



**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** for infants through grade 2 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.

**Audio recordings of sermons** are available online: [uccnorwell.org](http://uccnorwell.org).

**United Church of Christ, Norwell**

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

P. O. Box 501, 460 Main Street, Norwell, MA 02061 ❖ (781) 659-2887  
[www.uccnorwell.org](http://www.uccnorwell.org) ❖ email: [office@uccnorwell.org](mailto:office@uccnorwell.org)

Ministers to the World		All the Congregation
Ministers to the Congregation		All the Staff
Rev. Leanne S. Walt	Lead Pastor	lwalt@uccnorwell.org, ext. 12
Rev. Deborah Spratley	Associate Pastor	dspratley@uccnorwell.org, ext. 11
Kristen Albert	Child Care Coordinator	contact Cathy below
Cathy Benedict	Minister of Children's Education	cbenedict@uccnorwell.org, ext. 25
Diana Dunphy	Office Assistant	contact through church office
Karen Harvey	Minister of Music	kharvey@uccnorwell.org, ext. 16
Ann Marie Holloway	Minister of Youth Education	amholloway@uccnorwell.org, ext. 28
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Jerry Thornell	Executive Minister	jthornell@uccnorwell.org, ext. 21
Debbie Wheeler	Minister of Parish Life	office@uccnorwell.org, ext. 10
Danielle Biggins	New Nursery School Director	newnurseryschooldirector@gmail.com 781-659-2535

*United Church of Christ, Norwell*

*An Open and Affirming Church*

December 3, 2017	First Sunday of Advent	10:00 a.m.
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**WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME**

\*Standing to praise God

WELCOME Rev. Leanne Walt

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

\*HYMN #138 *Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn v. 1, 3 REJOICE, REJOICE*

TIME OF RECONCILIATION Betsy Brink

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

**Alert and active God, we confess how easily we fall into the rhythm of monotony, living more unconsciously than consciously, more asleep than awake. We follow familiar patterns mindlessly, not expecting to encounter you in new ways with life-changing results. When we look for nothing more than what is and has always been, we exist rather than really live. Help us to notice the many ways You are present to us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit and in the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.**

(time for silent confession)

Assurance of Grace

God came to us in Jesus Christ,  
 Forgiving us and restoring us;  
 Guiding, teaching and renewing us.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING *The Promise of Hope*  
 Colin Holloway and Tad Donaldson

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT *Christ, Be Our Light* Bernadette Farrell;  
Arr. John Rane

Christ, be our light! Shine in our hearts, shine through the darkness.  
 Christ, be our light! Shine in your Church gathered today.

## WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE	Mark 13: 24-37	
SERMON	<i>Take Notice</i>	Rev. Leanne Walt
ANTHEM	<i>Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming</i>	Arr. John Yarrington

## WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE		Betsy Brink
Response #127 (all)	<i>Creator of the Stars of Night v. 1</i>	<i>CONDITOR ALME</i>
	Creator of the stars of night, your people's everlasting light, O Christ, redeemer of us all, we pray you, hear us when we call.	

## OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory	<i>While by the Sheep We Watched</i>	Arr. Lloyd Larson
	Margo McGowan, clarinet	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	<i>LASST UNS ERFREUEN</i>
	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.)

BLESSING OF THE CONFIRMANDS	Rev. Leanne Walt
Confirmand / Mentor Pairings:	
	Shane Bateman/ George Williams
	Caitlyn Fitzsimmons/ Gwen Morgan
	Lily Hawk/ Betsy Brink
	Brett Holland/ Jim Stewart
	Colin Holloway/ Tad Donaldson
	Matthew Hybertson/ John Galvin
	Annalise McNamara/ Carol Thornell
	Cody Morrison/ Matt Hawk
	Lena Wollam/ Norma Sides

\*THE LORD'S PRAYER

\*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## WE DEPART TO SERVE

*HYMN #119	<i>O Come, O Come, Emmanuel v. 1, 2, 4</i>	<i>VENI EMMANUEL</i>
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\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (seated)	<i>People, Look East BESANÇON; Arr. Stephen L. Aber</i>
	Margo McGowan, clarinet Karen Harvey, organ



**First Sunday of Advent**