

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 Debbie Wooten and Dave Benedict.

The flowers today are given by the Pat and John Kelso in honor of their dear friend, Craig Campbell, who celebrates his 100th birthday and in loving memory of his dear wife, Margi. They met them through Nan Bowen (Lee Aten's mother. Thanks Nan.)

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 Cardigan: February 13, March 27, April 17

Scituate Life Care: February 20, March 20, April 10

Norwell Royal: March 6, April 3



United Church of Christ, Congregational
An Open and Affirming Church

Ministers to the World
Ministers to the Congregation

All the Congregation
All the Staff

February 12, 2017

10:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

CALL OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Leanne Walt

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Graham Kendrick

Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
Blaze Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
Send forth Your word, Lord, and let there be light.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN

#62 *Creator God, Creating Still*

ST. ANNE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Carolyn Tatarian

God of our baptism,

You sent John the Baptist to point to the compassion of your Son.

But too often, we abandon his message and point only to ourselves.

We point to our worship preferences rather than the God we worship.

We point to our status rather than the grace that makes us all equal.

We point to our comforts rather than to the One who calls us to let go.

We point to our past rather than to the One who calls us into the future.

Forgive us, Lord, for pointing in all the wrong directions.

Forgive us when we do not wait patiently for your direction.

Forgive us when we knowingly move in the opposite direction.

Give us wisdom to discern your Way and

Courage to point to the One who came to show us the Way.

In His name and spirit we pray and trust. Amen.

Silent Reflection

Assurance of Grace

FAITH WITNESS*Finding Faith in Prayer*

Carolyn Tatarian

ANTHEM*Let's Sing About God's Love*
Cherub Choir

Natalie Sleeth

We Receive God's Word

SCRIPTURE

Luke 7:18-35

SERMON*Wisdom's Children*

Rev. Leanne Walt

ANTHEM*Go and Tell John*
Sanctuary Choir

Lloyd Pfautsch

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Carolyn Tatarian

Response (all)

#506 *Healer of Our Ev'ry Ill*

Marty Haugen

Healer of our ev'ry ill, light of each tomorrow,
Give us peace beyond our fear, and hope beyond our sorrow. (2x)

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory

Festive Rondo
Celestial Ringers*Cynthia Dobrinski*

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

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; One God, Triune, whom we adore:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*Prayer of Dedication

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Cathy Benedict

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (debts/debtors)

Hand in Hand

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

*HYMN

#560 *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms**SHOWALTER****BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE***Recessional*
Karen Harvey, organ

Alfred Fedak

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