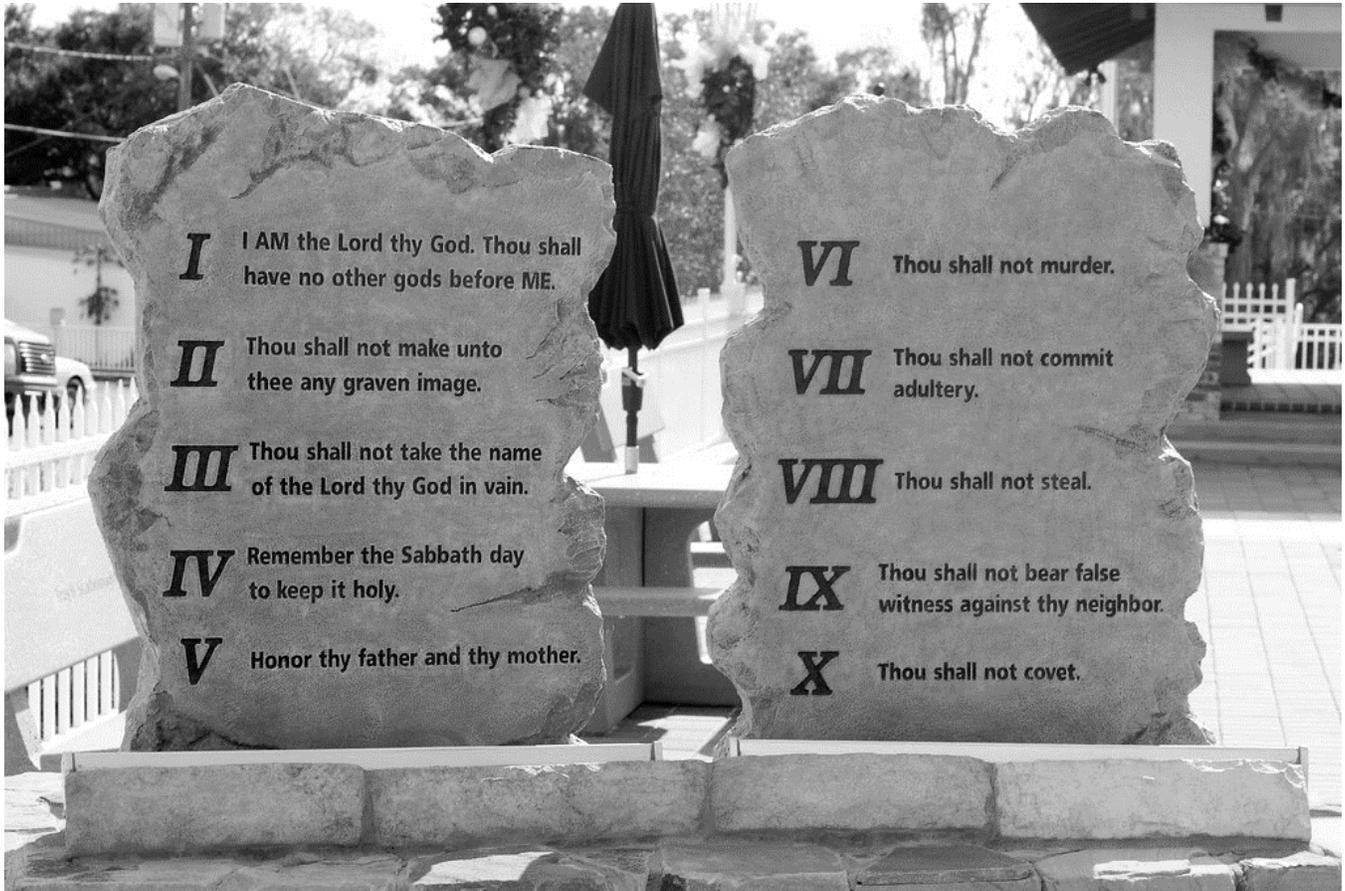


First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
3 Gray Road, North Yarmouth, Maine 04097
Organized in 1806



Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Access Sunday & Disabilities Awareness Week
October 9, 2022 ~ 9:30 a.m.

October 9, 2022
The Eighteenth 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:

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

Invocation

God of Covenant and Commandments, you gave your people laws so that they might live in harmony with one another. As we worship you this day show us how to live in peace, so that all may know of your love; in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Call to Worship:

from Psalm 66

Pastor: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth;

People: **Sing the glory of his name; give to him glorious praise.**

Pastor: Come and see what God has done:

he is awesome in his deeds among all peoples.

People: **Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard.**

Pastor: Say to God, "How awesome are your deeds!"

People: **"All the earth worships you and sings praises to your name."**

***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!***

A Prayer for Access Sunday

by Bekah Anderson (adapted)

Pastor: As we gather in this place, let us celebrate the work we have done:
the ramps that connect us, the elevators that uplift us, the
conversations that help us know more deeply how God is present with
us, reflected in a diversity of bodyminds.

People: **God, draw us closer to Access and Love.**

Pastor: Yet we realize that there is always more to be done. Our physical
access has not accounted for every body. Our communication access
has not accounted for every mind. Our attitudes and theologies
remain shaped by a culture that does not love disabled bodyminds,
and untangling those beliefs is the work of a lifetime.

People: **God, draw us closer to Access and Love.**

Pastor: We are not perfect. But we are not called to be perfect. We are called to love our neighbor, and to recognize when our attempts at love have gone astray. We are called to live deeply, fully, grounded in our own bodymind, and reaching out to the unique bodyminds of those who share this life with us.

People: **God, draw us closer to Access and Love.**

Silent Prayer

Words of Assurance

Pastor Day

Amen. In Christ God draws us ever closer to Access and Love. Let us rejoice in the continued work of access! Let us rejoice that there are more ways than we know to love one another! Let us be bold, creative, thoughtful, empathetic, and faithful. Let us rejoice, knowing there is yet more wisdom to learn on this journey of access. And let us now exchange the peace of Christ with one another.

Passing the Peace

Choir Anthem: ***Still, Small Voice*** by John Cameron

Time with God's Children:

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

Sermon: **Ten Affirmations** Pastor Day

*Hymn: ***Wonderful Words of Life*** CH # 323

Words and Music: Philip P. Bliss, 1874

**Sing them over again to me, won-der-ful words of life;
let me more of their beauty see, won-der-ful words of life.
Words of life and beauty, teach me faith and duty;
*beautiful words, won-derful words, won-der-ful words of life,
beautiful words, won-derful words, won-der-ful words of life.***

**Christ, the blessed one, gives to all, won-der-ful words of life;
Sinner, list to the loving call, won-der-ful words of life.**

All so freely given, wooing us to heaven;
*beautiful words, won-der-ful words, won-der-ful words of life,
beautiful words, won-de-rful words, won-der-ful words of life.*

Sweetly echo the gospel call, won-der-ful words of life;
Offer pardon and peace to all, won-der-ful words of life.
Jesus, only Savior, sanctify forever;
*beautiful words, won-der-ful words, won-der-ful words of life,
beautiful words, won-der-ful words, won-der-ful words of life.*

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

2 Timothy 2:8, 11-13, 15a

Remember Jesus Christ, raised from the dead — that is the gospel The saying is sure: If we have died with him, we will also live with him; if we endure, we will also reign with him; if we deny him, he will also deny us; ¹³if we are faithless, he remains faithful-for he cannot deny himself. . . . Do your best to present yourself to God as one approved by him, a worker who has no need to be ashamed. . . .

*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>