

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.

P. O. Box 501, 460 Main Street, Norwell, MA 02061 | (781) 659-2887 www.uccnorwell.org | email: office@uccnorwell.org

Ministers to the World Ministers to the Congregation

Rev. Leanne S. Walt Karen Harvey Debbie Wheeler Emily Mathews Jenny Healy Bob Caldeira Steve Burke Scott MacPherson Rev. Deborah Spratley

Kim Foster and Sonia Kleimola Lead Pastor
Minister of Music
Parish Administrator
Communications Coordinator
Children's and Family Minister

Youth Minister
Director of Finance & Operations
Facilities Manager

Pastor, Linden Ponds Community
Church

The New Nursery School Interim Co-Directors

All the Congregation

All the Staff

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## United Church of Christ Norwell

An Open and Affirming Church

December 10, 2023

Second Sunday of Advent

10:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

Call of the Bell John Kelso

Welcome Rev. Leanne Walt

Prayer of Invocation

Advent Candle Lighting Rev. Jean

Rev. Jean and Rev. Steve Vandergrift

\*Hymn #122

Comfort, Comfort You My People

GENEVA 42

Rev. Cynthia Stanton

Prayer of Confession (unison)

God of tenderness and love,

breathe Your grace into our lives.

Forgive our wandering ways,

and guide us along Your paths of peace.

When we lose our way,

and forget the reason and purpose of this season,

carry us back to You.

Lead us up to that high mountain of faith and hope,

that we might truly proclaim:

"Here is our God!"

In Your holy name, we pray. Amen.

~adapted from Ministry Matters

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

Assurance of Grace

"Comfort, O comfort my people," says our God.

You have served your term. Your penalty is paid.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

\*The Lord's Prayer and Passing of the Peace

Musical Response #132 When God Is a Child v. 2
Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth,
giving a promise of safety and worth.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

Children are dismissed to Church School (downstairs) and youth dismissed to "Not" Church School (library).

We Receive God's Word

Scripture Isaiah 40:1-11

Sermon Don't Give Up Rev. Leanne Walt

Anthem O Come, O Come, Emmanuel Steve Dunn

We Respond to God's Love

Prayers of the People Rev. Cynthia Stanton

Call to Offering

Please sign and pass the Red Book (in aisle seats) so we can greet each other by name. If you are with us for the first time, please add your contact information.

You may also join our mailing list by texting Uccnorwell to 228-28.

Offertory Christmas Trilogy Janet Linker/Jane McFadden
Celestial Ringers

\*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

**MOON BEAMS** 

We Depart to Serve

\*Hymn #129 Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates TRURO

\*Benediction

Postlude Finale on TRURO David Paxton Karen Harvey, organ

Additional Ways to Give

Give by text, text the amount you wish to give to 844-738-0029. Give online by scanning the QR code at right.



<sup>\*</sup> Please stand, as you are able