



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.** An usher or deacon would be happy to assist you with these.

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

This morning's service will be available on our [Vimeo](#) channel later today.

## 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. Ashley Popperson	Associate Pastor	apopperson@gmail.com, ext 11
Karen Harvey	Minister of Music	kharvey@uccnorwell.org, ext 16
Allison Hughan	Director of Finance & Operations	ahughan@uccnorwell.org, ext 21
Debbie Wheeler	Minister of Parish Life	office@uccnorwell.org, ext 10
Jim Conroy	Property Maintenance Manager	(contact through Allison Hughan)
Rev. Deborah Spratley	Pastor, Linden Ponds Community Church	<a href="mailto:spratleydeborah@gmail.com">spratleydeborah@gmail.com</a>
Danielle Biggins	The New Nursery School Director	newnurseryschooldirector@gmail.com 781-659-2535



# United Church of Christ Norwell

*An Open and Affirming Church*

May 22, 2022

New Member Sunday

10:00 a.m.

*We Gather in God's Name*

Call of the Bell

Welcome and Prayer of Invocation

Rev. Leanne Walt

\*Hymn

#64 *We Sing Your Mighty Power, O God*

ELLACOMBE

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Rev. Ashley Popperson

**We sing your mighty power, O God,  
 that made the mountains rise, spread the flowing seas, and built the lofty skies.  
 Your power is evident in the great diversity of creation - from varieties of food and  
 flowers to varieties of people and perspectives, communities and cultures.  
 Yet, you made only one church, one body of Christ, united in one Spirit.  
 We confess that the church is splintered and divided, leaving us at a distance from  
 so many of our siblings in faith. Even now, even here at UCC Norwell, injured by  
 the pandemic, we may feel at a distance from others in our church family.  
 Help us to accept the imperfections of the church both locally and globally. Help  
 us to set aside our own personal preferences, seeking to understand how we can  
 bridge the distance between us and contribute to peace and unity.  
 In Christ's name, we pray. Amen  
 Let us now bring our silent confessions before a listening God.**

Assurance of Grace

Hear the Good News: there is always room for spiritual growth and maturity. The invitation is always before you to receive forgiveness and be strengthened and renewed by the grace of Jesus Christ.  
**Thanks be to God! Amen.**

*Reception of New Members*

Please see the insert for the responsive litany.



## *Reception of New Members*

Invitation

Litany of Intent (responsive)

One: Friends in Christ, we are received into the church through the sacrament of baptism.

**Many: These people among us have found nurture and support in the midst of this community of Christ.**

One: They have been led by the Holy Spirit to affirm their baptism and to claim, in our presence, their commitment to joining with the members of the United Church of Christ in Norwell in following Jesus Christ.

**Many: Thanks be to God!**

One: They are here, as we are here, to grow in relationship to Jesus and to strive to love God with all our hearts, with our souls, and with all our minds.

**Many: They are here, as we are here, to strive to love our neighbors as we love ourselves.**

One: They are here, as we are here, to shine their Christ-light into the world for all to see. Friends who are joining, we rejoice in your journey of faith that has brought you to this time and place.

**Many: We give thanks for every community of faith that has been your spiritual home.**

New Member Vows

Promises from the Church

Leader: Members of United Church of Christ, Congregational in Norwell, I ask you, do you promise to help these gathered find their place in the body of Christ, to pray with them and for them, to welcome them fully in holy friendship, to be angels for them in times of distress and servant to them in times of need?

**UCC Norwell Members: We promise, with the help of God.**

\*Congregational Welcome

**We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and ministries of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of a Christ who is alive and well and at work in the world.**

\*The Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)