

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



**Seventh Sunday of Easter**  
**May 29, 2022 ~ 9:30 a.m.**

# **“Know God”**

## **Service of Prayers for the Seventh Sunday of Easter**

**May 29, 2022**

Prelude

Recessional on “Materna”

D. Wagner

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

### **CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We have been invited to know God

**Many: Let us enter the knowledge of God**

One: We have been invited to bear God’s justice

**Many: Let us enter the justice of God**

One: We have been invited to enter God’s truth

**Many: Let us enter the truth of God**

One: We have been invited to enter God’s unity

**Many: Let us enter the unity of God**

**\*Hymn**

All Creatures of Our God and King

CH#22

Words: Francis of Assisi, 1225; tr. William H. Draper, 1925, alt.

Music: Geistliche Kirchengesange, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

**All creatures of our God and King,  
lift up your voice and with us sing;  
Alleluia, Alleluia! O burning sun with golden beam,  
O silver moon with softer gleam,  
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O rushing wind with voice so strong,  
you clouds that sail in heav’n along,  
O praise God, Alleluia! O rising morn, in praise rejoice,**

**you lights of evening find a voice,  
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**O flowing water, pure and clear,  
make music for your God to hear,  
Alleluia, Alleluia, O blazing fire who lights the night,  
providing warmth, enhancing sight,  
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

**And all forgiven tender hearts,  
forgiving others, take your part,  
sing praises, Alleluia! You who long pain and sorrow bear,  
praise God, who knows your ev'ry care.  
O praise God, O praise God, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia!**

#### INVOCATION

Holy Healing One, Righteous Restorer—

We come as standard-bearers of your love, offering our disconnected lives in return for your unity. May we know you in this place, not as lone individuals but as faithful fragments seeking to be made whole again. Amen.

#### CONFESSION

Creating God,  
In selfishness and insecurity,  
We have traded your healing for our hatred,  
Your calling for our comfort,  
Your truth for our traditions,  
Your covenant for our conventions,  
Your faithfulness for our fragmentation,  
Your care and our convenience,  
Your solidarity for our self-righteousness,  
Your promise for our praise.

Forgive us, we pray.  
Speak to us again of your love,

That we may know you,  
And by knowing you,  
We may once again be made whole.  
Amen.

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

One: Beloved of God, hear the good news.

God's love never fails us.

Even in our division and despair,

God desires to be made known.

**Many: We are forgiven. We are welcome. We are one.**

**All: Amen.**

### PASSING THE PEACE

Choral Anthem

SCRIPTURE    John 17:20-26

Message

Rev. Nancy J. White

**\*Hymn**

They'll Know We are Christians

CH #494

Words and Music: Peter Scholtes, 1966

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, we are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord, and we pray that all unity may one day be restored:**

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

**We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, we will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand, and together we'll spread the news that God is in our land:**

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

**We will work with each other, we will work side by side, we will work with each other, we will work side by side, and we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride:**

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

**All praise to the Father, from whom all things come, and all praise to Christ Jesus, God's only Son, and all praise to the Spirit, who makes us one:**

***And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.***

**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 TO OFFERING**

**One: From the creation of the world, God has freely given.**

**We give, not as solitary givers, but in solidarity with all creation.**

**Many: Thanks be to God**

**All: Amen**

**\*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.**

**DEDICATION**

**May these gifts be used to build the Beloved Community through our unity, in the power of the Holy Spirit, and in the name of Jesus, our Messiah. Amen.**

**\*Hymn**

O Beautiful for Spacious Skies

CH#720

Words: Katherine Lee Bates, 1893

Music: Samuel Augustus Ward, 1882

**O beautiful for spacious skies, for amber waves of grain, for purple mountain majesties above the fruited plain! America! America! God shed full grace on thee, and crown thy good with brotherhood from sea to shining sea.**

**O beautiful for heroes proved in liberating strife, who more than self their country loved, and mercy more than life! America! America! May God thy gold re-fine, till all success be nobleness, and every gain divine.**

**O beautiful for patriot dream that sees beyond the years thine alabaster cities gleam, undimmed by human tears! America! America! God mend thine every flaw; confirm thy soul in self-control, thy liberty in law.**

**\* BENEDICTION**

May the joy of our Healer go with us. May we go out in the unity of God. That we may know God and make God known. Go forth in the love of God. Amen.

Postlude

2 pieces on Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones

R. Rowland-Raybold/N. Raabe

Taps

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Know God: Service Prayers for Easter 7C was written by Michael Anthony Howard, who serves as Minister of Faith in Action for the Living Water Association, Ohio NorthEast, of the Heartland Conference, United Church of Christ.

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Due to the Corona Virus-Covid-19, this service was recorded  
and streamed on YouTube.

If you are not receiving church emails and would like to, please send an email to [nyarmouthccucc@gmail.com](mailto: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>

