

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



**Palm Sunday**  
**March 29, 2026 ~ 9:30 a.m.**  
Palm Sunday

March 29, 2026

**We Gather to Worship God**

**Prelude**

Organ Sonata #3

F. Mendelssohn

Notes on Prelude: Mendelssohn was in England when he started this piece: a celebration of his sister Fanny's wedding. He then became very ill, and his thoughts turned to his own possible death. He recovered and finished the sonata. This piece reminds me of Palm Sunday, and the premonition of the Crucifixion. Peter Dickson

**Bringing in the Light of Christ**

Acolyte

**Welcome**

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Biggar, Interim Pastor

**Threshold Moment**

**Gathering Music** (on song sheet): **“We are a Wilderness Wandering People”**

**We are a wilderness wandering people  
on a journey of the soul.  
May we find our destination  
in our longing to be whole.  
Our Holy God is calling to us.  
With Jesus by our side  
may compassion be our compass;  
may the Spirit be our guide,  
on The Way,  
on The Way,  
on The Way.**

**Prayer for the Path**

**Jesus of Palm Sunday parades,  
be with us on The Way.  
We wonder if we have what it takes  
to truly march in the name of justice and love for all people.  
Are we able to sacrifice the paths that benefit only us  
for the ones that make a way in the wilderness for the least?  
We come seeking your courage and resolve  
in order to follow your way of love.  
Amen.**

**\*Hymn # 192      “All Glory, Laud and Honor”**

Words: Theodulph of Orleans c. 821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1854, alt  
Music: Melchior Teschner, 1615; harm. William H. Monk, 1861; desc. O.I. Cricket  
Harrison, 1994 – Public Domain

All glory, laud, and honor, to you, Redeemer, King,  
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!  
You are a child of Israel, Great David’s greater son;  
you ride in lowly triumph, Messiah, blessed one!

The company of angels are praising you on high,  
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.  
The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went;  
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.

To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise; to you, now high  
exalted, our melody we raise.  
As you received their praises, now hear us as we pray.  
Since you delight in goodness, rule in our hearts today.

**Scripture Reading**      Psalm 37:1-9

**Choir Anthem** – “Ride On, King Jesus”    arranged by Bruce Trinkley

**Discipleship for All Ages**    “What is your Favorite Parade?”

**Hymn for All Ages # 344**    “I Have Decided to Follow Jesus”

Words and Music: Anonymous

I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to follow Jesus, I have decided to  
follow Jesus - no turning back, no turning back.

The world behind me, the cross before me, the world behind me, the cross before  
me, the world behind me, the cross before me – no turning back, no turning back.

Though none go with me, I still follow, though none go with me, I still follow, though  
none go with me, I still will follow– no turning back, no turning back.

Will you decide to follow Jesus? Will you decide to follow Jesus? Will you decide  
now to follow Jesus? – No turning back, no turning back.

## Introduction to Scripture

Rev. Biggar

**Scripture Reading**    Luke 19:28-40

**Sermon**            “The Other Way”

## Prayers of the People

Prayers for Getting Out of Our Own Way            (guided meditation)

Response

**Meet me in the stillness, Lord  
Be the air I breathe  
Meet me in the stillness, Lord  
Free me to receive.**

*A moment for silent contemplation and reflection*

Words of Assurance

Rev. Biggar

Response

**Meet me in the stillness, Lord  
Be the air I breathe  
Meet me in the stillness, Lord  
Free me to receive.**

**Prayers for Others Along the Way**  
Sharing of Joys and Concerns

## The Lord’s Prayer

**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. And 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.**

## Offering Our Gifts and Ourselves to God

**Offertory**

Reflection on “Pange Lingua”

K. Norris

**\*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**

**Our Faith in Action** (Church Announcements)

**\*Hymn # 458 "Ours the Journey (In the Midst of New Dimensions)"**  
Words and Music: Julian B. Rush, 1979

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,  
who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering their sep'rate ways?  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever more.

Through the flood of starving peoples, warring factions and despair,  
who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever more.

Though we reach the highest heavens, holding worlds at our command,  
we are yet a desert people searching for the promised land.  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever more.

Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,  
may your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again.  
God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,  
we your people, ours the journey now and ever more.

**Benediction**

The Creator God filled you with breath,  
inviting you to this journey called Life.  
**We will follow on The Way.**

Jesus, our Guide, showed us what it means  
to make a new way with Love.  
**We will follow on The Way.**

The Spirit gives us strength to move forward  
with Courage and Compassion for all we meet.  
**We will follow on The Way.**

May this week be filled with opportunities to choose  
a path that leads to more life for all people  
and to keep moving toward horizons of love.  
May it be so. Amen.  
“Buen Camino!”

**Taking the Light of Christ into the World** Acolyte

**Postlude** Pastorale on “Messiah” B. Portman

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

\* Those who are able may stand.

*Acknowledgements: Today’s Order of Worship and printed prayers are adapted from “The Way” by Dr. Marcia McFee, published by Worship Designs Studio, used by permission.*

#### Staff

Intentional Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cynthia Biggar  
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YouTube: [youtube.com/c/nyccucc](http://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>.

### **THIS WEEK\***

Today - 10:30 am, Coffee Hour  
Today during Coffee Hour - Diaconate

**Tuesday**, March 31 – Tuesday Gals at 10am

**Wednesday**, April 1 – Bell Ringing in the Community room at 5:45 pm

**Thursday**, April 2 - Maundy Thursday (April 2): 5:30 PM (Soup and Bread Service) and 6:30 PM Tenebrae Service at the New Gloucester Church-19 Gloucester Hill Rd. with combined choirs. Anyone who would like to bring dessert is welcome to do so.

**Good Friday** (April 3): 5:00 PM Service with Combined Choirs at the Gray UCC Church - 11 Yarmouth Rd. Gray, ME

### **IN OUR PRAYERS\***

**Congregation & Community:** Sheila Babcock, Candy Burgess, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Holly and Charles Slonina, Susanelen Stearns.

**Wider World:** People recovering from natural disasters and conflicts in the U.S. and around the world. Peace within ourselves, our families, our communities, and our world.

\*Please submit items for the Church Calendar to Lyn Glassock by Tuesday in order to be included in the bulletin. For the prayer list, please speak with a deacon or the pastor. Thank You. Note: Hymns and songs are licensed under One License #A-73187 and CCLI #48404708