

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.

Child care during summer worship is available for infants through age four downstairs in room 10.

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.

The Deacons today are Bob Hawk and Larry Howell.

The flowers on the pedestal today are given by the Gould, Kuehn and Williams families in memory of their mother, Charter member, Janet Gould Steffens.

"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 front driveway and marked spaces in back for those who 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!

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:** June 26

Please note: Our Church School for All Ages does not meet during the summer, but will resume again on September 24.



United Church of Christ, Congregational
An Open and Affirming Church

Ministers to the World
Ministers to the Congregation

All the Congregation
All the Staff

June 18, 2017

9:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

CALL OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Rev. Deborah Spratley

UNISON INVOCATION

O God, we trust in Your power to create and to sustain. We could not trust if we did not know that You are always near. Be with us, Lord, as we are gathered here to worship You. Help us not to check our minds or our hearts at the door. Enable us to bring our hopes, our needs and our expectations to you, so that we might experience You touch

*HYMN

#23 Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven v.1,2,5

LAUDA ANIMA

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Douglas Holley

Gracious Lord, sometimes when our word should be our bond, we make promises that we fail to keep. Yet you are faithful to your promises. At times when we should be turning to you in faith, we doubt. Yet you are faithful to us. When we have prayed for your grace, we become impatient when it does not seem to be forthcoming. And yet, you are always faithfully with. For all those times when we fall short of your expectations, we ask your forgiveness. Hear now as we lift to you our silent prayers of confession...(time for prayer in silence) We pray in Jesus holy name, Amen.

Silent Confession

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

LEADER: "If you will seek me with all your heart," the Lord says, you will find me. The glory of God is revealed to us in the living presence of Jesus Christ, who died that we might be free. In joyous recognition of that promise I declare to you that we are a forgiven people.

ALL: Thanks be to God

***HYMN** *Open the Eyes of My Heart* Paul Baloche

We Receive God's Word

SCRIPTURE Genesis 18: 1-15

SERMON *Who's Laughing Now?* Rev. Deborah Spratley

ANTHEM *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* Mark Andrews

We Respond to God's Love

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Douglas Holley

Response (all seated) #304 *Into My Heart* Harry Clarke

Into my heart, into my heart, come into my heart, Lord Jesus;
come in today, come into stay, come into my heart, Lord Jesus.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory *Happy Handbells* Karen Harvey
Rockin' Ringers

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

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

***SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

***HYMN** #24 *The God of Abraham Praise* LEONI

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE (seated) *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* LAUDA ANIMA
Karen Harvey, organ Setting: Michael Burkhardt

*Standing to praise God

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