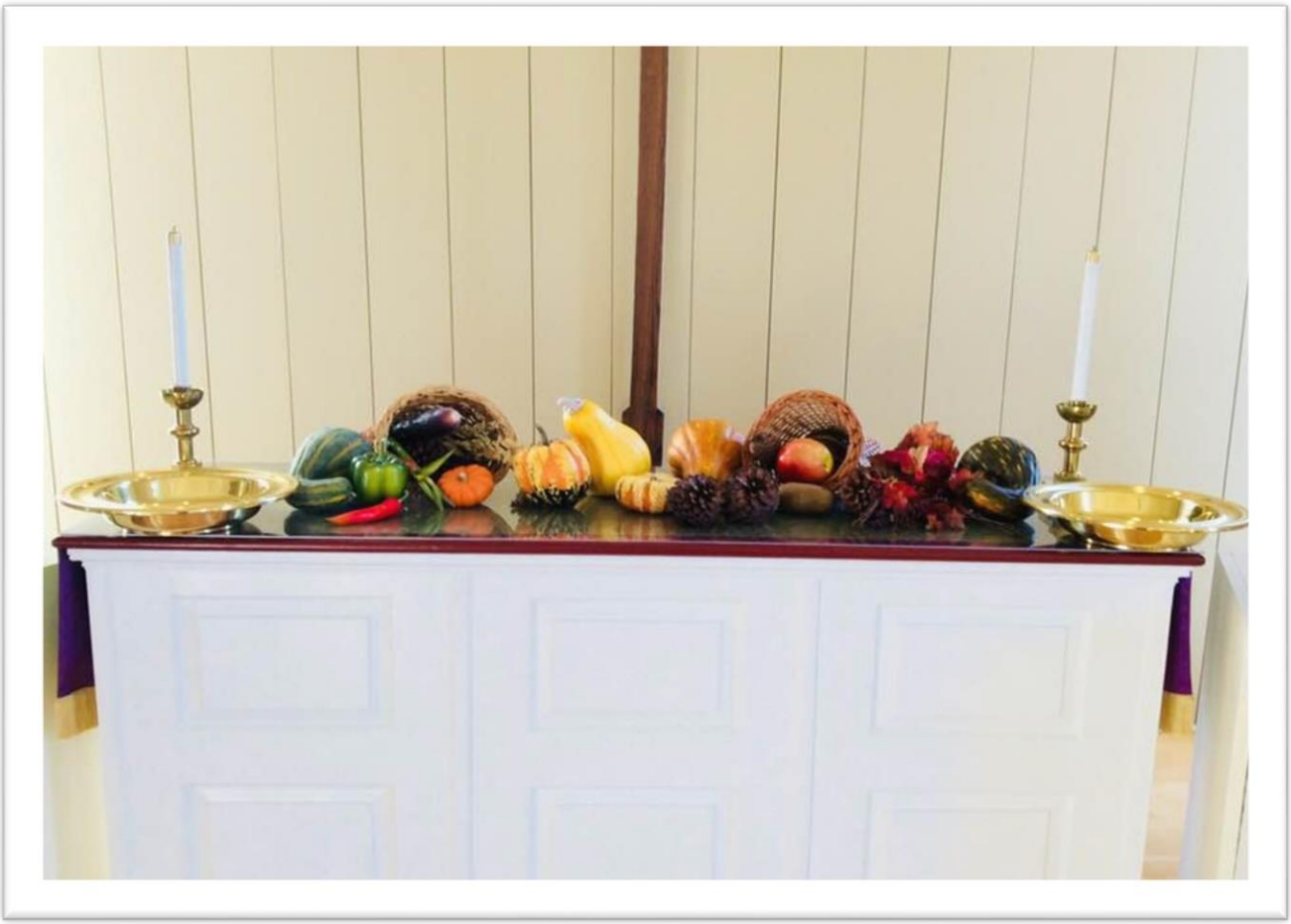
First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
3 Gray Road, North Yarmouth, Maine 04097
Organized in 1806



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

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

November 22, 2026

Thanksgiving Sunday
November 22, 2026

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude St. George's Windsor by G. Elvey

Bringing in the Light of Christ **9:30 a.m.**

Welcome *Rev. Dr. Cynthia Biggar, Interim Pastor*

Call to Worship *from Deuteronomy 8, Psalm 6*

Let us shout for joy and break out in song!
Even in silence, God hears our praise.
In the morning and in the evening,
we will praise God's name.
Our thankfulness can never outweigh God's abundance.
Let us give thanks for all God has given.
Praise the Lord!

***Hymn # 718 "Come, Ye Thankful People Come"**
Words: St. 1, Henry Alford, 1884 st. 2,3, Anna barbauld (18th c.)
Music: George J. Elvey, 1858; desc. O.I. Cricket Harrison, 1994

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin;
God, our Maker, does provide for our wants to be supplied;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,
all the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky,
all that spring with bounteous hand scatters o'er the smiling land,
all that liberal autumn pours from its rich o'er flowing stores.

These to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our blessings flow;
and for these our souls shall raise grate-ful vows and solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

Opening Prayer *from Deuteronomy 8, Psalm 65*

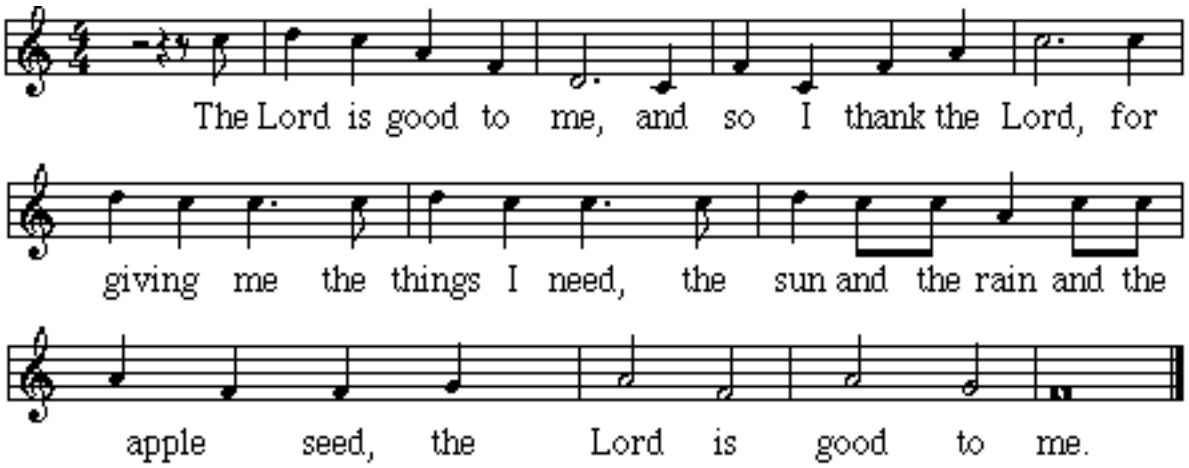
Eternal One, we praise You.
Through Your love, lavishly bestowed upon us,
Earth's abundance meets our every need.
As we gather this morning in worship,
hear the thanks in our hearts and on our lips.
We praise Your Holy Name. AMEN

Anthem **"Thanks Be to Thee"** *NYCC Choir*
by G.F. Handel; arranged by Howard D. McKinney

Blessing the Prayer Shawls *Rev. Cynthia and Kathy Whittier*

A Message for All Ages

Hymn for All Ages **"Johnny Appleseed Grace"**



Oh, the Lord's been good to me.
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need:
The sun, the rain and the apple seed;
Oh, the Lord's been good to me.

Oh, and every seed I sow
Will grow into a tree.
And someday there'll be apples there
For everyone in the world to share.

Oh, the Lord is good to me.

Oh, the Lord's been good to me.
And so I thank the Lord
For giving me the things I need:
The sun, the rain and the apple seed;
Oh, the Lord's been good to me.

Introduction to Scripture *Rev. Cynthia*

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:31-46

Meditation "The Least of These"

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.

Blessing the Pledges: those received, and those yet to come.

Invitation to Offering

Offertory Prayer of Peace by Michael Higgins

***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 Matthew 25*

Generous God, may the gifts we bring this day
be nourishment for a hungry world,
clothing and shelter for those in need,
and compassion for those who are hurting.
Bless these offerings,
that they may help those in need.
With gratitude, we pray. AMEN

Our Faith in Action (Church Announcements)

***Hymn # 717 "Let All Things Now Living"**

Words: Katherine K. Davis, 1939, alt.
Music: Welsh folk melody; desc. Katherine K. Davis, 1939

Let all things now living a song of thanks-giving
to God our creator triumphantly raise;
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
by guiding us on to the end of our days.
God's banners are o'er us, pure light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night:
till shadows have vanished, all fearfulness banished,
as forward we travel from light into Light.

By law God enforces. The stars in their courses,
the sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the depths of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We, too, should be voicing our love and rejoicing
with glad adoration, a song let us raise:
till all things now living unite in thanksgiving,
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise.

***Benediction** *2 Corinthians 9*

As you leave this place,
may your service to the community
be blessed through your caring, sharing, and love.
AMEN

Taking the Light of Christ into the World

Postlude Nun Danket Alle Gott Settings by Brad Hall

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

* Those who are able may stand.

Acknowledgements: Today's printed prayers are worship resources from 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

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, Nov. 24– Tuesday Gals at 10am
Wednesday, Nov. 25– Thanksgiving Break for Choir
Thursday, Nov. 26– Thanksgiving Day
Sunday, **Nov. 29 – The First Sunday in Advent**
Choir at 8:30am / Potluck, Crafts, and the Hanging of the Greens following Worship

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, Dec. 6 **The Second Sunday in Advent,** with Communion.

Sunday, Dec. 13 The Third Sunday in Advent, we will celebrate "Little Christmas" during Coffee Hour. Lois Knight is the point person for "Little Christmas."

Sunday, Dec. 20 The Fourth Sunday in Advent service will feature an **Interactive Christmas Story** led by Amanda Skupin.

Thursday, Dec 24. Christmas Eve Services of Lessons, Carols, and Candlelight at 5 p.m. and 11 p.m. The "Lessons" are scripture readings from the King James Version of the Bible. For the 5 p.m. Christmas Eve service, we will be following a plan adapted by Rev. Cynthia from the Kings College, Cambridge, Service of Nine Lessons and Carols. **If you would like to be one of the Christmas Eve Readers, please see Rev. Cynthia. If you would like to sing with the Choir during Advent and Christmas, please see David Myers-Wakeman.**

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.

*A Celebration of Life will take place in the Fellowship Hall for Candace Smith on Saturday, November 28th at 11 am.

*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