! Amen!

Scripture Reading

Hebrew Scripture: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25: 31-40

+ Silent Prayers of Confession +

Words of Assurance

Choir Anthem – Soon and Very Soon

Andrae Crouch/arr. Jack Schrader

Time with God's Children

Message

Rev. Zeb Green

***Hymn**

You Have Called Me

CH #455

Words: David L Edwards, 1983

Music: David L. Edwards, 1983; arr. Farrell R. Faires, Sr., 1994

You have called me from my hiding place and given me a name; from this moment on my life can never be the same. I have seen the beckoning vision, though I wanted to remain, here I am, send, here I am.

“Who will go into the darkness where my people live in fear? Who will speak of truth and charity so all of them can hear? If you go where I am sending you, I always will be near. Here I am, go for me, her I am.”

You have called me from my wilderness and given me a way. The many paths I've traveled have but brought me to this day. And the journey that is calling me no longer will delay. Here I am, send me, here I am.

“Who will go into the darkness where my people live in fear? Who will speak of truth and charity so all of them can hear? If you go where I am sending you, I always will be near. Here I am, go for me, her I am.”

You have called me from my silence and have given me a word. I was dying in my coldness till a fire within me stirred. Now I can keep still no longer, I must speak what I have heard. Here I am, send me, here I am.

"Who will go into the darkness where my people live in fear? Who will speak of truth and charity so all of them can hear? If you go where I am sending you, I always will be near. Here I am, go for me, her I am."

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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 Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves to God

Offertory

Piece in A. Flat

A. Guilmont

***Doxology:** **Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;**
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication (in unison)**

Beloved God, We give thanks for these gifts today. We give thanks for all our blessings. We dedicate this offering to You and Your service. We promise to spread Your love and peace far and wide. Amen.

***Hymn** **Savior, Like A Shepherd Lead Us** **CH #558**
Words: Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836; Music: William B Bradbury, 1859

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, much we need thy tender care;
in thy pleasant pastures feed us, for our use thy folds prepare.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.

We are thine; do thou befriend us; be the guardian of our way;

keep thy flock; from sin defend us; seek us when we go astray.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear thy children when we pray;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, hear thy children when we pray.

Early let us seek thy favor; early let us do thy will;
blessed Lord and only Savior, with thy love our spirits fill.
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still;
blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

P. Grimes

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

* Those who are able may stand.

Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Zeb Green
Administrative Assistant: Lyn Glasscock
Organist: Peter Dickson
Organist: Jesse Myers-Wakeman
Choir Director: David Myers-Wakeman
Sexton: Mark R. H. Heath
Treasurer: Liz McGlinn, CPA, CGMA

Church Phone: 829-3644
Church e-mail: nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com

Church Website: <http://nyccucc.com>
Maine Conference Website: www.maineucc.org
YouTube: youtube.com/c/nyccucc

Note: This service is recorded and streamed on YouTube.

If you are not receiving church emails and would like to, please send an email to nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com asking to be added to the list. Like the NYCC FB page and you will be notified of what is happening there, too!

Offerings can also be made online at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1301940> or text "Give" to 833-751-0314.

THIS WEEK*

Today: 10:30 am - Coffee Hour

Coming Up: December 10 – Little Christmas following worship
December 17 – Baby Shower for Pastor Zeb and Sophie

IN OUR PRAYERS*

Congregation & Community:

*Please submit items for the Church Calendar or the Prayer List to Pastor Green or Lyn Glasscock by Tuesday in order to be included in the bulletin. Thank You.

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