

*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 Janet Johnson and Donna Nelson.

**The flowers on the pedestal** today are given by Ron Armstrong in loving memory of Judy.

**"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!

**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**

**July 9, 2017**

**9:00 a.m.**

We Gather in God's Name

**CALL OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME**

Rev. Deborah Spratley

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (Unison)

**We come to church hungry, Lord: hungry for comfort, hungry for love, hungry for a new way of living, hungry for your word. Thank you for giving us this place and this time to worship. We are eager to taste your goodness in community, with our brothers and sisters. We come hoping to hear you say, "Behold I am making all things new." Amen**

**\*HYMN**

#24 *The God of Abraham Praise*

LEONI

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Unison)

Ann Finnie

**God, your world is filled with awe and abundance, yet we often feel bored, wanting more than we have. Forgive us. Gracious God, you entered our world offering grace and truth, yet we are steeped in judging others and living lives that are not true to you. Have mercy on us. Lord, we walk by people in the world who need our compassion and justice yet we selfishly focus on our issues. Forgive us. Lord we silently offer you the prayers of our own hearts, knowing you already know of our brokenness... Silent Confession. Amen.**

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Brothers and sisters, the mercies of God are from everlasting to everlasting. In the name of Jesus Christ, receive the grace of God that is beyond our efforts and in spite of our failures. The gift of God is the forgiveness of our sin and the promise of new life.

**ALL: Thanks be to God, Amen.**

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

We Receive God's Word

**SCRIPTURE** Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67

**SERMON** *The Ultimate Matchmaker* Rev. Deborah Spratley

**ANTHEM** *Still, Still with Thee* John Ness Beck  
Robbi Boston, solo

We Respond to God's Love

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE** Ann Finnie

Response (all seated) #454 *Come, Celebrate the Call of God* v.1 ALIDA'S TUNE

Come, celebrate the call of God that awakens and renews,  
and chooses from us, for our good, the bringers of good news.  
The Spirit's blessing all ordains to show what God has done,  
Yet brings to focus and contains the many in the one.

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory *Let All Things Now Living* Arr. Katherine Davis  
Robbi Boston and Helen Burgess

*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

Rev. Deborah Spratley

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

## \*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

\***HYMN** #72 *To God Be the Glory* Fanny Crosby/William Doane

## \*BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE** (seated) *Toccata on "Leoni"* YIGDAL;  
Karen Harvey, organ Arr. Michael Burkhardt

\*Standing to praise God

Rev. Leanne S. Walt ❖ lwalt@uccnorwell.org, phone ext. 12 ❖ Lead 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  
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*We are a Christ-centered inclusive community called to ministry.*