

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



Joy

The Third Sunday of Advent
December 15th, 2024 ~ 9:30 a.m.

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We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Jesse Myers-Wakeman

All Sing: There is more Joy somewhere
There is more Joy somewhere
I'm gonna keep on 'til I find it
There is more Joy somewhere
- African-American Spiritual

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

One: This Advent let us remember Mary's Song

All: Our spirits rejoice in God our Savior

One: God scatters the proud in the imagination of their hearts

Many: God exalts the lowly, fills the hungry

One: God remembers the faithful servants

Many: May we prepare the way for God's Love

All: Come, Let us worship together.

Lighting the Advent Candle

We light the third candle, the candle of Joy.

May this flame set our souls alight with Joy and Gladness.

We celebrate the Psalmist's words.

"Make a joyful noise to the LORD, Worship the LORD with gladness; come into his presence with singing. For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations."

Grounding Prayer

***Passing the Peace**

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

***Hymn**

Joy to the World

CH# 143

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719

Music: Attr. George F. Handel, 1741; arr. Lowell Mason, 1848

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her king; let every heart prepare him room, and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world, the savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ; while fields and floods, rocks,
hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove the glories of this righteousness,
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Scripture Reading

Scripture Reading: Philippians 4: 4-7

Prayer for Confession, Release, and Blessing

**Choir Anthem – *O Little Town* – from Rhapsody in Bluegrass:
A Christmas Jubilee by Joseph M. Martin**

Discipleship for All Ages

Message

Rev. John Fiscus

***Hymn *Angels We Have Heard on High* CH# 155**

Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply Echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Shepherds, why this jubilee? Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be Which inspire your heavenly song?
Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo

Come to Bethlehem and see Christ, who comes in lowly birth.
Come, adore on bended knee, Jesus, joy of heav'n and earth.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo

See within a manger laid, Christ, whom choirs of angels praise; Mary, Joseph,
lend your aid, while our hearts in love we raise.

Gloria, in excelsis Deo Gloria, in excelsis Deo

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

***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**

Go Tell It on the Mountain

CH# 167

Words: African-American spiritual; adapt. John W. Work. Jr., 1907

Music: African-American spiritual; arr. William Farley Smith, 1986

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night, behold,
throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

***Musical Benediction - Love is Love is Love is Love by Abbie Betinis**

Love, Love, Love, all we need is

Love, Love, Love, all we need is... (repeat)

Postlude

Jesse Myers-Wakeman

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

*** Those who are able may stand.**

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Zeb Green
Administrative Assistant: Lyn Glassock
Music Director: David Myers-Wakeman
Organist: Peter Dickson

Organist: Jesse 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>.

THIS WEEK*

Today 10:30 am, Coffee Hour

Little Christmas following worship

Tuesday, December 17 – 10:45am - Bylaws meeting

Tuesday, December 17 – 6:00 pm – Epiphany Concert rehearsal

Saturday, December 21 – 7:30am – Men's Club Breakfast at Toddy Brook

Saturday, December 21 – 7:00pm – Blue Christmas service

IN OUR PRAYERS*

Congregation & Community: Sheila Babcock-Pet Pantry Patron, David and Michelle Bickford, Terri Bickford, Candy Burgess, Carol Davis, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Blanche Mays, Rey and Ellen Medrano, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Susanellen Stearns, Nancy Thomas, Cindy & Bill Tompson, Nancy White, The People of North Carolina, The Black Mountain Orphanage.

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

Note: Hymns and songs are licensed under One License #A-73187 and CCLI #48404708

**NORTH YARMOUTH
CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC**

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE

**Saturday, December 21st
at 7 pm**

**Hosted by the North Yarmouth
Congregational Church**

This is a service to acknowledge that the holidays are not always an easy time. Grief and the need for comfort and to hold one another can often be dismissed in the atmosphere of joy.

Our Blue Christmas is for everyone, especially those who seek comfort and light on the year's longest night.

3 GRAY RD., NORTH YARMOUTH, ME
AT THE CORNER OF ROUTES 115 AND 231



North Yarmouth
Congregational Church

3 Gray Rd., North Yarmouth

“Here comes the Light”

EPIPHANY CONCERT

2:00 PM

JANUARY 11, 2025

Featuring the NYCC Choir & Friends

David Myers-Wakeman, director

Peter Dickson, collaborative pianist

and special guests bluegrass band

Borderline 207

with Elliot Barron on percussion