

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 Deb Wooten-Angelo and Brett Wollam.

The flowers on the pedestal today are given by Manuel Monteiro and Susan Ingram in honor of their grandson's baptism today.

"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

September 3, 2017

9:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

CALL OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Rev. Leanne Walt

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***HYMN**

Hymnal #27 *Come, Thou Almighty King*

ITALIAN HYMN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Wendy Bawabe

Gracious God, we confess that we separate ourselves from your unconditional love. We live far from the waters of our baptism, forgetting its magnificence, its freedom, its responsibility. Instead we fill ourselves with details of life and fears of death, worries about things present and confusion about things to come. Forgive us and find us in the midst of ourselves. Amen.

In these moments of quiet reflection let us confess to God all that separates us from God and one another.

(Time for personal reflection and confessions)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

God never condemns us.

Christ always reaches for us.

Nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus Christ.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

***HYMN**

#495 *Weave* (3x)

Rosemary Crow

We Receive God's Word

SCRIPTURE Exodus 3:1-15

SERMON *The Sacredness of the Situation* Rev. Leanne Walt

ANTHEM *In His Time* Diane Ball
Pick-up Choir

We Respond to God's Love

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Wendy Bawabe

Response #285 *How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely* v. 1 **MERLE'S TUNE**

How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place;
my soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest;
and so your temple calls us within its walls to rest.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory *Go Down, Moses* Arr. Mark Hayes
Karen Harvey, piano

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 Baptism

Susanne Elisa Adams
Thomas James Adams
Thomas' Parents: Susanne and Ron Adams
Godparents/Sponsors: Michael and Lauren Monteiro
UCC Member Grandparents: Manuel Monteiro and Susan Ingram

Invitation to Baptism
Baptismal Vows

Pledge of Support

Deacon: Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to those about to be baptized, as they live and grow in Christ?
People: We promise our love, support, and care to Thomas and Susanne.

HYMN (All, seated) #75 *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry* v. 1-4, 7 **WATERLIFE**
Baptismal Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

***HYMN** #618 *How Firm a Foundation* v. 1, 4, 5 **FOUNDATION**

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (seated) *Victory Through Christ* Lani Smith
Karen Harvey, organ

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