Lent is a time for reflection; a time to pare down our lives to focus on the most important aspects of who we are and where God is leading us. The metaphor of emptying ourselves, cleansing or being "shriven" as Lent approaches (as in Shrove Tuesday, or Fat Tuesday...one last feast before it begins) helps us to prepare for this season of contemplation and renewal of focus.

Please join us for the following:

Lenten Musical Meditations | Wednesdays March 1 - April 5 | 12:30-1pm Palm Sunday Worship April 2 | 10am Maundy Thursday Tennebrae Service April 6 | 7pm Easter Sunday Worship April 9 | 10am

Listening devices for the hearing impaired and large print bulletins are available. An usher or deacon would be happy to assist you with these.

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 | email: 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	
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United Church of Christ Norwell



February 22, 2023 7:00 p.m.



United Church of Christ Norwell

An Open and Affirming Church

February 22, 2023	Ash Wednesday Service	7:00pm
Prelude	Meditation on Psalm 42:1 Karen Harvey, organ	Douglas Wagner
Welcome and Call to Worshi Prayer of Invocation	ip	Rev. Leanne Walt
*Hymn of Adoration #578	I Need Thee Every Hour v. 1, 2, 4	NEED
Scripture	Joel 2:1-2, 12-17	
Ash Wednesday Reflection	Rend Your Hearts	Rev. Leanne Walt
Anthem	Shepherd Me, O God	Marty Haugen; Arr. Mark Hayes

Litany of Confession

- Leader: As disciples of Jesus Christ, we are called to struggle against everything that leads us away from the love of God and neighbor. I invite you, therefore, to commit yourselves to love God and neighbor by confessing your sin and by asking God for strength to persevere in your Lenten discipline. Let us pray.
- People: Most holy and merciful God: We confess to you and to one another and to the whole communion of saints in heaven and on earth, that we have sinned by our own fault in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.
- Leader: We have not loved you with all our heart, mind, and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We have not forgiven others as we have been forgiven.

People: Have mercy on us, O God.

Leader:	We have been deaf to your call to serve as Christ served us. We have not been true to the mind of Christ.	
People:	Have mercy on us, O God.	
	For the clouded eyes that see no further than our own advantage, We confess to you, O God.	
	For the selfishness that is quick to gain and slow to give, We confess to you, O God.	
	For the dulled imagination that does not know what others suffer, We confess to you, O God.	
Leader:	For the willingness to profit by injustice which we have not striven t	
People:	prevent, We confess to you, O God .	
Leader:	For our negligence in prayer and worship and our failure to commend the faith that is in us,	
People:	We confess to you, O God.	
Leader:	Accept our repentance, O God, for the wrongs we have done. For our neglect of human need and suffering and our indifference to injustice and cruelty,	
People:	Accept our repentance, O God.	
Leader:	For all false judgments, for uncharitable thoughts toward our neigh- bors, and for our prejudice and contempt toward those who differ from us.	
People:	Accept our repentance, O God.	
Leader:	For our waste and pollution of your creation and our lack of concern	
People:	for those who come after us, Accept our repentance, O God.	
Leader:	For the unconcern that makes us cry, "Am I my brother's or sister's keeper?"	
People:	Accept our repentance, O God. Forgive us, receive us, and give us courage to serve you with renewed hearts and wills, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.	

Leader: Do not fear. I say to you in the name of Jesus Christ: Your sins are forgiven. Your faith has made you free. Anyone who is in Christ Jesus is a new creation; the old has passed away. Behold, the new has come. Thanks be to God!

Prayer Response (all) #590 Kum ba Yah v. 1 & 4 Spiritual

Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's praying Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's praying Lord, kum ba yah! Someone's praying Lord, kum ba yah! O Lord, kum ba yah!

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Invitation

Call to Prayer

Leader: God be with you. **People: And also with you.**

Leader: Lift up your hearts. **People: We lift them up to God.**

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **People:** It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Communion Prayer

- Leader: Eternal God, who has created the heavens and the earth, giving breath to every living thing, we thank you for all the gifts of creation and for the gift of life itself.
- People: We thank you for making us in your own image, for forgiving us when we act as though you have no claim on us, and for keeping us in your steadfast care.
- Leader: We remember Christ's death, we celebrate Christ's resurrection, and, in the beloved community of your church, we await Christ's return at the end of history.

- People: We take courage from the abiding presence of your Holy Spirit in our midst. We offer you our praise for women and men of faith in every age who stand as witnesses to your love and justice.
- Leader: With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints, and all the company of heaven, we glorify you:
- All: Holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!

Words of Institution

Sharing the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*The Lord's Prayer

*Passing the Peace of Christ Leader: The peace of Christ be with you. **People: And also with you.** (Please greet one another with the Peace of Christ.)

*Hymn	#636 Abide with Me v. 1, 3, 4	EVENTIDE
* Benediction		
Postlude (seated)	All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night Karen Harvey, organ	TALLIS' CANON Arr. Robert Hobby

* standing to praise God