

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



Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here. – The United Church of Christ

The Tenth Sunday After Pentecost
August 17, 2025 ~ 9:30 a.m.

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Jesus said, "Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine; you are the branches."
John 15:4-5a

We Gather to Worship God

*Those who are able may stand.

Bold type indicates Congregational Responses

Prelude

**All Sing: God welcomes all! Strangers and friends!
God's love is strong! And it never ends!**

Welcome and Announcements

Grounding Prayer & Lighting the Peace Candle

***Call to Worship** from **Hebrews 11 & 12:1-2**

Pastor: The Bible is filled with the stories of men and women who lived by faith, winning victories, administering justice, accomplishing great deeds.

People: **Many others endured great hardships through their faith.**

People: "Yet all these, though they were commended for their faith, did not receive what was promised.

People: **For God had provided something better so that they would not, apart from us, be made perfect.**

Pastor: Therefore, since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, let us also lay aside every weight and the sin that clings so closely, and let us run with perseverance the race that is set before us,

People: **Looking to Jesus the Pioneer and Perfector of our faith, who endured the cross and is seated at the right hand of the throne of God.**

Hymn – *When Morning Gilds the Skies

CH # 100

Words: German hymn (early 19th C.); tr. Edward Caswall, 1858, alt.

Music: Joseph Barnby, 1868

When morning gilds the skies, my heart awaking cries,
may Jesus Christ be praised! Let all the earth around
to Jesus I repair; may Jesus Christ be praised!

Discordant human-kind, in this your concord find,

may Jesus Christ be praised! Let all the earth around
ring joyous with sound, may Jesus Christ be praised!

Sing, suns and stars of space, sing, all that see his face;
may Jesus Christ be praised! God's whole creation o'er,
both, now and evermore: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Be this, while life is mine, my canticle divine;
may Jesus Christ be praised! Be this the eternal song,
through all the ages long: may Jesus Christ be praised!

Invocation

The Book of Common Prayer

Almighty God, you have given your only Son to be for us a sacrifice for sin, and also an example of godly life: Give us grace to receive thankfully the fruits of his redeeming work, and to follow daily in the blessed steps of his most holy life; for we pray as Jesus has taught us:

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.
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.**

***Passing the Peace**

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

Scripture Readings

**The First Testament
The Gospel**

**Isaiah 5:1-7
Luke 12:49-56**

Discipleship for All Ages

The Good News: *Summer of Fire*

Pastor Paul Day

Hymn – *Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud

CH # 12

Words: Thomas H. Troeger, 1987; Music: Joseph Parry, 1879

Source and Sovereign, Rock and Cloud, Fortress, Fountain, Shelter, Light,
Judge, Defender, Mercy, Might, Life whose life all life endowed.
May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name

but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.

Word and Wisdom, Root and Vine, Shepherd, Savior, Servant, Lamb,
Well and Water, bread and Wine, Way who leads us to I AM:

May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.

Storm and stillness, Breath and Dove, Thunder, Tempest, Whirlwind, Fire,
Comfort, Counselor, Presence, Love, Energies that never tire;

May the church at prayer recall that no single holy name
but the truth behind them all is the God whom we proclaim.

Prayers of the People

+ The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves to God +

When we employ generosity, we resist the powers of evil, reject the lie of scarcity,
and assert trust in the God who provides. May our gifts reflect the blessings we
have received and the faith that we proclaim.

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)**

Worship Ways

**Holy God, who provides and refines. We offer these gifts in gratitude and
hope. Receive them as our tangible prayer that your kingdom come and your
will be done. May they extend beyond these walls so that your name will be
known through us. May they spark hope and joy to dispel despair. May needs
be met and lives changed through our giving and our living. Amen.**

Hymn – *Lead On, O Cloud of Presence

CH # 633

Words: Ruth Duck, 1974, rev. 1989; Music: Henry T. Smart, 1835

Lead on, O cloud of presence; the exodus is come;
in wilderness and desert our tribe shall make its home.
Our bondage left behind us, new hopes within us grow.
We seek the land of promise where milk and honey flow.

Lead on, O fiery pillar; we follow yet with fears,
but we shall come rejoicing, though joy be born of tears.
We are not lost, though wand'ring, for by your light we come,

and we are still God's people. The journey is our home.

Lead on, O God of freedom, and guide us on our way,
and help us trust the promise through struggle and delay.
We pray our sons and daughters may journey to that land
where justice dwells with mercy and love is law's demand.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Paul A. Day
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: 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

Church e-mail: nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com
Church Website: <http://nyccucc.com>
Maine Conference Website: www.maineucc.org
YouTube: [youtube.com/c/nyccucc](https://www.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
Tuesday – 10:00 am, Tuesday Gals / 6:00 pm – Journey Together
Thursday-Carpet Installation in office section of the building
6:30pm – Council Meeting

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, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly and Charles Slonina, Susanellen Stearns, Nancy White

Wider World: People recovering from disasters in Texas, No. Carolina, So. California, and elsewhere; Black Mountain Orphanage; Peace in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere.

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

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