

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 Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 18, 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”

led by David Myers-Wakeman

by Nancy Kraft and Thomas Keesecker

Call to Worship

Though there are rulers, presidents, kings, queens,
God is the Lord of all life.

In God we live and move and have our being.

God requires our faithfulness and our service.

**We reach out to others with the same kind of love
with which God has touched our lives.**

Come, let us worship the Lord who is always with us.

Let us praise God who walks daily by our side. Amen.

***Hymn # 606 “God Whose Giving Knows No Ending”**

Words: Robert L. Edwards, 1961

Music: Wyeth’s Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813

God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,
nature’s wonder, Jesus’ wisdom, costly cross, grave’s shattered door:
gifted by you, we turn to you, offering up ourselves in praise;
thankful song shall forever, gracious donor of our days.

Skills and time are ours for pressing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
all at peace in health and freedom, races joined, the church made one.
Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your throne.

Treasure too you have entrusted, gain thru powers your grace conferred;
ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel Word.
Open wide our hands, in sharing, as we heed Christ’s age-less call,

healing, teaching, and reclaiming, serving you by loving all.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Loving, living God,
be among us now.
Show us Your ways.
Guide our steps.
Live in us,
that we may be people of steadfast hope
and powerful giving.
Help us hear Your words,
challenging us to give You
all the things that are Yours.
Help us remember
that all we are and all we have
are gifts from You,
gifts to be shared in service and love.
Holy One among us,
help us be a holy people
who receive Your word with joy
and live Your message with love. AMEN

Anthem **“Jesus, Priceless Treasure”**
by Brad Nix

NYCC Choir

A Message for All Ages

Hymn for All Ages # 599 “Day by Day”
Words: Attr. Richard of Chichester (13th century), alt.
Music: Stephen Schwartz, 1971

Day by day, day by day, O, dear Lord, three things I pray:
to see thee more clearly, love thee more dearly,
follow thee more nearly, day by day. Day by day, by day, by day, by day.

Introduction to Scripture

Scripture Reading: Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon “Why I Am a Tither”

Rev. Cynthia

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

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** *from I Thessalonians 1:1-10*

Gracious God,
You choose ordinary people
and weave us into a community
that shines with Your love.
We thank You for the gift of belonging.
Receive these gifts as signs of our gratitude
and our willingness to be witnesses to Your grace.
Use what we offer to encourage the weary,
welcome the searching,
and strengthen Your church as a living example of hope.
May our shared life together always point to Christ,
whose love calls and sends us. AMEN

Our Faith in Action (Church Announcements)

***Hymn # 463 "Renew Your Church"**

Words: Kenneth L. Cober, 1960, alt. Music: American folk melody, c. 1840

**Renew your church, our ministries restore: both to serve and adore.
Make us again as salt throughout the land, and as light from a stand.**

**'Mid somber shadows of the night, where greed and hatred spread their blight, O
send us forth with power endued. Help us, God, be renewed.**

**Teach us your word, reveal its truth divine, on our path let it shine.
Tell of your works, your mighty acts of grace, from each page show your face. As
you have sent you Christ to save, in love to triumph o'er the grave, O let our hearts
with love be stirred, help us, God, know your word.**

**Teach us to pray, for you are ever near, your still voice let us hear.
Our souls are restless 'til they rest in you: Love's design, ever new.
Before your presence keep us still that we may find for us your will
and seek your guidance every day. Teach us, God, how to pray.**

**Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind, each and all human kind! Break
down old walls of prejudice and hate, leave us not to our fate.
As you have loved and giv'n your life to end hostility and strife,
O share you grace from heav'n above, teach us, God, how to love.**

***Benediction**

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 resources from Ministry Matters.com.

Cover Photo: "Render unto God," from Art in the Christian Tradition, a project of the Vanderbilt University Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. <https://act.library.vanderbilt.edu/artworks/57749> [retrieved October 14, 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

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

Tuesday, 10/20 – Tuesday Gals at 10am

Wednesday, 10/21 –Choir at 6:30 pm

Thursday, 10/22 – Book Discussion at 1pm (*Inspired*, by Rachel Held Evans)

Rental in Fellowship Hall from 5:00-9:00 pm

Sunday, Oct. 25 – Choir at 8:30am / Open House 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

SAVE THE DATE

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).

Saturday, Nov. 7, Clean-Up Day, 9 a.m. to noon, with cider and doughnuts.

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. 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