

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



**Whoever you are,
Wherever you are on life's journey,
You are welcome here.**

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 11, 2026

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We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Bringing in the Light of Christ

9:30 a.m.

Welcome

Rev. Dr. Cynthia Biggar, Interim Pastor

Gathering Music “Let Us Pray for Peace”

Words: Nancy Kraft, Music: Thomas Keesecker

Lord we pray for peace, for the healing of creation.
May your truth and justice mend ev-‘ry breach;
may we learn to live as one.

Call to Worship from Philippians 4

Rejoice in the Lord always!
Rejoice in God’s steadfast love.
Rejoice in Christ’s enduring grace.
Rejoice in God’s saving Word.
Rejoice in the Spirit’s gentle guidance.
Rejoice in God’s healing presence.
Again, I say, rejoice!

***Hymn # 517 “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”**

Words: Charles Wesley, 1747; alt.; Music: John Zundel, 1855

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;
fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breath, O Breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest;
take away our love of sinning; alpha and omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,

pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Opening Prayer from Psalm 106, Philippians 4 (in unison)

Holy God, we come into Your house
with praise on our lips
and songs of joy in our hearts.
We come to stand firm in our conviction:
that good is stronger than evil,
that love is stronger than hate,
that truth will ultimately win the day.
We come to be grounded in Christ.

Anthem “A Heartsong Blessing”

NYCC Choir

A Message for All Ages

Hymn for All Ages “Rejoice in the Lord Always”

Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, "Rejoice."
Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, "Rejoice."
Rejoice, rejoice, again I say "Rejoice."
Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say, "Rejoice."

Introduction to Scripture

Rev. Cynthia

Scripture Reading Philippians 4:1-9

Sermon “The Peace of God and the God of Peace”

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.

Invitation to Offering

God's steadfast love endures forever. As recipients of God's love and grace, let us show our gratitude for the God's many blessings by giving of our tithes and offering.

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 (in unison)**

**God of steadfast love,
Your blessings overwhelm us.
For the abundant gifts in our lives,
we thank You.
For the peace that passes all understanding,
we praise You.
For keeping our hearts and minds in Christ Jesus,
we honor You.
Receive the gifts we bring you this day,
and help us stay focused
on things that are excellent and admirable,
holy and just, righteous and pure. AMEN**

Our Faith in Action (Church Announcements)

***Hymn # 683 "O For a World"**

Words: Miriam T. Winter, 1987; Music: Carl G. Glaser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

**O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways,
where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.**

**O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved.
Where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.**

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice
that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.
Tell all who mourn; out casts belong, who perishes will rise.

O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace,
where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

***Benediction** from Philippians 4

May the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus,
from this day forward and forevermore.
AMEN

Taking the Light of Christ into the World

Postlude

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

* Those who are able may stand.

Acknowledgements: Today's printed prayers are from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2026; used by permission.

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

Church Phone: 829-3644

Church e-mail: nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com

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>.

THIS WEEK*

Today - 10:30 am, Coffee Hour / Faith Formation Team Meeting

Monday, Oct. 12 – The church will be closed in observance of Indigenous Peoples Day.

Tuesday, Oct. 13–Tuesday Gals will not meet. / Trustees Meeting at 6pm

Wednesday, Oct. 14–Choir at 6:30 pm

Thursday, Oct. 15 – Book Discussion Group, 1 p.m. (Inspired, by Rachel Held Evans)

Thursday, Oct. 15 – Roll Pie Bottoms and label bags for Chicken Pies – 8 a.m.

Friday, Oct. 16 – Roll Pie Tops at 8 a.m. Assemble Pies following lunch

Sunday, Oct. 18 – Choir at 8:30am

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, Oct. 24, 5:30 p.m. Potluck Supper, Pumpkin Carving, and Trunk or Treat

(If you can participate in “Trunk or Treat,” please sign up. (Sign-up sheet is on display table in Gathering Space)

Sunday, Oct. 25, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. Celebrating NYCC’s 220th Anniversary:

Open House with light refreshments. Timeline and slideshow will be on display.
The public is invited.

Sunday, Nov. 1, All Saints Sunday Celebration of NYCC's 220th Anniversary.

After worship there will be a social hour and then a Chicken Pie Luncheon (by invitation to members and friends of NYCC).

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., George D. (Leah D.'s brother), Sandra and Vince G., Jasmine L. (Trudy P's granddaughter), Samuel N., Steve Q., Lori M. and Kaitlin Q., and James 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 neighbors, friends, colleagues, and fellow Christians who are “New Mainers” or “sojourners,” seeking to live, study, work, and raise their families peaceably among us (See Leviticus 19:33-34).

We pray for those who are struggling with, or in recovery from addictions including alcoholism, and their families and friends.

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