

*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 Ella Segall and Larry Howell.

**The flowers** today are given by the Hawk Family in honor and memory of all those Jameses in our lives.

**Our guest musician** today is Stephanie Sousa, a Norwell native who attended this church while growing up, gracing us with her artistry many times over the years. She is a graduate of Rhode Island College and is currently living in Boston and teaching music in the Stoneham Public Schools.

**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 12<sup>th</sup> grade) meets at 9:00am downstairs. Our "Happenings..." faith formation group for 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades meets in room 1.

**Youth Groups: Special Note for March 19: No Youth Group Meetings Tonight**

Both groups (*usually*) 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:** March 20, April 10, May 1, June 5

**Norwell Royal:** April 3, May 8, June 12

**Scituate Cardigan:** March 27, April 17, May 22, June 26



**United Church of Christ, Congregational**  
*An Open and Affirming Church*

**Ministers to the World**  
**Ministers to the Congregation**

**All the Congregation**  
**All the Staff**

**March 19, 2017**

**10:00 a.m.**

We Gather in God's Name

### CALL OF THE BELL

### WELCOME

Rev. Leanne Walt

### CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: We come from different backgrounds and have taken various roads to get here,

**People: But we are all here to seek an experience of the holy.**

Pastor: So, we listen for the promise of God's fiercely gentle love. We listen for the whisper of God's grace. We listen for the rumblings of God's justice.

**People: We listen for the guidance of God's call on our lives.**

### \*HYMN

*We're Gathered Here*  
(words on screen)

Gary Johnson

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Anne Marie Holloway

**Lord, your call to discipleship is demanding.  
We confess that we have not followed your ways  
or trusted your promises.  
We love only those who love us;  
we show kindness only to those who are kind to us;  
we give only when we expect to receive.  
Forgive us, Lord.  
Fill our hearts with your selfless love.  
Change our lives by your matchless grace.  
These things we pray through Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Silent Confession

Assurance

Now let us go and live as Christ commands:  
Be merciful, as God is merciful;  
do not judge, and you will not be judged;  
but forgive, and you will be forgiven;  
give, and it will be given to you.  
Children of God, we are loved beyond measure,  
forgiven to the furthest reach of our imagination.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**ANTHEM** *Let God Be God* Bryan Jeffery Leech

We Receive God's Word

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 14:1, 7-24

**SERMON** *What's In It for Me?* Rev. Leanne Walt

**\*HYMN** #610 *Living for Jesus* C. Harold Lowden

We Respond to God's Love

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

Response (all) #324 *Your Words to Me Are Life and Health* WINCHESTER OLD

Your words to me are life and health; pour strength into my soul;  
enable, guide, and teach my heart to reach its perfect goal!

Your words to me are full of joy, of beauty, peace, and grace;  
from them I learn your blessed will, through them I see your face.

**OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES**

Offertory *Sacred Harp Medley* Arr. Brant Adams  
Stephanie Sousa, flute

*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

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread, and bless this fruit of the vine.  
**People: Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our eyes may be opened, and that we may recognize the risen Christ in our midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.**

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

(Gluten-free is available at center station. Grape juice, not wine, is served to all.)

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

**\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

**\*HYMN** #459 *Lord, You Give the Great Commission* v.1, 3, 5 *ABBOT'S LEIGH*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Con Bravura* Georg Philipp Telemann  
Stephanie Sousa, flute Karen Harvey, 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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*We are a Christ-centered inclusive community called to ministry.*