

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



Eighth Sunday after Pentecost
July 31, 2022 ~ 9:30 a.m.

**Join hands, disciples of the faith,
what-e'er your race may be;
all children of the living God are surely kin to me.**

**In Christ now meet both east and west
in him meet south and north;
all loving hearts are one in him through-out the whole wide earth.**

Invocation

Holy Love, we worship you as your people. You tether us to you in righteousness and covenant. Reveal your face to us. Let us see you in our midst, in our neighbors, and in ourselves. Clothe us in love and compassion, and continually fashion us as your people for you are our God. Amen.

Unison Prayer for Transformation and New Life

Gracious One, you have knit us together wonderfully. You have promised your abiding presence in our lives and have guided us with love. We turn away from you and toward the path to destruction and discord. We judge our neighbor rather than love them and we fail to even honor ourselves as your beloved creation. Amen.

silence

Words of Grace

The God of mercy bends toward their children with love and hope. The Holy One leads us when we wander onto divergent paths and nourishes our hunger for the newness of life. In God, grace abounds freely, abundantly, and extravagantly.

PASSING THE PEACE

SCRIPTURE Colossians 3:1-11
Gospel Luke 12:13-21

Message

Rev. Nancy J. White

***Hymn**

Be Thou My Vision

CH#595

Words: Irish song(8th c.); tr. Mary E. Bryne, 1905: V. by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912. Alt.
Music: Traditional Irish melody; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1963

**Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
naught be all else to me, save that thou art
thou my best thought by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.**

**Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
thou my redeemer, my love thou hast won,
thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.**

**Riches I need not, nor vain, empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
Great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**

**Great God of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever be fall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

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.**

Invitation to Generosity

Jesus said, "Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed; for one's life does not consist in the abundance of possessions." (Luke

12:15) The promise of life abundantly invites us to trust God's provision and abundance of resources for all. We share our gifts from the abundance given to us.

***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 and Thanksgiving**

Loving God, may we demonstrate our love through these gifts. Bless them and magnify them so that all creation will benefit from your abundance and gift of life and love.

Times of Passage: Farewell

Greeting

Leader: Our church family is constantly changing. People come and go. Babies are born. Children grow up. People commit themselves to one another. Loved ones and friends among us come to the end of their lives. Individuals move into our community and church life. Others leave us, moving away to new places, new experiences, and new opportunities. It is important and right that we recognize these times of passage, of endings and beginnings. Today we share the time of farewell with a friend who is leaving.

ENDING AN AUTHORIZED MINISTRY

RECOGNITION OF THE END

LEADER

At the beginning of September, 2015, Rev Nancy J White came to First Congregational Church of North Yarmouth as Bridge Interim Minister. On January 3, 2016, this local church called Rev Nancy J. White to serve as Pastor and Teacher.

AUTHORIZED MINISTER

I thank First Congregational Church of North Yarmouth, its members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last almost seven years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

PEOPLE

We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to retire and possibly explore new ministries elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

AUTHORIZED MINISTER

I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

VOWS OF RELEASE

All who are able may stand for these or similar words.

LEADER

Do you, the members and friends of First Congregational Church of North Yarmouth release Rev Nancy J White from the duties of Pastor and Teacher?

PEOPLE

We do, with the help of God.

LEADER

Do you offer your encouragement for her retirement and future ministry as it unfolds in new ways?

PEOPLE

We do, with the help of God.

LEADER

Do you, Rev Nancy J White, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?

AUTHORIZED MINISTER

I do, with the help of God.

LEADER

Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here and on the relationship with another who will come to serve?

AUTHORIZED MINISTER

I do, with the help of God.

WITNESS OF THE ASSOCIATION/ CONFERENCE

Church officers may come forward. A representative of the association or conference addresses them.

REPRESENTATIVE

On behalf of the Cumberland Association of the Maine Conference and the United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release. The member churches of our association and conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

OFFICERS

Thanks be to God.

Unison PRAYER (please stand as you are able.)

God, whose everlasting love for all is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. The time we were together in your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are

completely one with you and with each other, in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

***Sending Song We Are Walking (Siyamhamba) CH#442**

Words and Music: South Africa (20th Century)

**We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God.
We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God.
We are walking, walking, we are walking, walking, we are walking in
the light of God. We are walking, walking, we are walking, walking,
we are walking in the light of God.**

**We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing in the light of God, we are singing in the light of God.
We are singing, singing, we are singing, singing, we are singing in the
light of God. We are singing, singing, we are singing, singing, we are
singing in the light of God.**

**We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing in the light of God, we are dancing in the light of God.
We are dancing, dancing, we are dancing, dancing, we are dancing in
the light of God. We are dancing, dancing, we are dancing, dancing,
we are dancing in the light of God.**

**We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying in the light of God, we are praying in the light of God.
We are praying, praying, we are praying, praying, we are praying in the
light of God. We are praying, praying, we are praying, praying, we are
praying in the light of God.**

**We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God.
We are walking in the light of God, we are walking in the light of God.
We are walking, walking, we are walking, walking, we are walking in
the light of God. We are walking, walking, we are walking, walking,
we are walking in the light of God.**

*** BENEDICTION ~ ALL**

Numbers 6:24-26 alt.

May God bless us and keep us;

May God make her face to shine upon us and be gracious to us;

May God lift up his countenance upon us and give us peace.

Postlude

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Cords of Love: Service Prayers for the Eighth Sunday after Pentecost were written by Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Minister for Worship and Theology, United Church of Christ.

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[After-Pentecost-C-July-31-2022](#)

Staff

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

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Church Website: <http://nyccucc.com>
Maine Conference Website: www.maineucc.org
YouTube: youtube.com/c/nyccucc

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 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>