

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



**The Sixth Sunday in Eastertide  
and Mother's Day  
May 10, 2026 ~ 9:30 a.m.**

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***HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY** to mothers, grandmothers, stepmothers, and all who have filled the role of a mother when a mother's care was needed, including fathers, brothers or sisters, aunts, cousins, neighbors, scout leaders, coaches, teachers, or pastors.*

**We Gather to Worship God**

**Prelude**      *Second Organ Sonata* by Paul Hindemith

**Bringing in the Light of Christ**

**9:30 a.m.**

**Welcome**

**Gathering Music**      **"Sanctuary"**

**Call to Worship (for Mother's Day)**      *based on themes from Psalm 139*

We gather together today  
to worship our loving, nurturing God,  
who, like a mother,  
knows us intimately,  
loves us unconditionally,  
teaches us the way we should go,  
and comforts us in times of need.

**Praise God, the Source and Sustainer of life!**  
**AMEN**

**\*Hymn # 75**      **"I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry"**

I was there to hear your borne cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.

When you heard the wonder of the word I was there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the living God, to whom you now belong.

If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk till rising sun.

In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young, I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.

When the evening gently closes in and you shut your weary eyes, I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.

I was there to hear your bawling cry, I'll be there when you are old. I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

### **Opening Prayer**

*from Peter 3, John 14*

in unison

Fulfiller of our lives, we yearn to embody  
Your commandment of love  
and pursue what we know is right.  
We long to ease the plight of others,  
even as we seek our own comfort.  
Nurture our hope this day,  
as we fulfill Your commandment of love,  
that we may live as Your children  
and abide in Your Spirit. AMEN

**Choir Anthem** – “Down to the River to Pray” - arr. Sheldon Curry

**Discipleship for All Ages** “Fill the Trailer”

**Hymn for All Ages # 477** “Pass It On”

Words and Music: Kurt Kaiser, 1969

It only takes a spark to get a fire going,  
and soon all those around can warm up in the glowing;  
that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:  
you spread God's love to everyone you want to pass it on.

What a wondrous time is spring when all the trees are budding,  
and birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;  
that's how it is with God's love, once you've experienced it:  
you want to sing, it's fresh like spring, you want to pass it on.

I wish for you my friend, this happiness that I've found-  
on God you can depend, it matters not where you're bound;  
I'll shout it from the mountain top, I want my world to know:  
the Lord of love has come to me, I want to pass it on.

**Scripture Reading: Acts 17:24-31**

**Meditation**      “God’s Offspring” (Acts 17:28)

**Litany of Thanksgiving and Intercession for Mother’s Day**

Mothers come in many different forms,  
**and today we celebrate them all!**

Mothering God,  
we draw on the image of You as one who nurtures,  
who gathers, who protects.

**We pray for those women who have nurtured us as mothers,  
who are no longer with us and whom we miss dearly.**

We reflect upon those women who have influenced our own lives  
in so many ways, **and we give thanks.**

We pray for the women around the world  
who are working long days and nights to raise their children right now.  
**We pray for the mothers around the world.**

We pray for mothers who have fled violence and difficult situations,  
including refugees and asylum seekers,  
and for mothers who have been separated from their children,  
or experienced the tragedy of the death of a child.  
**We pray for mothers living in uncertainty and facing the unknown.**

We pray for all the women who are expecting,  
but aren’t quite mothers yet!  
**May God bless the soon-to-be-mothers.**

We pray for those troubled by the prospect of motherhood,  
perhaps too soon, or too few resources to care for a child.

**We pray for families where a mother’s illness has led to an early death.**  
We pray for all those, including fathers, grandfathers, or uncles,  
who step in to help with the care and nurture of the children.

We pray especially for children who take on the role of mother when they themselves are still only children.

We pray for the women who took in others' children through adoption and foster care.

**We give thanks for these mothers with hearts so big.**

We pray for those women who have lost a child to death and must carry on.

**We pray for strength and courage  
for the mothers who have faced grief and loss.**

We pray for women whose children have grown and whom they now seldom see.

**We pray for mothers who are at a distance from their children.**

**We pray for all the women  
Who wanted to have children of their own  
But were unable to do so.**

And we give thanks for guardians, teachers, scout leaders, Neighbors, pastors, coaches, music directors, and others who have provided a mother's guidance and care, when needed.

**We thank God for these mothers in spirit.**

Mothering God,  
we offer these prayers to You this day.

**Hear the prayers of our hearts.**

**AMEN**

*A moment of silent reflection.*

**Prayer Response # 305 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"**

Words and Music: Ken Medema, 1973

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

## Prayers of the People

Sharing of Joys and Concerns  
Silent Prayer  
Pastoral Prayer

### **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. 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.

### **Prayer Response # 305 "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"**

Words and Music: Ken Medema, 1973

Lord, listen to your children praying,  
Lord, send your spirit in this place;  
Lord, listen to your children praying,  
send us love, send us pow'r, send us grace.

### **Invitation to Offering**

**Offertory**     *Grant Peace, We Pray, in Mercy, Lord*     by K. Colander

**\*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**

*offered by Pastor*

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

#### **\*Hymn # 619 "How Can I Keep from Singing"**

Words and Music: Robert Lowry

My Life flows on in endless song, above earth's lamentation.  
I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new creation.  
No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since love  
is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing.

Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear that music ringing. It finds an echo in my soul. How can I keep from singing?  
No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing.

What though my joys and comforts die? I know my Savior liveth. What though the darkness gather round? Songs in the night he giveth.  
No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing.

The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing! All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from singing?  
No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm clinging. Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from singing.

## **Benediction**

Go forth into the world in peace.  
Have courage!  
Hold fast to what is good.  
Return no one evil for evil.  
Strengthen the faint-hearted,  
support the weak, help the suffering.  
Honor all people and take care of God's Creation.  
Love and serve the Lord,  
rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit!  
And may the love of God,  
the Light of Christ,  
and the Fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all.

**AMEN**

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

**Postlude**      *Mit Fried Und Freud* by K. Kosche

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

\* Those who are able may stand.

*Acknowledgements: Today's printed prayers were posted online at reWorship.com.*

Staff

Intentional Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Cynthia Biggar  
Administrative Assistant/Bookkeeper: Lyn Glassock

Music Director: David Myers-Wakeman

Organist: Peter Dickson

Organist: Jesse Myers-Wakeman

Sexton: Mark R. H. Heath

Treasurer: Lois Knight

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Maine Conference Website: [www.maineucc.org](http://www.maineucc.org)

YouTube: [youtube.com/c/nyccucc](https://www.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

Monday, May 11- Missions at 6:30 pm- Via Zoom

Tuesday, May 12– Tuesday Gals at 10am / Trustees at 6 p.m.

Wednesday, May 13–Choir at 6:30 pm

Thursday, May 14– Discipleship at 1p

Sunday, May 17 – Choir at 8:30am / following Worship

Fill the Trailer Food Drive from 9-2pm

## **IN OUR PRAYERS\***

**We pray for** those in our congregation and community who are

- mourning the loss of loved ones;
- serving our country in the military, including James Black, E-6, US Navy;
- experiencing health issues or personal concerns, including Candy B., Sandra and Vince G., Steve Q., Lori M. and Kaitlin Q., Holly and Charles S., and Susanelle S.

**We pray for those in the wider world**, nationally and globally who are

- hungry or unhoused,
- experiencing violence and destruction from wars and conflicts,
- rebuilding their lives following natural disasters,
- recovering from trauma.

**We pray for 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