

**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 First Sunday of Advent**  
**November 30, 2025 ~ 9:30 a.m.**

## We Gather to Worship God

\*Those who are able may stand.

**Bold** type indicates Congregational Responses

Prelude – O Morning Star How Fair and Bright  
O Morning Star How Fair and Bright  
Divinum Mysterium

J.S. Bach  
R. Rowland Raybold  
L. Groom

The Lighting of the Altar Candles

9:30 am

Welcome and Announcements

Grounding Prayer & Lighting the Peace Candle

Psalm 122:6-9

All Sing:

**Choir:** Faithful seekers, watch and pray.

**Congregation:** Soon a Morning Star will rise.

**Choir:** Clear the path; prepare the way.

**Congregation:** Soon a Morning Star will rise.  
(repeat as directed)

Call to Worship

from Romans 13:11-14 (*The Message*)

Pastor: The night is about over, dawn is about to break. Be up and awake to what God is doing!

People: **God is putting the finishing touches on the salvation work he began when we first believed.**

Pastor: We can't afford to waste a minute! Don't squander these precious daylight hours in frivolity, indulgence, or bickering. Get out of bed and get dressed!

People: **Let's not loiter and linger, waiting until the very last minute. Dressed in Christ, we will be up and about God's business!**

\*Hymn – Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

CH # 129

Invocation

*Book of Common Worship*

Eternal God, you teach us that the night is far spent and the Day is at hand. Keep us awake and alert, watching for your kingdom, and make us strong in faith, so that when Christ comes to judge the earth, we may joyfully give him praise. For we pray as Jesus 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 – *Hear the Wondrous Story*

- from *Rhapsody in Bluegrass: A Christmas Jubilee* by Joseph M. Martin

## **Discipleship for All Ages – The Advent Wreath**

People: **O God, we open our hearts in hope. May the light of this candle remind us of the hope we have in you. May it inspire us to prepare our hearts and minds for the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ, our hope and our Savior. Amen.**

**Hymn – *One Candle Is Lit* – v. 1**

**CH # 128**

(Children may be dismissed to Sunday School)

**The Gospel**

**Matthew 1:1-17**

**The Good News**

***Tamar: Holding On to Hope*  
(see Genesis 38:1-30)**

**Pastor Paul**

**\*Hymn – Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring**

**insert**

**Prayers of the People**

**+ The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves to God +**

**Offertory – Extectavi**

**F. Groden**

**\*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)**

**from *Worship Ways***

**Beloved Creator, we offer these gifts to you in the spirit of Hope. We place our trust in you, and seek to be good stewards of all that you have provided. Help us to remember our role to act as agents of your grace each and every day. Amen.**

**\*Hymn – *Come, O Long-expected Jesus***

**CH # 125**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Response: Hope, hope, bright hope, my hope I give to you.  
Hope, hope, bright hope, my hope I give to you.  
Not as the world gives, I give to you,  
Not as the world gives, I give to you.  
Hope, hope, bright hope, my hope I give to you.**

**Postlude – Paeon on Wachet Auf**

**D. Lasky**

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

**“Welcome song adapted from Joseph M. Martin’s A Morning Star Will Rise, featured in Rhapsody in Bluegrass: *A Christmas Jubilee*.”**

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### THIS WEEK\*

Today 10:30 am, Coffee Hour, Lunch & Hanging of the Greens

Tue. 10:00 am, Tuesday Gals / Rental in FH – 5-8:30pm

Wed. 6:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal

Thursday 1:00 pm, Discipleship Book Group

Next Lord's Day, December 7 – Second Sunday of Advent

8:30 am, Choir Rehearsal

9:30 am, Worship

10:30 am, Coffee Hour

### IN OUR PRAYERS\*

Congregation & Community: Sheila Babcock, Terri Bickford, Candy Burgess, Carol Davis, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Linda Lambrides, The Moon Family, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly and Charles Slonina, Susanelle 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](mailto:nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com)

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.