

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



Fifth Sunday of Easter
April 28, 2024 ~ 9:30 a.m.

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We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Jesse Myers-Wakeman

All Sing: Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary
Pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving,
I'll be a living Sanctuary for you.

Welcome and Announcements

Invocation

Pastor Zeb

Call to Worship

One: Let us be filled with Wonder

All: Christ is with us

One: The age of mercy is upon us

All: Christ is with us

One: Rejoice in the Good News

All: Christ is with us

Let us give praise and worship together

Silent Grounding Prayer

***Passing the Peace**

The peace of Christ be with you. — Response: And also with you.

***Hymn**

Spirit of God, Descend upon My heart

CH #265

Word: George Croly, 1867; Music: Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weak-ness mighty as thou art,
and make me love thee as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies,

but take the dimness of my soul away.

Teach me to feel that thou art always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear;
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
teach me the patience of unanswered prayer.

Teach me to love thee as thine angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame;
the baptism of the heaven descended Dove.
My heart an altar, and thy love the flame.

Scripture Readings

Epistle Reading: 1 John 4: 7-21

Gospel Reading: John 15: 1-8

+ Silent Prayers of Confession +

Words of Assurance

Choir Anthem *Sanctuary* by Lloyd Larson

Discipleship for All Ages

Message

Pastor Zeb

***Hymn**

Abide with Me

CH #636

Words: Henry F. Lyte, 1847; Music: William Henry Monk, 1861

Abide with me; fast falls the eventide;
the darkness deepens, God, with me abide;
when other helpers fail, and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
change and decay in all around I see;
O thou who changest not, abide with me.

I need thy presence every passing hour;
what but thy grace can foil the tempter's power?

Who like thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O abide with me.

I fear no foe, with thee at hand to bless;
ills have no weight, and tears no bitterness;
where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if thou abide with me.

Hold thou thy cross before my closing eyes;
shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies;
heaven's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;
in life, in death, O God, abide with me.

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.

The Offering of Our Gifts and Ourselves to God

Offertory

Jesse Myers-Wakeman

***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)**

Beloved God, we give thanks for these gifts today. We give thanks for all our blessings. We dedicate this offering to You and Your service. We promise to spread Your love and peace far and wide. Amen.

***Hymn**

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

CH #517

Words: Charles Wesley, 1747; alt.; Music: John Zundel, 1855

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, to earth come down;

fix in us thy humble dwelling, all thy faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breath, O Breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
let us all in thee inherit, let us find thy promised rest;
take away our love of sinning; alpha and omega be;
end of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all thy life receive;
suddenly return and never, never more thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve thee as thy hosts above,
pray, and praise thee without ceasing, glory in thy perfect love.

Finish, then thy new creation; pure and spotless let us be,
let us see thy great salvation perfectly restored in thee;
changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

***Charge and Benediction**

Postlude

Jesse Myers-Wakeman

We Go Forth to Serve God and Our Neighbors

* Those who are able may stand

Staff

Pastor: Rev. Zeb Green
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: nyarmouthccucc@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 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!
Offerings can also be made online at <https://tithe.ly/give?c=1301940>

THIS WEEK*

Today - 10:30 am, Coffee Hour

Next Week Tuesdays at -10:00 am, Tuesday Gals
 Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Choir
 Saturday, May 4, Greater Freeport Community Chorus Concert
 at 7 PM in Fellowship Hall. \$10 per person. Under 18 free.

IN OUR PRAYERS*

Congregation & Community: Sheila Babcock(Pet Pantry Patron), David and Michelle Bickford, Terri Bickford, Candy Burgess, Carol Davis, Louisa and Karl Gerstenberger, Sandra and Vince Golonka, Nolan, Soph and Zeb Green, Blanche Mays, Rey and Ellen Medrano, Steve Quentel, Lori Martin and Kaitlin Quentel, Cindy & Bill Tompson, Nancy White

*Please submit items for the Church Calendar or the Prayer List to Pastor Green or Lyn Glassock by Tuesday in order to be included in the bulletin. Thank You.

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