

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



Second Sunday after Christmas
January 2, 2022 ~ 9:30 a.m.

Second Sunday after Christmas
January 2, 2022

Prelude

Communion in A Flat Major
Pastorale

A Guimant
J. Rogers

Sung: **God welcomes all! Strangers and friends!**

God's love is strong! And it never ends!

Words: John L. Bell, Music: South African traditional,
transcribed by John L. Bell at the Sunrise Hospice, Themba
Text: © 2008, GIA/Iona Community / WGRG

Welcome and Announcements

*Hymn

All Beautiful the March of Days PH456

Words: Frances W. Wile, 1878-1939

Music: Traditional English Melody arr. by R. Vaughan Williams, 1872-

**All beautiful the march of days, as seasons come and go;
the hand that shaped the rose hath wrought the crystal of the snow,
hath sent the hoary frost of heaven, the flowing waters sealed,
and laid a silent loveliness on him and wood and field.**

**O'er white expanses sparkling pure the radiant morns unfold;
the solemn splendors of the night burn brighter through the cold.
life mounts in every throbbing vein, love deepens round the hearth,
and clearer sounds the angel hymn, "Good will to men on earth."**

**O thou from whose unfathomed law the year in beauty flows,
thy self the vision passing by in crystal and in rose,
day unto day doth utter speech, and night to night proclaim,
in ever changing words of light, the wonder of thy name. Amen.**

Call to Worship

Leader: Here and now, God invites to a new day.

People: At our communion table, Christ invites us to a new beginning.

Leader: The Holy Spirit breaks into our lives to inspire us and beckon us forward
into a new year.

Prayer of Confession

Creative God, you make all things new in heaven and on earth. We confess that we have started a new year with not only new goals but also old fears. New decisions are weighted down with old controversies. To our new dreams, we bring our old weaknesses. Forgive our reluctance to leave behind the old, and trust in the new thing you are doing. Keep us focused on the light of your presence. Grant us faith and hope, to trust in the new possibilities for the future that you ever are creating. We pray with faith in Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Because God is love, we know that we are accepted despite all the mistakes of the past. Because in God's presence is love, joy, and peace, let us enter God's gates with thanksgiving and praise, and come into the Presence with gladness and a joyful noise.

Gospel Reading: John 1:1-18

Message "The Light Shines in the Darkness" Rev. Cheryl Anderson

*Hymn Take My Life, God, Let It Be NCH448

Words: Frances R. Havergal, 1874, alt.

Music: Justin H. Knecht, 1797

Take my life, God, let it be consecrated faithfully.

Take my moments and my days, let them flow in cease-less praise.

Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.

Take my intellect and use all its powers as you choose.

Take my will; your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.

Take my hearts, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.

Take my love and help it grow; let my loving over flow.

Take me now, and help me be part of Christ's community.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

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.

Call for the Offering

***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**

Celebration of Holy Communion

Invitation

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, O God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of your son, Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

***Hymn** Great God, We Sing That Mighty Hand (verses 1-3) PH454

Words: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: Thomas Williams' "Psalmody Evangelica." 1789

**Great God, we sing that mighty hand by which
supported still we stand;
the opening year thy mercy shows;
that mercy crowns it till it close.**

**With grateful hearts the past we own; the future,
all to us unknown, we to thy guardian
care commit, and, peaceful, leave before thy feet. Amen.**

***Commission**

Leader: Let us go from here to share God's light, love, joy, and peace in our daily lives.

All: We will go with courage; holding fast to what is good; rendering to no one evil for evil. We will strengthen the faint-hearted, support the weak, and help the afflicted. Honoring all beings, we will serve God; rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Benediction

Postlude

Fughetta in F Major

Johann C. H. Rinck

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Nancy J. White
Administrative Assistant: Lyn Glassock
Organist: Peter Dickson*
Organist: Linda Lambrides
Choir Director: David Myers, Jr.
Sexton: Mark R.H. Heath
Treasurer: Liz McGlinn, CPA, CGMA

Thank you to Rev. Cheryl Anderson for serving as our guest pastor

Church Phone: 829-3644
Church e-mail: nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com

Rev. Nancy J. White phone: 207-504-6289
Rev. Nancy J. White email: nyccrevnancy@gmail.com

Church Website: <http://nyccucc.com>
Maine Conference Website: www.maineucc.org
YouTube: [youtube.com/c/nyccucc](https://www.youtube.com/c/nyccucc)

Due to the Corona Virus-Covid-19, this service was recorded and streamed on YouTube and held in person with CDC protocols in place.

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!

Offering can also be made online through Tithely at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1301940>