

First Congregational Church of North Yarmouth  
United Church of Christ



The Third Sunday in Lent  
March 8, 2026

## We Gather to Worship God

**Prelude**      Pastorale      C. Franck

**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**

**God of the Bending Road,  
be with us on The Way.  
We find ourselves changed  
by the things we encounter and the people we meet.  
We want to grow and yet sometimes  
the growing pains can be disorienting for everyone.  
Help us as we navigate the twists and turns,  
and help us see that others are doing the same.  
Amen.**

**\*Hymn # 452      “Here I Am, Lord”**

Words and Music: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm: James Snyder, 1994

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.  
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them, they turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.

I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.

I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

Refrain: Here I am, Lord, Is it I, Lord?

I have heard you calling in the night.

I will go, Lord, if you lead me.

I will hold your people in my heart.

## **Scripture Reading** Psalm 32

**Choir Anthem** – “Order My Steps”

Glenn Burleigh, arr. Jack Schrader

**Discipleship for All Ages** “One Great Hour of Sharing” Jeanne Chadbourne

## **Hymn for All Ages # 211 “Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley”**

Jesus walked this lonesome valley; He had to walk it by himself.

Oh, nobody else could walk it for him; He had to walk it by himself.

We must walk this lonesome valley; We have to walk it by ourselves.

Oh, nobody else can walk it for us; We have to walk it by ourselves.

You must go and stand your trial; You have to stand it by yourself.

Oh, nobody else can stand it for you; You have to stand it by yourself.

## **Introduction to Scripture**

Rev. Biggar

**Scripture Reading**    Luke 13:31-34

**Sermon**            “Finding a Way Around”

## **Prayers of the People**

Prayers for Getting Out of Our Own Way  
(guided meditation led by Rev. Biggar)

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

**\*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 "Wherever He Leads, I'll Go" (on song sheet)

Take up thy cross and follow me I heard my Master say  
"I gave my life to ransom thee Surrender your all today"  
Wherever He leads, I'll go Wherever He leads, I'll go  
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so Wherever He leads, I'll go

He drew me closer to His side I sought His will to know  
And in that will, I now abide Wherever He leads, I'll go  
Wherever He leads, I'll go Wherever He leads, I'll go  
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so Wherever He leads, I'll go

It may be thro' the shadows dim, or o'er the stormy sea,  
I take the cross and follow Him, Wherever He leadeth me.  
Wherever He leads, I'll go Wherever He leads, I'll go  
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so Wherever He leads, I'll go  
Wherever He leads, I'll go

My heart, my life, my all I bring To Christ who loves me so;  
He is my Master, Lord, and King, Wherever He leads I'll go.  
Wherever He leads, I'll go Wherever He leads, I'll go  
I'll follow my Christ who loves me so Wherever He leads, I'll go  
Wherever He leads, I'll go

## Responsive 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 let others share with you their journey stories,  
and for you to share yours  
so you might come to know each other more fully.  
May it be so.  
“Buen Camino!”  
**AMEN**

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

Acolyte

**Postlude**

**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

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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 [nyarmouthcucc@gmail.com](mailto:nyarmouthcucc@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 - Faith Formation

Monday, March 9 – Greely Girl's Hockey Banquet in FH – 5-10pm

Tuesday, March 10 – Tuesday Gals at 10am / Trustees Meeting at 6pm

Wednesday, March 11 – Choir Rehearsal at 6:30pm

Thursday, March 12 – Discipleship at 1pm

Saturday, March 14 – Turkish Cultural Ctr Event 4-8pm

## **IN OUR PRAYERS\***

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

**Wider World:** People recovering from natural disasters in the U.S. and around the world; Black Mountain Orphanage; Peace in Ukraine, Gaza, and elsewhere. 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