

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



*Very truly I tell you, unless a kernel of wheat falls to the ground and dies, it remains only a single seed. But if it dies, it produces many seeds.*  
~ John 12:24

**The Seventeenth Sunday After Pentecost**  
**World Communion**  
**Neighbors in Need Offering**  
**October 5, 2025 ~ 9:30 a.m.**

## We Gather to Worship God

### 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 AND LIGHTING THE PEACE CANDLE

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

As the bread which we break was scattered over the mountains and when brought together became one, so let your church, Holy Christ, be brought together from the ends of the earth into your eternal realm, for yours is the glory and the power, Lord Jesus Christ, forevermore. (*Didache, 2<sup>nd</sup> Century*)

#### \*PASSING THE PEACE

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

#### \*HYMN

“In the Bulb There Is a Flower”

CH # 638

Words and Music: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree; in cocoons, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free! In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody; there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me. From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery, unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until season, something God alone can see.

#### SCRIPTURE READING

Matthew 13:23-33

#### CHOIR ANTHEM – *Let Us Break Bread Together*

arr. Ed Lojeski

#### DISCIPLESHIP FOR ALL AGES

(Children may be dismissed to Sunday School)

\*COMMUNION HYMN "Seed, Scattered and Sown" CH # 395

***We'll sing the refrain at the beginning, then sing the verses consecutively, and end by singing the refrain.***

***Refrain:***

Seed, scattered and sown, wheat, gathered and grown,  
bread, broken and shared as one, the Living Bread of God.  
Vine, fruit of the land, wine, work of our hands,  
one cup that is shared by all; the Living Cup, the Living Bread of God.

Is not the bread we break a sharing in our Lord?  
Is not the cup we bless the blood of Christ outpoured?

The seed which falls on rock will wither and will die.  
The seed within good ground will flower and have life.

As wheat upon the hills was gathered and was grown,  
so may the church of God be gathered into one.

+ THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION +

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Bountiful Provider, thank you for having refreshed us in the simplicity and splendor of this holy meal where we have felt Christ's presence and been filled with his self-giving love. Unite us with all who are fed by our Risen Savior that we may faithfully proclaim the good news of your love and that your universal church may be a rainbow of hope in an uncertain world. Through Christ our Redeemer, we pray. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORDS 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.**

+ 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.**

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

With joy, Holy One, we give from the blessings we have received from you so that others have access to the love you intend for all. Bless our gifts and the givers. Bless the gifts and those who receive them. Thank you for calling each of us to bless others as we minister in Christ's name. Amen.

**\*HYMN** "For the Fruit of All Creation" CH # 714  
Words: Fred Pratt Green, 1970  
Music: Traditional Welsh melody; harm, Luther Orlando Emerson, 1906

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God; for good gifts to every nation, thanks be to God; for the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

In the just reward of labor, God's will is done; in the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done; in our world-wide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God; for the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

**\*CHARGE AND BENEDICTION** (from I Thessalonians 5:12-23)

## POSTLUDE

**We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors**

\*Those who are able may stand.

**Bold** type indicates Congregational Responses

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## THIS WEEK\*

Today 10:30 am, Coffee Hour & Discussion  
Tue. 10:00 am, Tuesday Gals  
Wed. 6:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal  
Next Lord's Day, October 12 – Access Sunday/Disabilities Awareness Week  
8:30 am, Choir Rehearsal  
9:30 am, Worship  
Guest Minister: Rev. John Fiscus, Assoc. Conf. Minister  
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 disasters in Texas, No. Carolina, So. California, and elsewhere; Black Mountain Orphanage; Peace in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere.

## Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Paul A. Day  
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: Lyn Glassock  
Choir Director: David Myers-Wakeman  
Organists: Peter Dickson & Jesse Myers-Wakeman  
Sexton: Mark R. H. Heath  
Treasurer: Liz McGlinn, CPA, CGMA  
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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>.

\*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.