

Join us for Worship!

We are worshipping in person on Sundays at 9:30 am. For those who wish to join us online please connect with us on YouTube at [youtube.com/c/nyccucc](https://www.youtube.com/c/nyccucc). If you would like to see the Sunday Bulletin that can be found on our website at <http://nyccucc.com>. If you wish to make an offering it can be made online through Tithely at <https://tithely.com/give?c=1301940>. You can also give by text: Text "Give" to 883-751-0314.

My King

Rev. Dr. Paul A. Day

I confess. A couple of Saturdays ago I arose early and watched the pomp and pageantry of the Coronation of King Charles III. As an Anglophile and a student of history it was something I did not want to miss. After all, I was only a year old when Elizabeth II was crowned.

The Coronation Service took me back to the last time Diana and I were at Westminster Abbey. October 13, 2019. It was another occasion of great ceremony: the 750th Anniversary of the Translation* of Edward the Confessor and of the Consecration of the Abbey. We were celebrating my "retirement" and were able to connect up with a couple of seminary classmates in London.

Edward was king of England from 1042-1066, and is one of England's patron saints. He had commissioned the first Westminster Abbey, consecrated in 1065. Every English monarch since then – with only two exceptions – has been crowned at Westminster Abbey.

Anyway, I was struck by the religious aspects of the Coronation in accordance with the style of the Church of England, and in particular with the reminders of a greater King to whom Charles and all people owe allegiance. A young member of the Chapel Royal said to the king: "Your Majesty, as children of the kingdom of God we welcome you in the name of the King of kings." He replied: "In his name and after his example I come not to be served but to serve."

The same theme was recalled when (in another innovation) the king offered his own prayer: "God of compassion and mercy whose Son was sent not to be served but to serve, give grace that I may find in thy service perfect freedom and in that freedom knowledge of thy truth." In case anyone wasn't paying attention, Archbishop Justin Welby's sermon hammered the point home: "The King of Kings, Jesus Christ, was anointed not to be served, but to serve. . . . His throne was a Cross. His crown was made of thorns. His regalia were the wounds that pierced his body."

What a contrast to the pomp and pageantry of the day!

Archbishop Welby concluded with these words: "Each of us is called by God to serve. Whatever that

looks like in our own lives, each of us can choose God's way today. We can say to the King of Kings, God Himself, as does the King here today, 'give grace that in thy service I may find perfect freedom.' In that prayer there is promise beyond measure, joy beyond dreams, hope that endures. By that prayer, for every King, every ruler, and, yes, for every person for all of us, we are opened to the transforming love of God."**

As I watched and listened to the Coronation Service, I thought back to another sermon I heard in person years ago. The great African-American preacher S. M. Lockridge addressed our annual clergy gathering with the message "That's My King!"***

Thursday is the 40th day after Easter – Ascension Day. For the Scriptures the Ascension is the crowning moment in the life and ministry of Jesus. On Sunday we will come to worship with the words of Psalm 47:

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

For the [Lord](#), the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

God has gone up with a shout, the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

God is king over the nations; God sits on his holy throne.

Charles III is not my king; Jesus Christ—That's My King!

Grace to you and peace,

Pastor Paul

*Note: Translation refers to the moving and reburial of a saint's relics.

**Here is a link to Archbishop Welby's sermon; it's only about 5 ½ minutes long:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3dqQQShF1xk>

***Here is the link to S. M. Lockridge's 3 minute sermon, "That's My King":

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=yzqTFNfeDnE>

Council

Council will be meeting on Thursday, May 18 at 6:30 pm at the church

Notes from the Church Office

There is a rental in the Fellowship Hall on Saturday, May 20. Set up will be done on Friday.

George Black will be out for a few weeks in June and July and will not be able to mow or trim the lawn. His grandson David will be volunteering during this time. We are in need of someone who can mow if David can't do it every week. If you are interested, please give George a call. Please call the office at 829-3644 for his number if you don't have a church directory.

Please keep the following people in your prayers

Diana Day

Sandra and Vince Golonka

Wayne Malloch

Blanche Mays

Cindy Tompson

Open and Affirming Follow-up

In follow up to the video shown this past Sunday after the service, a big thank you to everyone who attended. It was great to see so many joining in in exploring this subject at this point in time.

We will show the video again in June and July, and there is a process recommended for further smaller group discussions. This will be lead in large part by the Deacons. Stay tuned for more information.

Food Pantry

Communion Sunday has been our Sunday for food collection for local food pantries, but you can add to the grocery cart at any time throughout the month. Please help us fill the cart with these most needed items.

We are replacing our food pantry item list with food staples most requested by the food pantry.

These items include:

Boxed Cereal

Oatmeal

Peanut Butter

Granola and Snack Bars

Spaghetti or Macaroni

Rice

Canned Fruit

Soup

Canned Tuna or Chicken

Jam and Jelly

Juice

Non Food such as paper products are always welcome and needed, too.

Thank you for your generosity, This food will be distributed where it is most needed, the Cumberland Food Pantry or Harrison Food Bank.

Sunday Coffee and Fellowship Time

There is a signup sheet for the next two months on the table in the Gathering Space.

There is nothing fancy about this! Bring whatever you would like.

May Meetings

Council - Thursday, 18 at 6:30 pm

Choir Rehearsal - Wednesday Nights at 6:30 p.m. and Sunday Morning at 8:30 am

Tuesday Gals meets on Tuesdays at 10:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall.

Men's Club meets on the third Saturday of the month at 7:30 a.m. at Toddy Brook

Pet Place Pantry is open on the second Saturday of each month from 9:00-10:00 a.m.

Rummage Sale

The Tuesday Gals are now preparing for the rummage sale to be held at NYCC on Saturday May 27 from 9:00-1:00 pm.

Donations will be accepted in the Fellowship Hall from Monday May 22 through Friday May 26.

Please DO NOT donate:

electronics, VHS, Betamax, DVD's

Feel free to donate:

Clothing, shoes, pocketbooks, books, puzzles, games and toys, kitchen items, small furniture, tools and seasonal items and, so on. Contact Kathy Whittier at 254-7509 or Gail Strattard at 450-1612 with any questions or more info.

NYCC Clothing Ministry

Thank you for your generosity. Many are warmer and living easier lives because of your donations. Spring is here and clothing needs have changed.

The Clothing Ministry of NYCC collects basic clothing and accessories to be given out by the NYCC Street Ministry or donated to Maine Needs or the Freeport Thrift Store. If you are so moved, please add your contribution to the boxes in the gathering space. Most needed and asked for items:

Socks

Baseball Hats

Underwear

T-shirts

These items will be given out with the lunches when the NYCC crew visits Portland.

If you have gently used spring coats, shoes, spring clothing, like long sleeve and short sleeve t-shirts, leggings, sweatpants or jeans that you would like to give, please add these to the boxes, too. These items will be donated to Maine Needs or Freeport Thrift Store. Questions, please ask Jeanne or Tracy.

Strengthen the Church Special Offering

The Strengthen the Church Offering reflects the commitment of all settings of the United Church of Christ to cooperatively build up the UCC. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry, and innovation in existing congregations as we work to become a multicultural/multi-racial, accessible to all Christian movement. We will be accepting this offering on Sunday, May 28.

Register for Camp TODAY!

Programming for all ages

You are welcome here!

Scholarships are available for all sessions. Apply online by May 15, 2023

To sign up, visit www.pilgrimlodge.org

207-724-3200, info@ [pilgrimlodge.org](mailto:info@pilgrimlodge.org)

Pilgrim Lodge is a camp lovingly provided by the Maine Conference United Church of Christ since 1956.

Access worship directly on our YouTube channel (subscribe to our channel while you are there) at youtube.com/c/nyccucc