

***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 Jim Stewart.

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:

Scituate Life Care: January 16

Scituate Cardigan: January 23

Norwell Royal: February 6



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 15, 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.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***HYMN**

#17 O Worship the King v.1,3,4

LYONS

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Crystal English

God of Light, we confess that we do not always walk in Your light.

**We confess that we are prone to follow the fading lights of the world,
drawn to seeking personal success and fortune,
and often succumbing to the darkness of
self-doubt and unworthiness.**

**We confess that we often ignore Your Light when it shines on
injustice and the suffering of our neighbors.**

**Forgive us for not seeking the true Light
that illumines Your love and justice for all people.**

**Forgive us for not following the ways of Jesus,
who commanded us to love one another.**

**Our hearts' desire is to bear the true Light of Your love.
In the name of Jesus Christ the Messiah, we pray. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

COMMISSIONING The Pastoral Care Ministry Team

Introduction (adapted from 1 Corinthians 12)

Pastor: Affirmation of ministry is the act whereby a local church of the United Church of Christ recognizes the diverse gifts of its members and celebrates the particular ministry of each person in the life of the church or in various settings in the life of the world. There are different kinds of spiritual gifts, but the same Spirit gives them.

Congregation: There are different ways of serving, but the same God is served.

Pastor: There are different abilities to perform service, but the same God gives ability to each of us for our particular service.

Congregation: The Spirit's presence is shown in some way in each person for the good of all.

Pastor: Christ is like a single body, which has many parts.

Congregation: It is still one body even though it is made up of different parts.

Pastor: If one part of the body suffers, all the other parts suffer with it; if one part is praised, all the other parts share its happiness.

Congregation: All of us are Christ's body, and each one is a part of it.

Prayer of Covenant and Commissioning

ANTHEM *Something Happens Here* Richard Avery/Donald Marsh;
Arr. John Wilson

We Receive God's Word

SCRIPTURE 1 John 1-2:5

SERMON *Living in the Light* Rev. Leanne Walt

***HYMN** #416 *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face* v.1,2 **CONSOLATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Crystal English

Response #416 *Here, O My Lord, I See Thee Face to Face* v.3 **CONSOLATION**
Too soon we rise; the symbols disappear;
the feast, tho' not the love, is past and gone;
the bread and wine remove, but thou art here -
nearer than ever – still my shield and sun.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory *I Come with Joy* **DOVE OF PEACE**

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

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

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***HYMN** #422 *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ* **LINSTEAD**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *God the Almighty* Gary Davidson
Eileen Huang, organ

(Please remain seated and enjoy the Postlude music.)

*Standing to praise God

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
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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.