

WELCOME to worship at United Church of Christ in Norwell. Whether you are a member or affiliate member of our church, a frequent attendee, or a first time visitor, we are truly glad you are here and invite you to participate in the many opportunities for worship, growth and service. We hope you will find your time here to be meaningful and the congregation welcoming. At the conclusion of the postlude, please join us for conversation and refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

LISTENING DEVICES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, AND LARGE PRINT HYMNALS ARE AVAILABLE. An usher or deacon would be happy to assist you with any of these needs. A CD of this morning's service will be available for \$2.00 in the sound room (back left corner of the sanctuary), or you may borrow a copy through the church library.

The Deacons today are Harry Solis and Ella Segall.

The flowers on the pedestal are given by Richard Hatch in appreciation of the choirs and all their hard work.

Child care for infants through grade two is available downstairs in rooms 10 and 7.

Activity bags are available for children to use in the library (a Deacon or usher can direct assist you). Audio of the worship service can be heard in the library as well. Please note that a parent must remain with their child(ren) in the library to supervise them.

"Prayer Chairs" (with prayer shawls on them) are located in the back right corner of the sanctuary. You are invited to come to them any time during our service. A prayer partner from our Healing and Wholeness Ministry Team will lay hands on your shoulders and *silently* pray for you. You do not need to tell them your specific prayer concern, unless you choose to do so.

Parking notes: The front driveway and rear parking lot have reserved spaces for handicapped parking. Also, some members require easier access through the front door. Please save the entire front driveway and marked spaces in back for those who really need them.

Flower donations: A sign-up calendar is located in Fellowship Hall *on the bulletin board near the doorway to the elevator and back stairs*. You will receive a form a few weeks before the date you have signed up for inquiring about details for your donation (flowers cost \$35).

Allergy Alert! - We have children in our church community who have life-threatening allergies to nuts and eggs. Did you know that a simple smear of peanut butter (*or the oils not washed away with soap*) can cause a child to stop breathing within 1-2 minutes? (Anti-bacterial wipes or instant hand sanitizers *do not* take care of the problem.) Thank you for your help!

Church School for Children and Youth: (Pre-K through 12th grade) meets at 9:00am downstairs. Our "Happenings..." faith formation group for 9th-12th grades meets in room 1.

Youth Groups: Both groups meet Sunday evenings downstairs in room 1, as follows:

4:00-5:30pm Middle School Youth Group (grades 6-8)

6:00-7:30pm Senior High Youth Group (grades 9-12)

The Memory Lane Singers' Schedule: Join us and help spread joy on these Mondays, 2-3pm. Bring your friends! *No singing experience necessary!* Call Kay Spurr, 781-545-6405, if you have questions:

Norwell Royal: January 9, February 6

Scituate Life Care: January 16

Scituate Cardigan: January 23



United Church of Christ, Congregational
An Open and Affirming Church

Ministers to the World
Ministers to the Congregation

All the Congregation
All the Staff

January 8, 2017

10:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

CALL OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Leanne Walt

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #134 *Emmanuel, Emmanuel*

Bob McGee

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.
God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

UNISON INVOCATION

**God of wonder and mystery,
today we remember how you surprise us in every age.
Into the gloom of fear and want, you bring light;
into emptiness, you bring abundance;
into the cold, you bring warmth.
Into the hardness of the world, you bring the wonder of an infant.
Enter now, Holy One, among us and within us,
and move us to greater adoration of your mystery and wonder.
We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

*HYMN

#167 *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

Spiritual

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Frank Cantelmo

**Holy God,
We confess that we are a distracted people, and forgetful of your love.
We make selfish choices, hurt each other, and perpetuate injustice.
We have sinned against you and are deeply sorry.
We repent of our disregard for you, each other and your creation.
By the power of your Spirit, forgive, restore and strengthen us to
live in your light and walk in your truth.
Through Jesus we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

(Please remain seated and enjoy the Postlude music.)

ANTHEM *God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen* Arr. Marty Parks

*Standing to praise God

We Receive God's Word

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-12

SERMON *To Show the Way* Rev. Leanne Walt

***HYMN** #169 *O Thou Joyful* *O SANCTISSIMA*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Frank Cantelmo

Response (all) #173 *As with Gladness* v. 3 *DIX*

As they offered gifts most rare at the manger plain and bare,
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy,
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to you from whom they spring.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory *Once in Royal David's City* *IRBY*

Please sign and pass the Red Book (in aisle seats) so we may greet each other by name. If you are with us for the first time, please add your contact information.

*Doxology Greensleeves

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him,
the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

*Prayer of Dedication

CHILDREN MESSAGE H.O.P.E. Puppet Ministry

***THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)** Hand in Hand

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***HYMN** #172 *We Three Kings* v. 1-3 *KINGS OF ORIENT*

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *Praise to the God of Our Salvation* Robert Hughes
Eileen Huang, organ

Rev. Leanne S. Walt ❖ lwalt@uccnorwell.org, phone ext. 12 ❖ Interim Pastor
Rev. Deborah Spratley ❖ dspratley@uccnorwell.org, ext. 11 ❖ Associate Pastor
Cathy Benedict ❖ cbenedict@uccnorwell.org, ext. 25 ❖ Minister of Children's Education
Diana Dunphy ❖ contact through Debbie in church office ❖ Office Assistant
Karen Harvey ❖ kharvey@uccnorwell.org, ext. 16 ❖ Minister of Music
Anne Marie Holloway ❖ amholloway@uccnorwell.org, ext 28 ❖ Minister of Youth Education
Scott MacPherson ❖ contact through Debbie in church office ❖ Property Manager
Leanne Martin ❖ Child Care Coordinator
Heather McDevitt ❖ Child Care Coordinator
Jerry Thornell ❖ jthornell@uccnorwell.org, ext. 21 ❖ Executive Minister
Debbie Wheeler ❖ office@uccnorwell.org, ext. 10 ❖ Minister of Parish Life
Danielle Biggins ❖ newnurserydirector@gmail.com, 781-659-2535 ❖ The New Nursery School

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We are a Christ-centered inclusive community called to ministry.