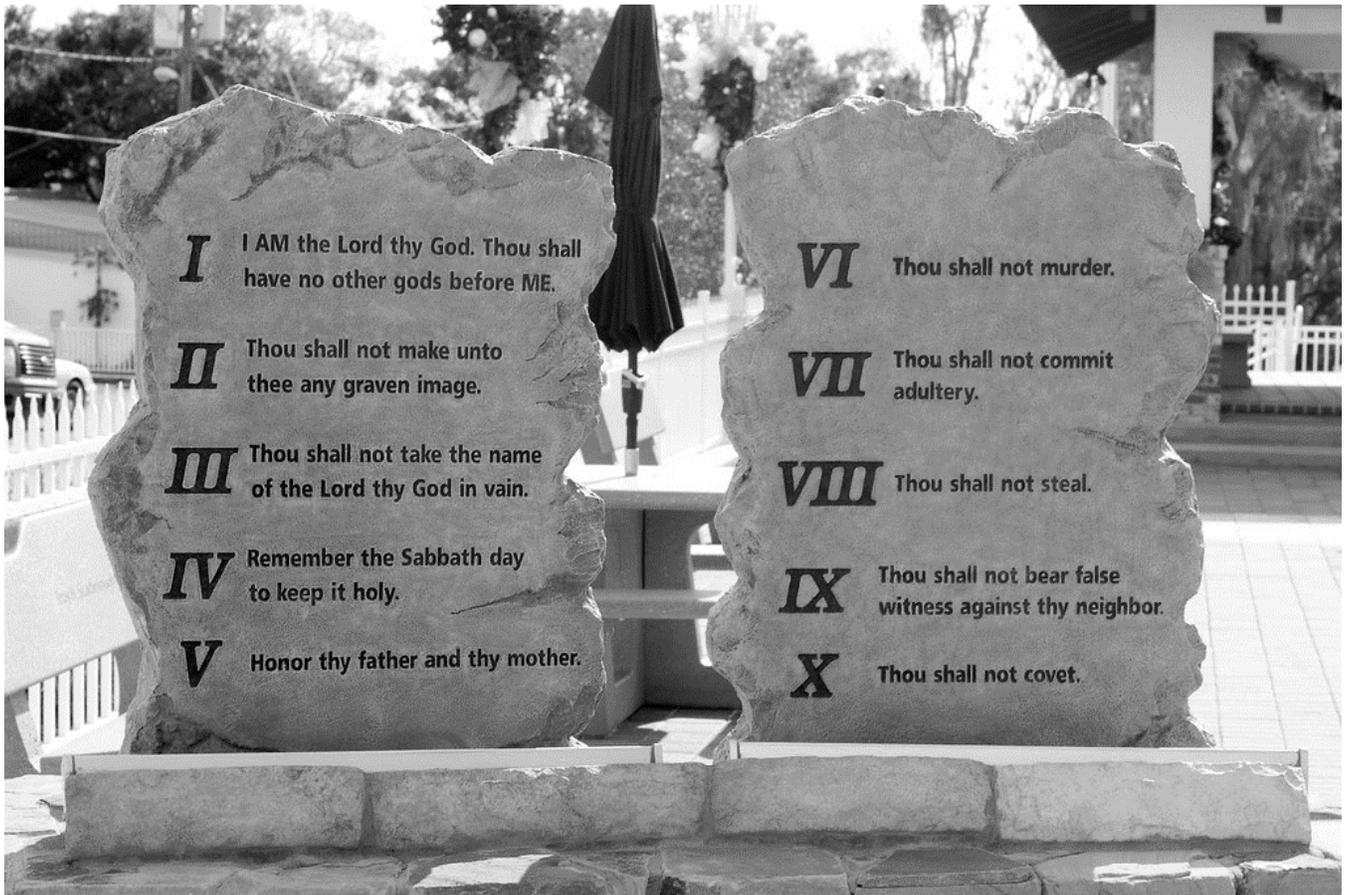


First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
3 Gray Road, North Yarmouth, Maine 04097
Organized in 1806



Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost
October 16, 2022 ~ 9:30 a.m.

October 16, 2022
The Nineteenth Sunday after Pentecost

An expert in the law, asked Jesus a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, ‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.” **Matthew 22:35-40**

Prelude:

Song: 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

Invocation **from Psalm 119:97-100, 103a**

O Lord, how I love your law! It is my meditation all day long.
Your commandment makes me wiser . . . for it is always with me.
I have more understanding . . . for your decrees are my meditation.
I understand more . . . for I keep your precepts. . . .
How sweet are your words to me Amen.

Call to Worship: **from 2 Timothy 3:5-6, 14-17 (*The Message*)**

Pastor: Some people make a show of religion, but don’t live it.

People: **They may study the Bible but can’t recognize truth.**

Pastor: Avoid them! As for you, stick with what you’ve learned and believed.

People: **Pay attention to those who teach and live with integrity.**

Pastor: There’s nothing like the Word of God for showing the way to wholeness through faith in Jesus Christ.

People: **All Scripture is inspired by God and helpful to us—**

Pastor: The Bible shows us truth, exposes our rebellion, corrects our mistakes, trains us to live God's way.

People: **Through the Word we are put together and shaped up for the tasks God has for us.**

***Hymn: *We Gather Together* CH # 276**

Words: Nederlandsche Gedenckclanck, 1626; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981. Music: Dutch melody (16 century); arr. Edward Kremser, 1877

**We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing,
to turn to a wisdom surpassing our own;
the pow'rs that oppress us now cease to distress us.
O God, be present with us, and make your will be known.**

**Beside us to guide us, O God we perceive you
ordaining, maintaining the power of life.
Yes, yours be the glory; let all tell the story.
Our God, be ever with us, in gladness and strife.**

**We all sing your praises, Redeemer triumphant,
defend us, be-friend us, what-ever may be.
May your congregation escape tribulation.
Your Name be praised forever, O God, make us free!**

Confession from 2 Timothy # & 4

Pastor: Lord, you have warned us that in times of difficulty, "people will be self-absorbed, money-hungry, self-promoting, arrogant, abusive, disobedient, ungrateful, unholy, unfeeling, unbending, slanderers, impulsive, savage, cynical, treacherous, ruthless, swollen with conceit, lovers of pleasure rather than lovers of God."

People: **God, help us to recognize our own temptations and weaknesses, and keep us from self-righteous finger-pointing.**

Pastor: You have warned us "the time is coming when people will not put up with sound teaching, but, having their ears tickled, they will accumulate for

themselves teachers to suit their own desires and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths.”

People: In good times or bad, keep us from getting carried away, growing weary, or becoming impatient. Help us to persevere and persist in proclaiming the Good News in word and deed, action and attitude.

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Pastor Day

Amen. Let us keep the faith; for there is reserved for us the crown of righteousness, which our Lord Jesus Christ, the righteous Judge of the living and the dead, will give to all who hope in him. Let us, therefore, exchange the peace of Christ with one another.

Passing the Peace

Choir Anthem:

Still, Small Voice

John Cameron

Time with God's Children:

Scripture

Exodus 19:1-6; 20:1-17

Sermon: Ten Affirmations, Part Two

Pastor Day

Silent Reflection

The Gospel

Luke 18:1-8

***Hymn:**

What a Friend We Have in Jesus

CH # 585

Words: Joseph Scriven, 1855; Music: Charles C. Converse, 1868

**What a friend we have in Jesus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a priv-i-lege to carry ev-ery-thing to God in prayer!
Oh, what peace we of-ten for-feit, oh, what need-less pain we bear,
all be-cause we do not car-ry ev-ery-thing to God in Prayer.**

**Have we trials and temp-ta-tions? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be dis-cour-aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful, who will all our sorrows share?
Je-sus knows our ev-ery weak-ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!**

**Are we weak and heavy laden, cum-bered with a load of care?
Pre-cious Sav-ior, still our refuge, take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, for-sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a solace there.**

Prayers of the People, concluding with 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

Exodus 19:4-6

God says, "I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. Now, therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, but you shall be for me a priestly kingdom and a holy nation."

***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: (in unison)**

Holy One, in Jesus Christ you have shown what your heart is like — merciful and abounding in steadfast love. Use our gifts to share your love, and form that same spirit in us that our lives may become continual prayers of thanksgiving. Form us as agents of your mercy and love in a world crying out for healing and hope. Amen.

***Hymn:**

We Are God's People

Tune: SYMPHONY

Words: Bryan Jeffery Leech; Music: Johannes Brahms

© Fred Bock Music Company, 1976

- 1. We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,
Born of His Spirit, established by His Word;
Our cornerstone is Christ alone, And strong in Him we stand:
O let us live transparently
And walk heart to heart and hand in hand.**
- 2. We are God's loved ones, the Bride of Christ our Lord,
For we have known it, the love of God outpoured;
Now let us learn how to return The gift of love once given:
O let us share each joy and care,
And live with a zeal that pleases Heaven.**
- 3. We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;
He wills us be a family, Diverse yet truly one:
O let us give our gifts to God,
And so shall his work on earth be done.**
- 4. We are a temple, the Spirit's dwelling place,
Formed in great weakness, a cup to hold God's grace;
We die alone, for on its own Each ember loses fire:
Yet joined in one the flame burns on
To give warmth and light, and to inspire.**

***Charge & Benediction**

Postlude

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Staff

Interim Pastor: Rev. Dr. Paul A. Day
Administrative Assistant: Lyn Glassock
Organist: Peter Dickson
Organist: 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](https://www.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>