

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



Easter Sunday
April 20, 2025 ~ 9:30 a.m.

NORTH YARMOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UCC
EASTER SUNDAY
APRIL 20, 2025 ~ 9:30 AM

Lord, purge our eyes to see
Within the seed a tree,
Within the glowing egg a bird,
Within the shroud a butterfly.
Till, taught by such we see
Beyond all creatures, Thee.
~Christina Rossetti

PRELUDE

ALL SING: You are welcome here; come as you are.
You are welcome here with open arms.
Bring your joys, bring your cares,
Bring the love you have to share.
You are welcome here; come as you are.
-Words by Chris Muglia/Nora Krainis; Tune by David Myers-Wakeman

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INVOCATION

Blessed are you, our God, life of all the worlds, who gives the bird of dawn
discernment to tell day from night.
Blessed are you, our God, The Fashioner of all the worlds, who stretches forth the
earth upon the waters and brings forth good fruit each in its own season.
Blessed are you, The Lamp, our God, life of all the worlds, whose light leads us
along right paths, revealing wisdom.
Blessed are you, Redeeming One, for sending us Jesus through whom your
promise of forgiveness and redemption has been fulfilled. Today we lift up our
gratitude for the gift of life renewed, life eternal! Lord, hear our prayers of
thanksgiving on this day of rejoicing!

CALL TO WORSHIP from Mark 16

Pastor Deborah, Gail Strattard &
Sandra Brann

Voice 1: On the first day of the week, at early dawn they came to the tomb, saying:

Pastor Deborah: Who will roll away the stone from the entrance to the tomb?

Voice 2: They looked up and saw that the stone had already been rolled back, and on the right they saw a young man. They were alarmed. But the man said to them:

Pastor Deborah: Why do you seek the living among the dead?

Voice 1: So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them. And they said nothing, for they were afraid.

Pastor Deborah: We who live on this side of the Resurrection Event are also filled with amazement that after more than 2100 years we still proclaim:

Voice 2: Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!

ALL: Christ is Risen! He is risen indeed!

Pastor Deborah: Lift up your hearts,

ALL: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor Deborah: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Pastor Deborah: It is right and good to give you thanks, Holy One, for you are the source of light and life. We remember with joy the grace by which you created all things, made us in your own image, and called us to new life in Jesus Christ. In all times and places, your people proclaim your glory in unending praise:

ALL: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest! Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!

HALLE-HALLE-HALLELUJA! # 41

Please join in singing as soon as you catch the spirit of this joyous Resurrection celebration song!

PASSING THE PEACE

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

*HYMN

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

CH # 216

Words: Charles Wesley, 1739, alt.

Music: Lyra Davidica, 1708; desc. Charles H. Webb

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
All creation, join to say, Alleluia!
Raise you joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain for bids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

DISCIPLESHIP FOR ALL AGES "The Birds' Gift – A Ukrainian Easter Story"
retold by Eric S. Kimmel

CHOIR ANTHEM – And Can It Be? – arr. Dan Forrest

SCRIPTURE

John 20: 1-18

Acts 10:34-43

MESSAGE

"What did the Ants Do?"

*HYMN

"His Eye Is on the Sparrow"

CH # 82

Words: Civilla D. Martin, 1905; Music: Charles H. Gabriel, 1905

Why should I feel discouraged, why should the shadows come,
why should my heart be lonely and long for heaven and home,
when Jesus is my portion? My constant friend is he:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I'm happy, I sing because I'm free,

for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled,” his tender word I hear,
and resting on his goodness, I lose my doubts and fears;
though by the path he leadeth but one step I may see:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
when song gives place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to him, from care he sets me free:
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me;
his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.
I sing because I’m happy, I sing because I’m free,
for his eye is on the sparrow, and I know he watches me.

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 YOUR NAME WE BLESS, O RISEN LORD,
 AND SING TODAY WITH ONE ACCORD.
 THE LIFE LAID DOWN, THE LIFE RESTORED;
 ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

*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

“God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale”

CH # 70

Words: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983 Music: Carl F. Schalk, 1983

God of the sparrow, God of the whale, God of the swirling stars. How does the creature say Awe, How does the creature say Praise.

God of the earth-quake, God of the storm, God of the trumpet blast. How does the creature cry Woe, How does the creature cry Save.

God of the rainbow, God of the cross, God of the empty grave, How does the creature say Grace, How does the creature say Thanks.

God of the hungry, God of the sick, God of the prodigal, How does the creature say Care, How does the creature say Life.

God of the neighbor, God of the foe, God of the pruning hook,
How does the creature say Love, How does the creature say Peace.
God of the ages, God near at hand, God of the loving heart, How do your children say Joy, How do your children say Home.

*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

* Those who are able may stand.

Our scripture readers today are Gail Strattard and Sandra Brann

Many thanks to the Reverend Dr. Deborah Loomis Lafond for giving of her time as our guest pastor over the past weeks.

PICKING UP YOUR EASTER FLOWERS AFTER WORSHIP

All of the flower pots will have a label with names attached. Look for the type of flower that you ordered and you will find one with your name.

Staff

Pastor:

Administrative Assistant: Lyn Glassock

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>

THIS WEEK*

Monday, April 21 – Church closed in observance of Patriots Day
Church Admin. Lyn will be on vacation from April 22-28.

IN OUR PRAYERS*

Congregation & Community: Sheila Babcock-Pet Pantry Patron, David and Michelle Bickford, Terri Bickford, Candy Burgess, Carol Davis, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Linda Lambrides, Blanche Mays, Rey and Ellen Medrano, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly and Charles Slonina, Susanellen Stearns, Nancy White, The People of North Carolina, The Black Mountain Orphanage, Southern California, Pope Frances.

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

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