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-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026

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We Gather to Worship God

Prelude Partita Built on the Rock by A. Fedak

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

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

Call to Worship *(from Joshua 24, Psalm 78, 1 Thessalonians 4)*

The God of our ancestors has called us here.
We are witnesses.
The wisdom of the ages has called us here.
We are witnesses.
The choice to follow God has called us here.
We are witnesses.
The Lord of life has called us here.
We are witnesses.

Recognition of Veterans

***Hymn # 85 "Eternal Father, Strong to Save"**
Words: William Whiting, 1860, alt. Music: John B. Dykes, 1861

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bid the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the wind and waves submissive hear,
who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid its rage did sleep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the chaos wild and rude,
and bid its angry tumult cease, and gave, for fierce confusion, peace:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and power, all travelers guard in danger's hour;
from rock and tempest, fire and foe, protect them where so e'er they go;
thus ever more shall rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

Opening Prayer

Promise of the ages,
We come to You this day
to choose the way You set before us.
Strengthen our convictions
and grant us patience in our waiting,
as we watch for signs of Your coming kingdom.
Help us to teach our children Your ways,
that we may pass on a better world
to the generations to come. AMEN

Anthem "The Lone, Wild Bird" *NYCC Choir*

Words by Henry Richard McFadyen (1877-1964)
Music from Walker's Southern Harmony (1835
Arr. by Ruth Elane Schram

A Message for All Ages

Hymn for All Ages: "This Little Light of Mine" (verses 1 and 2)

This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine; This little light of mine, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev-'ry – where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Ev-'ry – where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine; Ev-'ry – where I go, I'm goin'-a let it shine;
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Stewardship Messages *Jeanne Chadbourne*
Trudy Pushor

Introduction to Scripture *Rev. Cynthia*

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:1-13

Reflection

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

Whether wise or foolish, everyone needs oil for their lamps, food for their tables,
and love for their lives. Let us share the bounty we have received,
that no one may be left alone in the dark.

Offertory Soliloquy by A. Fletcher

***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 Joshua 24)*

We dedicate these gifts to You, Eternal One,
as symbols of our choice to follow You.
Receive these gifts of love
as celebrations of Your presence in our lives.
Hold us to our promises,
that we might share Your blessings
and wisdom with the world. Amen.

Our Faith in Action (Church Announcements)

***Hymn # 601 "I Am Thine, O Lord"**
Words: Fanny J. Crosby; Music: William H. Doane

1. I am thine, O Lord, I have heard thy voice, and it told thy love to me;
but I long to rise in the arms of faith, and be closer drawn to thee.
Refrain: Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross

where thou hast died; to thy precious bleeding side.

2. Consecrate me now to thy service, Lord, by the pow'r of grace divine,
let my soul look up with a stead-fast hope, and my will be lost in thine.
Refrain: Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross
where thou hast died; to thy precious bleeding side.

3. O the pure delight of a single hour that before thy throne I spend,
when I kneel in prayer, and with thee, my God, I commune as friend
with friend!
Refrain: Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross
where thou hast died; to thy precious bleeding side.

4. There are depths of love that I cannot know till I cross the narrow sea;
there are heights of joy that I may not reach till I rest in peace with thee.
Refrain: Draw me nearer, nearer, blessed Lord, to the cross
where thou hast died; to thy precious bleeding side.

***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 Eternal Father, Strong to Save by W. Greene

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
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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 / Combined Diaconate and Faith Formation Team Meeting
Tuesday, 10/10 – Tuesday Gals at 10 am / Trustees Meeting at 6 pm /Rental in FH-6pm
Wednesday,10/11– Choir at 6:30 pm – Church closed in observance of Veterans' Day
Thursday,10/12 – Bible Study at 1pm
Saturday, 10/14 – Pet Place Pantry 9-10 am / Rental in FH-4 pm
Sunday, 10/15 – Choir at 8:30 am

SAVE THE DATE

Saturday, Nov. 21 – Christmas Fair, 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.
Sunday, Nov. 29 – The First Sunday in Advent, with
Potluck Lunch and Hanging of the Greens following worship

IN OUR PRAYERS*

We pray for Nelson S. and family on the loss of his beloved wife, and our friend Candace. Plans for a celebration of life for Candace are still being made at this time.

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., Jenn (Charlene B.'s daughter), 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