



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 lwalt@uccnorwell.org , ext 12 kharvey@uccnorwell.org , ext 16 dwheeler@uccnorwell.org , ext 11 emathews@uccnorwell.org , ext 10 jhealy@uccnorwell.org , ext 28 bcaldeira@uccnorwell.org sburke@uccnorwell.org , ext 21 (contact through Debbie Wheeler) spratleydeborah@gmail.com newnurseryschooldirector@gmail.com 781-659-2535
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United Church of Christ Norwell

An Open and Affirming Church

December 17, 2023

Third 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 The Miller Family
Audrey, Brett, Blake and Victoria

*Hymn #136 *Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming* **PLEADING SAVIOR**

Prayer of Confession (unison) Brett Miller

Joyful God,
We carry so many cares, worries, and obligations in our hearts and on our minds. We confess that there are days we just want to get through so that we can get onto tomorrow. Forgive us when we fail to give our burdens to you, trusting that you are strong enough to carry them for us.
Forgive us when we ignore your command to rejoice and be glad in each day that we are given. Forgive us when we have failed to see the joy and gladness in our work and in our relationships. Forgive us for when we have failed to be the joy and gladness in the world. Help us to rejoice always and pray without ceasing. Amen.

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

Assurance of Grace

Receive the good news:
The Lord who promises to never leave or forsake us
sent us pure love in the form of the Christ child,
who came to bind up the brokenhearted
and relieve the burden of our sin so that we might know the joy of forgiveness.
Thanks be to God! Amen.

*The Lord's Prayer and Passing of the Peace

Musical Response #132 *When God Is a Child* v. 3 **MOON BEAMS**
Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,

telling the world that the Savior is born.
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	Psalm 126	
Sermon	<i>Coming with Joy</i>	Rev. Leanne Walt
Anthem	<i>How Great Our Joy!</i> Karen Harvey, piano	German carol; Arr. Victor Labenske

We Respond to God's Love

Prayers of the People	Brett Miller
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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	<i>People, Look East</i> Sanctuary Choir	Arr. Tom Mitchell
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*Doxology	<i>LASST UNS ERFREUEN</i>
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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

We Depart to Serve

*Hymn #125	<i>Come, O Long-expected Jesus</i>	<i>HYFRYDOL</i>
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*Benediction

Postlude	<i>What Star Is This?</i> Karen Harvey	<i>PUER NOBIS;</i> Arr. Franklin Ritter
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* Please stand, as you are able

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.

