

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



**The Third Sunday of Easter**  
**Communion Sunday**  
**May 4, 2025 ~ 9:30 a.m.**

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Reverend Dr. Ed DeLong

**Congregational Question: What brought you here today?**

**Prelude**

**All Sing:** *You are welcome here; come as you are.  
You are welcome here with open arms.  
Bring your joys and bring your cares,  
Bring you're 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:** *God of transformation, Christ, who was crucified, is risen. We come before you today and seek to be transformed. May the Holy Spirit move us to be a force for change in today's world. May your love renew us and help us be a part of the important work of restoration in our community. Amen.*

**Call to Worship**

Come here, brothers and sisters!  
If you lift your net and it is empty,  
***We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.***  
Come here, if you open your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One,  
***We'll find the Risen Christ here among us.***  
Come here, if your life is filled with mourning,  
***Christ is leading a dance of joy.***  
Come here, sisters and brothers!  
***To give blessing and honor and glory to God!***  
Come, Let us worship together!  
***Yes, we've come to worship in spirit and truth!***

**\*Passing the Peace**

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

**\*Hymn**

*Thine Is the Glory*  
Words: Edmond L. Budry, 1904: Music: George F. Handel

253 NCH

Yours is the glory, Resurrected One! Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.  
Angels clothed in radiance rolled the stone away; conquered is the grave in which your  
body lay.

Yours is the glory, Resurrected One!  
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.

See, it is Jesus, Jesus has appeared; do not doubt at all for nothing you will fear. Let  
the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing; tell it without ceasing: Death has lost  
its sting.

Yours is the glory, Resurrected One!  
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.

Am I still frightened? One whom I adore, Jesus, lives again, gives peace forever more.  
Jesus is my victory, life and strength and Head; Jesus is my glory, nothing shall I  
dread.

Yours is the glory, Resurrected One!  
Endless is the victory you o'er death have won.

## **Discipleship for All Ages**

### **Scripture**

John 21:1-19

### **Choir Anthem** – *Sanctuary* – *Lloyd Larson*

### **Message**

*When You Are Empty*

### **\*Hymn**

*Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult*

172 NCH

Words: Cecil F. Alexander, 1852, alt.; Music: William H. Jude 1887

Jesus calls us o'er the tumult of our life's wild, restless sea;  
Day by day that voice still calls us, Saying, "Christian, follow me."

As of Old, Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake,  
Turned from home, and toil, and kindred, leaving all for Jesus' dear sake.

Jesus calls us from the worship of the treasures we adore,  
From each idol that would keep us, Saying, "Christian, love me more."

In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,  
Jesus calls, in cares and pleasures, "Christian, love me more than these."

Jesus calls us—By your mercies, Savior, may we hear your call,

Give our hearts to your obedience, Serve and love you best of all.

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

### **INVITATION**

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Dear God, as we look back toward the events of Easter and remember your unending love for us,

***We know that there are moments in our lives when we have not loved others as you taught us. There are moments when we are caught up in our own fears, insecurities, and selfish ways.***

God, you draw us toward you, even when we turn away. Your Spirit leads and guides us in our daily lives.

***Lead us to stay alert, to see the moments when we encounter Christ in our everyday interactions.***

### **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS**

Hear the Good News! God offers forgiveness and new life.

Believe the Good News!

***For God's purposes and to our great joy, we are a forgiven people!  
Thanks be to God!***

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION & PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

In celebrating this sacrament we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

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

Let us ask God's blessing.

***Send the power of your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts that in the breaking of this bread and the drinking of this wine we may know the presence of the living Christ; be renewed as his Body and transformed into his likeness; faithfully serve him in this world; and look forward to his coming in final victory.***

Through him, with him, in him, the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and Glory is yours now and forever.

***Amen.***

### **SHARING THE BREAD & THE CUP**

### **UNISON THANKSGIVING ... SOUNDING JOY (tune: Joyful, Joyful)**

***Mortals, join the happy chorus, which the morning stars began;  
Boundless love is reigning o'er us, reconciling race and clan.  
Ever singing, move we forward, faithful in the midst of strife,  
Joyful music leads us onward in the triumph song of life.***

## **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**

***Thank you, God, for the gifts and ministries of your people. Grant that this offering given in thanksgiving for all the blessings you have given us will fill empty hearts with love and will proclaim your honor and glory in the name of Christ Jesus to all people. Amen.***

### **\*Hymn**

*Lift High the Cross*

198 NCH

Words: George W. Kitchin, Michael R. Newbolt, alt. 1916; Music: Sydney H. Nicholson, 1916

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; till all the world adore his sacred name.

Come, Christians, follow where the Savior trod, The lamb victorious, Christ the child of God. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; till all the world adore his sacred name.

Each newborn servant of the Crucified bears on the brow the seal of Christ who died. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; till all the world adore his sacred name.

O Christ, once lifted on the glorious tree, your death has brought us life eternally. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; till all the world adore his sacred name.

Set up your throne, that earth's despair may cease, beneath the shadow of its healing peace. Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; till all the world adore his sacred name.

So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory!  
Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim; till all the world adore his sacred name.

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

\* Those who are able may stand.

Thank you to Reverend Ed Delong for serving as our guest pastor today.

## Staff

Administrative Assistant: Lyn Glassock

Choir 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

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Church Website: <http://nyccucc.com>

Maine Conference Website: [www.maineucc.org](http://www.maineucc.org)

YouTube: [youtube.com/c/nyccucc](https://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](mailto: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>.

## **TODAY**

Today - 10:30 am, Coffee Hour

Today – Diaconate – Following worship

Tuesday, May 6 – Tuesday Gals meeting at 10am.

Friday, May 9 – Rummage Sale set up/ Saturday, May 10 – Rummage Sale 9-1 pm.

## **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.

\*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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