

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 Twentieth Sunday After Pentecost
Reformation/Reconciliation Sunday
October 26, 2025 ~ 9:30 a.m.

We Gather to Worship God

*Those who are able may stand.

Bold type indicates Congregational Responses

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

All Sing: Alexandria Gomez, Daniel Peña, and Anthony Gomez

**Holy Spirit, You are welcome in this place.
Let your glory come and move; Lord, have your way.
Come and fill our hearts with joy we can't contain.
In your presence we are free. (x2)**

Grounding Prayer & Lighting the Peace Candle

Call to Worship

Psalm 46:1, 7, 10-11

Pastor: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Pastor: "Be still and know that I AM God! I AM exalted among the nations.
I AM exalted in the earth."

People: **The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

***Hymn – A Mighty Fortress Is Our God**

CH # 65

Words: Martin Luther, c. 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1852; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981, 1990

Music: Martin Luther, c. 1529; harm. From *The New Hymnal for American Youth*, 1930

A mighty fortress is our God, a Bulwark never failing,
our present help amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing.

For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woe, with craft and power great, and armed with
cruel hate, on earth without an equal.

Did we in our own strength confide, our striving would be losing,
but there is one who takes our side, the one of God's own choosing.

You ask who that may be? Christ Jesus, it is he with mighty pow'r to save, victorious o'er the grave,
Christ will prevail triumphant!

And though this world with devils filled, should threaten to undo us,
we will not fear for God has willed the truth to triumph through us.

The powers of darkness grim, we tremble not for them; their rage can endure, for lo, their doom is
sure: One little word shall fell them.

God's word above all earthly powers, no thanks to them, abideth.

The Spirit and the gifts are ours, through Christ, who with us sideth.

Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also. The body they may kill,
God's truth abideth still, God's reign endures forever.

Invocation

– inspired by **2 Timothy 4**

God our help, by your grace may we fight the good fight, finish the race, and keep the faith. For
you have reserved a crown of righteousness in your kingdom for all who long for your appearing.

Continue to stand by us and give us strength. We give to you all glory, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray—

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.**

Choir Anthem – *Thy Word* Amy Grant & Michael W. Smith; arr. Jack Schrader

Discipleship for All Ages (Children may be dismissed to Sunday School)

Scripture Readings

First Testament

Jeremiah 31:31-34

The Gospel

Luke 18:9-14

The Good News: “*Covenant-Making*”

Pastor Paul Day

Our Church Covenant & Our Behavioral Covenant

insert

***Hymn – *Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant* – vv. 1, 2 & 3**

CH # 490

Words: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.

Music: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. A Eugene Ellsworth, 1994

Sister, let me be your servant, brother, let me walk with you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow trav'lers on the road. We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.

I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.

Prayers of the People

+ 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)** — adapted from *Worship Ways*

Holy God, Source of Goodness and Grace, we thank you today for all you have given to us. You call us to share our talents, time, and treasures. By your help, may we humbly evaluate our gifts and understand the healthiest ways to use them to strengthen your Realm and love your children. Amen.

Words: Washington Gladden, 1879; Henry Percy Smith, 1874

O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly
paths of service free; tell me thy secret;
help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.

Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,
winning word of love; teach me the wayward
feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.

In hope that sends a shining ray far down the
future's broadening way; in peace that only
thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

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THIS WEEK*

Today 10:30 am, Coffee Hour
Tue. 10:00 am, Tuesday Gals
Wed. 6:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal
Next Lord's Day, November 2 – All Saints Sunday
 8:30 am, Choir Rehearsal
 9:30 am, Worship – Guest: Sandy Swett, Harrison Food Bank
 10:30 am, Coffee Hour

IN OUR PRAYERS*

Congregation & Community: Sheila Babcock, 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 natural disasters in the U.S. and around the world; Black Mountain Orphanage; Peace in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere.

Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Paul A. Day
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: Lyn Glassock
Music Director: David Myers-Wakeman
Organists: Peter Dickson & 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>.

*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.

First Congregational Church of North Yarmouth

Church Covenant

We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and the Will of God made known and to be made known to us. To this end we purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, witnessing to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our community and the world, striving for truth, justice, peace, and faithfully worshiping God. As did our forebears, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us, and we pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God and eternal life.

Behavioral Covenant

We, the Minister and the congregation of North Yarmouth Congregational Church, establish this community covenant and make these promises, to God and to each other:

1. As followers of Jesus Christ, we recognize and honor Christ's command in Luke 6:31, "Do unto others as you would have them do unto you." We will approach all matters concerning personal and church conduct in prayer, keeping in mind scriptural guidance. As a faith community, we will celebrate our lives together through fellowship, meaningful traditions, worship, sacraments, missions, and special occasions.

2. We seek to follow the guidance from James 1:19 to "be quick to listen, slow to speak, and slow to anger." Our personal responsibility includes speaking calmly and honestly, respecting others and acting in love, respecting ourselves, maintaining confidentiality, not gossiping or sharing second-hand information, not intentionally causing harm to others, and not engaging in harsh or volatile speech or behaviors.

3. We will listen generously, empathetically, and confidentially, suspending judgment and holding others' stories with care and respect. We will try hard to understand as well as be understood. We will agree that accepting and understanding each other does not have to mean agreeing with each other. We will speak face to face, honestly and without rancor, speaking the truth in love. Before speaking, we will learn the facts, always speaking calmly, seeking solutions, healing, and understanding, using "I" statements and sharing our own gifts. We will not interrupt and we will share the floor, as well as encourage everyone to share. We will stay on topic during discussions.

4. We will be considerate and sensitive to differences in cultural/communication styles. We will tolerate ambiguity because there should be no winners or losers. We believe that accepting and understanding does not require agreement in all matters. We will pray for all concerned and seek guidance. We affirm that the Holy Spirit may speak through anyone and support the final outcome of the decision-making process.

5. When conflict arises, we will deal directly with one another, seeking a mediator if differences are unresolvable (Matthew 18). We will strive not to judge people, make accusations, or cast blame, while taking appropriate steps to reduce harm.

6. As a forgiven people, we will choose to forgive others. In the spirit of Jesus, and with God's help, we will show respect and love in all we do as we journey together.

7. We will remember that we are the church both inside and outside of the church walls. We will not disparage the church to our members or those outside the church. We will conduct conversations about the church or church situations in the appropriate places with the relevant people, and we will share the good news about church activities and services.