

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



Ascension Sunday
May 17, 2026 ~ 9:30 a.m.

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May 17, 2026 ~ 9:30 a.m.

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude *Final* by C. Franck

Bringing in the Light of Christ

9:30 a.m.

Welcome

Gathering Music **“Sanctuary”**

Call to Worship *from Psalm 68 and Luke 24*

Sing to God!

Raise a song to the Holy One who rides upon the clouds!

Be exultant before God!

**Let the righteous rejoice; let them praise God;
let them be jubilant!**

God has raised Jesus Christ from the dead,
proclaimed forgiveness of sins in his name,
and called us as witnesses.

Let us praise God; let us be full of joy!

Blessed be God! AMEN

***Hymn # 233** **“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**

Words: William C. Dix, 1866, alt. Music: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus, risen now to reign in love.

Alleluia! Praise the Savior; with the multitudes above.

There the songs on saints and martyrs thunder like a mighty flood,

“Jesus out of every nation has re-deemed us by his blood.”

Alleluia! not as orphans we are left in sorrow now.

Alleluia! Christ is near us, faith believes, nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty day were o'er,

shall our hearts forget the promise, “I am with you ever more”?

Alleluia! Bread of Heaven, be on earth our food and stay.

Alleluia! here the sinful flee to you from day to day.

Intercessor, friend of sinners, earth's re-deemer, plead for me,

where the songs of all the sinless sweep across the crystal sea.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Holy God, our Companion and Source,
shower us with Your presence,
shelter us in Your sanctuary,
shield us with Your peace.
Open our minds and hearts to your word, wisdom, and way.
May our worship honor Your name
and draw us nearer to You and to our neighbors.
Be glorified in our midst as we exalt Your Many Names.
AMEN

Choir Anthem – “Total Praise” – by *Richard Smallwood, arr. Doreen Rao*

Discipleship for All Ages

Hymn for All Ages on song sheet “**One More Step Along the World I Go**”
Words: Sydney Carter; Music: Sydney Carter; arr. Lionel Dakers

One more step along the world, I go, one more step along the world I go;
from the old things to the new, keep me traveling along with you:
and it’s from the old I travel to the new; keep me traveling along with you.

Round the corners of the world I turn, more and more about the world I learn;
all the new things that I see you’ll be looking at a long with me:
and it’s from the old I travel to the new; keep me traveling along with you.

As I travel through the bad and good, keep me traveling the way I should;
where I see no way to go you’ll be telling me the way, I know:
and it’s from the old I travel to the new; keep me traveling along with you.

Give me courage when the world is rough, keep me loving through the world is
tough; leap and sing in all I do, keep me traveling along with you:
and it’s from the old I travel to the new; keep me traveling along with you.

You are older than the world can be, you are younger than the life in me;
ever old and ever new, keep me traveling along with you:
and it’s from the old I travel to the new; keep me traveling along with you.

Introduction to Scripture

Rev. Biggar

We've a story to tell to the nations that shall turn their hearts to the right,
a story of truth and mercy, a story of peace and light, a story of peace and light.
For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon-day bright,
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a song to be sung to the nations that shall lift their hearts to the Lord; a
song that shall conquer evil and shatter the spear and sword, and shatter the
spear and sword.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon-day bright,
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a message to give to the nations, that the Lord who reigneth above hath
sent us the Son to save us, and show us that God is love, and how us that God is
love.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon-day bright,
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

We've a Savior to show to the nations, who the path of sorrow has trod, that all of
the world's great peoples might come to the truth of God, might come to the truth
of God.

For the darkness shall turn to dawning, and the dawning to noon-day bright,
and Christ's great kingdom shall come on earth, the kingdom of love and light.

***Benediction**

Friends in Christ,
Receive the power of the Holy Spirit
and be witnesses to Holy Love wherever you may go.
The Gospel calls your light forward
as you go into the world.

AMEN

Taking the Light of Christ into the World

Postlude *We Raise our Hands to You, Oh Lord* by E. Childs

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

* Those who are able may stand.

Acknowledgements: Today's printed prayers are adapted from worship resources published online by UCC Worship Ways and The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026.

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

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 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

Tuesday, – Tuesday Gals at 10am

Wednesday, – Bell Ringing at 5:45pm / Choir at 6:30 pm

Thursday, – Discipleship at 1pm / Church Council at 6 p.m.

Saturday, May 23 – Women's Fellowship Rummage Sale 9-1pm

Sunday, May 24– Choir at 8:30am

IN OUR PRAYERS*

We pray for we pray for all those who are mourning the loss of loved ones, including Lori Webber Dimick, whose mother, May, died recently; Serving our country in the military, including James Black, E-6 US Navy; or 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, or 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.

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