

THIS WEEK*

Today 10:30 am, Coffee Hour
Tue. 10:00 am, Tuesday Gals
Thu. – New Year's Day – Church Office Closed
Next Lord's Day, January 4, 2026 – The 2nd Sunday after Christmas
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, the Moon Family, 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
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Church Website: <http://nyccucc.com>
Maine Conference Website: www.maineucc.org
YouTube: 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.

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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 after Christmas
December 28, 2025 ~ 9:30 a.m.

We Gather to Worship God

*Those who are able may stand.

Bold type indicates Congregational Responses

Prelude – Trio-Duo-Duo on Carol
Besancon J. Mansfield / Irby A. Giamanco
P. Lehenbauer

The Lighting of the Altar Candles **9:30 am**

Welcome and Announcements

Grounding Prayer & Candle Lighting

Introit: God welcomes all! Strangers and friends!
God’s love is strong! And it never ends!

Call to Worship – inspired by **Psalm 148 (*Worship Ways*)**

Pastor: Praise the Holy One! Praise God in the morning and the evening, in the afternoon and at night!

People: **Praise God all people, all nations, all generations! Praise the Holy One who forms and shapes us!**

Pastor: Let our adoration join with the angels and our songs join with the saints!

People: **Let us worship the Holy One with gladness! Let us worship our God in truth!**

Pastor: Praise the Holy One for the Abiding Presence! Praise the Lord for God’s wondrous works!

People: **Let the name of the Holy One be exalted forever and ever! Praise the Holy One!**

Hymn – *Angels, from the Realms of Glory **CH # 149**

Words: James Montgomery, 1816/ Music: henry T. <Smart, 1867
Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o’er all the earth;
you who sand creation’s story, now proclaim messiah’s birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King.

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o’er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King.

Sages, leave your contemplations brighter visions beam afar;
seek the great Desire of nations, you have seen the natal star:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King.

Saints before the altar bending, watching long in hope and fear,
suddenly the Lord, descending, here among us shall appear:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born King.

Invocation ***Worship Ways***

Holy One, we delight in your presence among us. We anticipate your wisdom, assurance, and challenge. Soften our hearts, enliven our spirits, and expand our minds so that we may reflect your heart, spirit, and mind. Give us courage to face these times and hope to seek your kingdom; in the name of the One who came to us and lives and reigns with you, we 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.**

Discipleship for All Ages
(Children may be dismissed to Sunday School)
Scripture Reading **Isaiah 63:7-9 (altered)**

Hymn – *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice **CH # 164**

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice! Listen now to what we say: News! News! Jesus Christ is born today. Oz and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now. Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice! Now you hear of endless bliss: Joy! Joy! Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest for evermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice! Now you need not fear the grave: Peace! Peace! Jesus was born to save! Calls you one and calls

you all, to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

The Gospel for Today

The Good News – *Joseph, the Chosen One*

***Hymn – *I Wonder as I Wander* – vv. 1 & 2**

Matthew 2:13-23

Pastor Paul Day

CH # 161

Words: Traditional Appalachian carol: coll. John Jacob Niles, 1934
Music: Traditional Appalachian carol: coll. John Jacob Niles, 1934; arr. Donald Jacob Niles

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky.

When Mary birthed Jesus, ‘twas in a cow’s stall,
with wise men and famers and shepherds and all,
but high from God’s heaven a star’s light did fall,
the promise of ages it then did recall.

If Jesus had wanted for any wee thing,
a star in the sky or a bird on the wing,
or all of God’s angels in heaven for to sing,
he surely could have it, ‘cause he was the king.

I wonder as I wander, out under the sky,
how Jesus the Savior did come for to die
for poor ordinary people like you and like I;
I wonder as I wander, out under the sky. Out under the sky.

Prayers of God’s People

+ The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves to God +

Generosity is a spiritual gift and a discipline. Let us cultivate our practice of trusting in God’s provision, abundance, and love by giving generously to meet the needs of our community and beyond.

Offertory - Kings of Orient

D. Isele

***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***

**Wise God, we present these offerings to you and dedicate our time,
talents, and treasures for your kingdom. May your will be done, needs
be met, and your name be known through what we share in praise and
thanksgiving for all you have given to us. Amen.**

Hymn – *Go, Tell It on the Mountain

CH # 167

Words: African-American spiritual; adapt. John W. Work. Jr., 1907
Music: African-American spiritual; arr. William Farley Smith, 1986

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

While shepherds kept their watching o’er silent flocks by night, behold, throughout
the heavens there shone a holy light.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! above the earth,
rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior’s birth.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
and God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Go, tell it on the mountain, over the hills and everywhere;
go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude – Shepherds and Angels

L. Shackley

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors