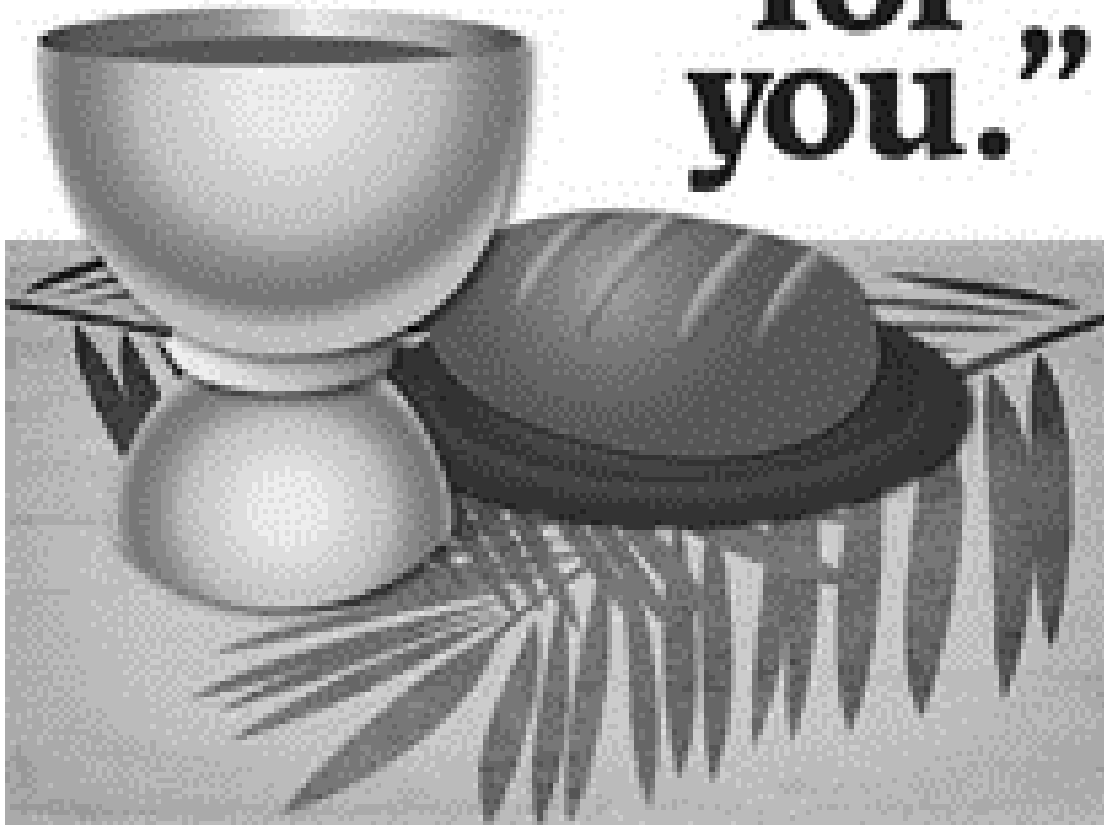


First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
3 Gray Road, North Yarmouth, Maine 04097
Organized in 1806

**“Given
for
you.”**



Palm / Passion Sunday
April 2, 2023 ~ 9:30 a.m.

Palm / Passion Sunday
April 2, 2023 ~ 9:30 a.m.

Welcome. We pray that you may be blessed through our worship and fellowship today.

* Indicates: Please stand if you are able.

Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be grasped, but . . . he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross.

from **Philippians 2:5-8**

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

All Sing: God welcomes all! Strangers and friends!

God's love is strong! And it never ends!

Words: John L. Bell; Music: Trad. South African, transcribed by John L. Bell at the Sunrise Hospice, Themba. © 2008, GIA/Iona Community / WGRG

Welcome and Announcements

+ The Liturgy of the Palms +

Call to Worship

from **Psalm 118**

Pastor: O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

People: **God's steadfast love endures forever.**

Pastor: The stone the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

People: **This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes.**

Pastor: This is the day that the Lord has made.

People: **We will rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

People: **Shout "Hosanna!" and wave palm branches before the Lord.**

***Hymn**

All Glory, Laud, and Honor

CH # 192

Words: Theodulph of Orleans c. 821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1854, alt
Music: Melchior Teschner, 1615; harm. William H. Monk, 1861; desc.
O.I. Cricket Harrison, 1994

**All glory, laud, and honor, to you, Redeemer, King,
to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!
You are a child of Israel, Great David's greater son;
you ride in lowly triumph, Messiah, blessed one!**

**The company of angels are praising you on high,
and we with all creation in chorus make reply.
The people of the Hebrews with palms before you went;
our praise and prayer and anthems before you we present.**

**To you before your passion they sang their hymns of praise;
to you, now high exalted, our melody we raise.
As you received their praises, now hear us as we pray.
Since you delight in goodness, rule in our hearts today.**

***Invocation (in unison)**

**God of all, you gave your only-begotten Son to take the form of a
servant, and to be obedient even to death on a cross. Give us the
same mind that was in Christ Jesus, that sharing in his humility,
we may come to be with him in his glory. Amen.**

***Passing the Peace**

Time with God's Children

Matthew 21:1-11

Choir Anthem

Hosanna to the Son of David

Larry Shackley

The Good News

Three Processions

Pastor Paul Day

+ The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves to God +

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on."

Mark 12:41-44

Offertory

***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 (in unison)**

Lord, we confess that we do not have the bold faith of the poor widow who gave all she had. But we are bold enough to believe that you accept the offerings we bring – our money, our time, our efforts, this bread and this cup. Bless us and these gifts; use them and us to further your work among us and around us. Amen.

**+ The Liturgy of the Passion +
(The Sacrament of Holy Communion)**

***Hymn *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken* CH # 387**

Words: Reginald Heber, 1827; Music: John S. B. Hodges, 1868

**Bread of the world, in mercy broken,
wine of the soul, in mercy shed,
by whom the words of life were spoken,
and in whose death our sins are dead.**

**Look on the heart by sorrow broken,
look on the tears by sinners shed,**

**and be thy feast to us the token
that by thy grace our souls are fed.**

Words of Institution

Matthew 26:17-35

Prayer of Confession

O God, how often we, too, have betrayed you by our actions! How often have our bold declarations of faith evaporated in the face of difficulties, and we have deserted you.

+ Silent Prayer +

Words of Assurance

The first words Jesus spoke from the cross were these, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." In Christ we are forgiven and made new. The Bread and the Cup are symbols of God's love and grace for us. Thanks be to God!

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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.

***Hymn**

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded

CH # 202

Words: Attr. Bernard of Clairvaux (12th C.) tr. James W. Alexander, 1830
Music: Hans L. Hassler, 1601; harm. J.S. Bach, 1729

**O sacred Head, now wounded, with grief and shame weighed down;
now scornfully surrounded with thorns, thine only crown;
how pale thou art with anguish, with sore abuse and scorn!**

How does that visage languish which once was bright as morn!

**What thou, O Christ, has suffered was all for sinners' gain:
mine, mine was the transgression, but thine the deadly pain.
Lo, here I fall, my Savior! 'Tis I deserve thy place,
look on me with thy favor, and keep me in thy grace.**

**What language shall I borrow to thank thee, dearest Friend,
for this thy dying sorrow, thy pity without end?
O make me thine forever; and should I fainting be,
O, let me never, never outlive my love to thee.**

A Closing Reflection (responsive)

Benjamin Cremer

We want a war horse.
We want a bird of prey.
We want an army.

**Jesus rides a donkey.
The Holy Spirit descends as a dove.
Jesus calls fishers, tax collectors,
women and children.**

We want a court of law.
We want the hammer.
We want to pick up a sword.
We want to build a nation.
We want an empire.
We want a roaring lion.
We are trying to arm God.

**Jesus sets a table.
Jesus washes feet.
Jesus takes up the cross.
Jesus is building the church.
Jesus brings God's kingdom.
Christ comes as a lamb for sacrifice.
God is trying to disarm us.**

Postlude

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

Note: Hymns and songs are licensed under One License #A-73187 and CCLI #48404708

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

Church Phone: 829-3644
Church e-mail: nyarmouthcucc@gmail.com

Pastor Day's phone: 207 712-9896
Pastor Day's email: revpaulday@gmail.com

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

Note: This service is recorded and streamed on YouTube.

If you are not receiving church emails and would like to, please send an email to 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!

Offerings can also be made online through Tithely at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1301940> or text "Give" to 833-751-0314

THIS WEEK

- Tue. 10:00 am, Tuesday Gals
- Wed. 6:30 pm, Choir Rehearsal
- Thu. 6:00 pm, Soup Supper & Maundy Thursday Service
at First Congregational Christian Church, UCC
19 Gloucester Hill Rd., New Gloucester
- Fri. 7:00 pm, Good Friday Service – Seven Words from the Cross
at First Congregational Church of Gray, UCC
11 Yarmouth Rd., Gray
- Sat. 9:00 am, Pet Pantry

Next Lord's Day – April 9 – Easter Sunday

- 6:30 am, Sunrise Service at Skyline Farm
- ~7:15 am, Easter Breakfast at the Church
- 9:30 am, Worship Service – Celebration of the Resurrection

IN OUR PRAYERS

Sandra & Vince Golonka
Wayne Malloch
Blanche Mays
Ladd Meyerhoff
Cindy Tompson