



Welcome to worship at United Church of Christ Norwell. Whether you are a member of our church, a frequent attendee, or a first-time visitor, know you are welcomed here. We hope you will find your time among us inspiring and leave feeling strengthened and transformed by the love of God in Christ.

**Listening devices for the hearing impaired and large print bulletins are available.** **Note:** if you remove both hearing aids to use a listening device, please store them apart from each other to avoid sound system feedback.

**Activity bags are also available for children** to use (a Deacon or usher can assist you). Audio of the worship service can also be heard in the library. Please note that a parent must remain with their child(ren) in the library to supervise them.

This morning service is being live streamed and available for viewing on our Vimeo channel and Facebook page.

## United Church of Christ Norwell

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

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 Ministers to the Congregation

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 All the Staff

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# United Church of Christ Norwell

*An Open and Affirming Church*

January 22, 2023

10:00 a.m.

*We Gather in God's Name*

Call of the Bell

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

Rev. Ashley Popperson

\*Hymn #2

*Joyful, Joyful*

*HYMN TO JOY*

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Rev. Leanne Walt

God of the Still Small Voice, You invite us to life abundant.  
 You call us to give our whole selves to Your dream of justice and joy.  
 O God, forgive us when we have not heeded Your call.  
 Forgive us when we've answered half-heartedly.  
 Free us from all that stifles our "yes" to You,  
 That we might give ourselves, unreservedly, to Your kingdom.

*Let us bring our silent confessions before a listening God.*

Assurance of Grace

Beloved hear this: The creator of the universe delights in you. God will never stop seeking you. It is never too late to turn toward God. **In Christ we are free! We are forgiven! Amen.**

Children's Message

Rev. Ashley Popperson

\*The Lord's Prayer

\*Passing of the Peace

Song

*Love, Love, Love*

Herbert and Lois Brokering

*Love, Love, Love! That's what it's all about!  
 'Cause God loves us, we love each other: mother, father, sister, brother.  
 Everybody sing and shout 'cause that's what it's all about!  
 It's about love, love, love! It's about love, love, love!*

As the song is sung, children may meet their teachers in Fellowship Hall for Church School.

Scripture Matthew 4:12-23  
Sermon *Suscipe. Sequere* Rev. Ashley Popperson  
Anthem *The Voice of God Is Calling* MEIRIONYDD  
Prayers of the People Rev. Leanne Walt  
Call to Offering Rev. Ashley Popperson

*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.*

Offertory *Jesus Calls Us O'er the Tumult* Deborah Holden-Holloway

\*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 return upstairs

Service of Farewell Rev. Dr. Patty Kogut

Ashley: I thank UCC Norwell, its members and friends, for the love, kindness and support shown to me these last four years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

**All: We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you leave now to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.**

Ashley: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

\*Vows of Release

Leader: Do you the members and friends of UCC Norwell release Ashley Popperson from the duties of Associate Pastor?

**People: We do, with the help of God.**

Leader: Do you offer your encouragement for her ministry soon to begin as Associate Pastor at Old South Church in Boston?

**People: We do, with the help of God.**

Congregational Prayer:

**God, whose everlasting love is trustworthy, help each of us to trust the future which rests in Your care. The time we were together in Your name saw our laughter and tears, our hopes and disappointments. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions until that time to come when we are completely one with You and with each other. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.**

\*Hymn #344 *I Have Decided to Follow Jesus* ASSAM

\*Benediction Rev. Leanne Walt

Postlude *Finale on "Hymn to Joy"* Jason Payne  
Karen Harvey, organ

\* Please stand, as you are able

*Three Ways to Give*

Give by cash or check in the offering plate.

Give by Text: you may text the amount you wish to give to 844-738-0029.

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