

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



**Communion**  
**June 5, 2022 ~ 9:30 a.m.**

**Come to the Table**  
**June 5, 2022**

Prelude

The Love of God

Williams/Hopson

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

*"For where two or three are gathered in my name,  
I am there among them." — Matthew 18:20*

Today we explore what it means to "Come to the Table." We hear the call to dine with Jesus—an invitation that means much more than a simple eating experience. It never was with Jesus. The table was the place where he not only fed people, but challenged them to acts of hospitality that reflect God's way. When we say "yes" to the place at Christ's table, we accept a way of life that embraces God's definition of love, peace, grace, and joy.

**CALL TO WORSHIP Behold These Emblems CH#418**  
**With what heart-felt assurance should we make God's sheltering wings our refuge! With what reverential joy should we approach the sacred memorials of God's grace, here presented before us, and "banquet on his love's repast."**

**Behold these emblems! They speak to the heart. They tell of God's love – the love of the One from whom all love proceeds.**

**They tell of sorrows borne for us; of humiliation, pain, and death.**

**Let us consider them. We come to Jesus, and he meets us here.**

### **UNISON Prayer**

**Welcoming God, you prepared the table for us.**

**Fill this feast with grace and love, and inspire us to make the same invitation to others. Amen**

Passing the Peace

### **Scripture Reading**

*"Love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. . . . Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers. . . . Bless those who persecute you. . . . Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. . . . Live in harmony with one another; do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. . . . If your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink. . . . Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good." — Romans 12: 9-21*

**\*Song                      Come and Find the Quiet Center                      CH#575**

Words: Shirley Erena Murray, 1989

Music: Traditional American melody; arr. Jack Schrader

**Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all  
the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.**

**Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.**

**In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!**

Gospel                      Luke 14:15-24

Message                              Fill the Table                      Rev. Nancy J. White

**\*Song                      Sister, Let me Be Your Servant                      CH#490**

**Words: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.**

**Music: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. A Eugene Ellsworth, 1994**

**Sister, let me be your servant, brother, let me walk with you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

**We are pilgrims on a journey, fellow trav'lers on the road. We are here to help each other walk the mile and bear the load.**

**I will weep when you are weeping, when you laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your joy and sorrow till we've seen this journey through.**

**When we sing to God in heaven, we shall find such harmony, born of all we've known together of great love and agony.**

**Brother, let me be your servant, sister, let me walk with you; pray that I may have the grace to let you be my servant too.**

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.**

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**

**As we offer our treasure and hearts to you, O God, may they be used to pass on the promise of hope, of peace, of life, of community to all in need of your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen**

**Celebration of Holy Communion**

**Invitation to Communion**

Choral Anthem     Come Share This Feast of Love

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing the Bread and Cup

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**O God, we thank you for welcoming us to this table and through this meal filling us with joy and hope.**

**Grant that in the days ahead our lips which have sung your praises may speak the truth, our eyes which have seen your love may look with compassion on the needs of the world, our hands which have held this loaf and cup may be active in your service. We ask it in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.**

**\*Song**

**For Everyone Born**

Words: Shirley E. Murray, 1931-; Sp. tr. John Glaser, 1961- Fr. Tr. Ervelyne Bernard, 1973  
Music: Brian Mann, 1979-

**For everyone born, a place at the table, for everyone born,  
clean water and bread, a shelter, a space, a safe place for  
growing, for everyone born, a star over-head,  
*and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
compassion and peace, Yes, God will delight when we are  
creators of justice, justice and joy!***

**For young and for old, a place at the table, a voice to be heard, a  
part in the song, the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
for young and for old, the right to belong,  
*and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
compassion and peace, Yes, God will delight when we are  
creators of justice, justice and joy!***

**For everyone born, a place at the table, to live without fear, and  
simply to be, to work, to speak out, to witness and worship, for  
everyone born, the right to be free,  
*and God will delight when we are creators of justice and joy,  
compassion and peace, Yes, God will delight when we are  
creators of justice, justice and joy!***

**\* Benediction**

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good  
courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil;

strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. The grace of Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen

Postlude                      Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven                      Goss/Smith

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### Staff

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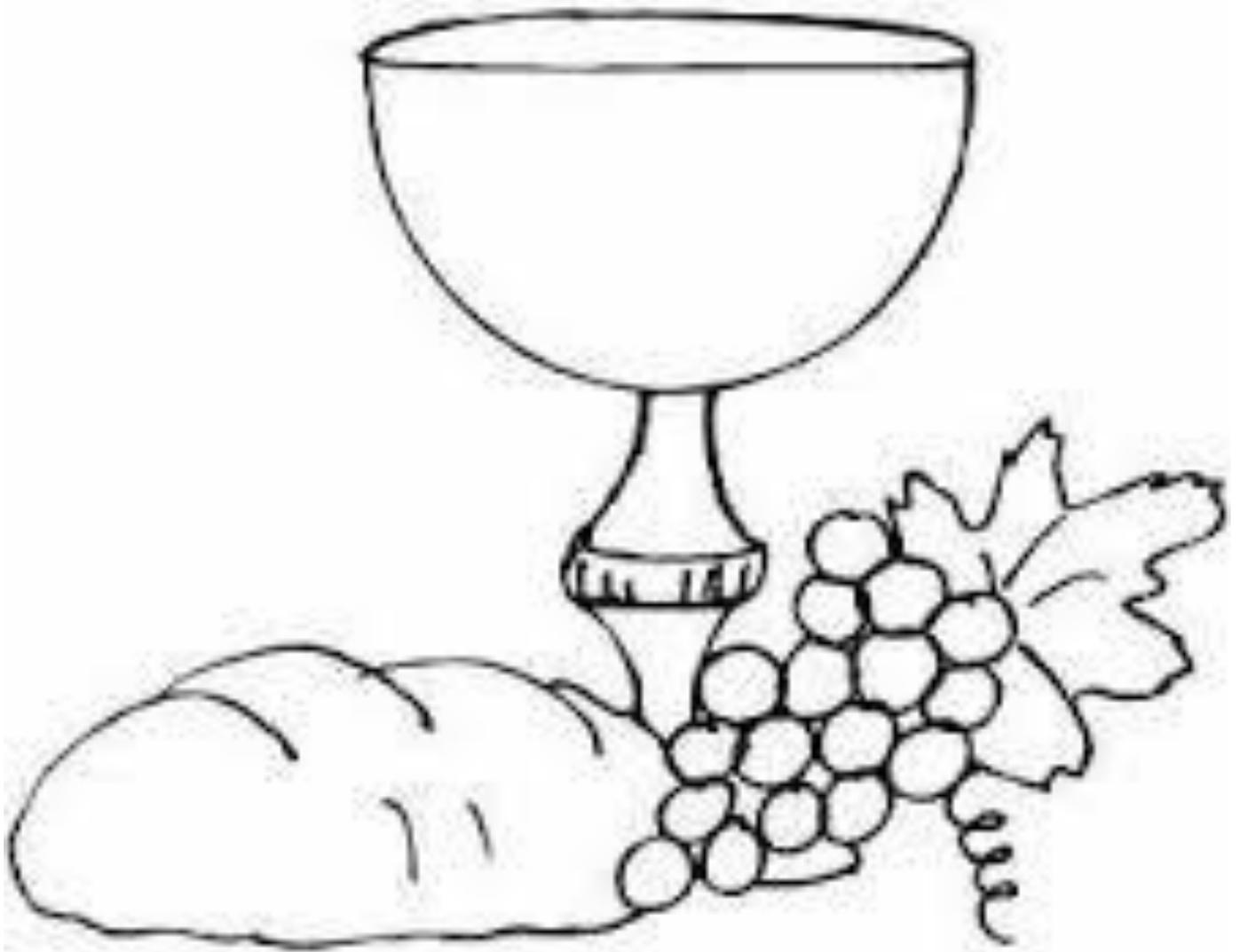
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Due to the Corona Virus-Covid-19, this service was recorded and streamed on YouTube.

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

ALL ARE WELCOME!



AT GOD'S TABLE