



WELCOME to worship at United Church of Christ in Norwell.

Whether you are a member or affiliate member of our church, a frequent attendee, or a first time visitor, we are truly glad you are here and invite you to participate in the many opportunities for worship, growth and service. We hope you will find your time here to be meaningful and the congregation welcoming. At the conclusion of the postlude, please join us for conversation and refreshments in Fellowship Hall.

LISTENING DEVICES FOR THE HEARING IMPAIRED, LARGE PRINT BULLETINS, AND LARGE PRINT HYMNALS ARE AVAILABLE. An usher or deacon would be happy to assist you with any of these needs. A CD of this morning's service will be available for \$2.00 in the sound room (back left corner of the sanctuary), or you may borrow a copy through the church library.

Child care for infants through grade 2 is available downstairs in rooms 10 and 7.

Activity bags are available for children to use in the library (a Deacon or usher can direct 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 recordings of sermons are available online: uccnorwell.org.

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
Rev. Deborah Spratley	Pastor, Linden Ponds Community Church	dspratley@uccnorwell.org
Kristen Albert	Child Care Coordinator	contact Cathy below
Cathy Benedict	Minister of Children's Education	cbenedict@uccnorwell.org, ext. 25
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Danielle Biggins	New Nursery School Director	newnurseryschooldirector@gmail.com 781-659-2535

United Church of Christ, Norwell
An Open and Affirming Church

January 7, 2018 10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

**Standing to praise God*

WELCOME Ann Marie Holloway

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN #168 *Down to Earth* *PERSONENT HODIE*

TIME OF RECONCILIATION Jim Stewart

Call to Confession
 Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Eternal God,
We celebrate the courage of kings who left their homelands and their own people to follow a star. We marvel at their quest to honor a child whose power was announced in the heavens above. We would do anything to be part of their story – as long as it requires little effort or sacrifice on our part. Forgive our feet of clay, O God. Open our shut-up hearts to the mystery made known to us in Christ. Forgive us for the times we have forgotten that you are our companion on this journey. Help us to have confidence in knowing that You, O God, are the lamp unto our feet and the guide unto all of our paths. In Christ's name we pray.
 (time for silent confession)

Amen.

Assurance of Grace
 One fact remains that does not change: God has loved you, loves you now and will love you always. This is the good news that brings us new life!
Thanks be to God!

HYMN *A Christmas Alleluia* Chris Tomlin/Jonas Myrin

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE	Matthew 2: 1-12	
SERMON	<i>The Journey</i>	Ann Marie Holloway
ANTHEM	<i>I Saw Three Ships</i>	English; Arr. Lloyd Larson

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE		Jim Stewart
Response #176 (all)	<i>Sing of God Made Manifest v. 1</i>	<i>SALZBURG</i>

Sing of God made manifest in a child robust and blest,
to whose home in Bethlehem where a star had guided them,
magi came and gifts unbound, signs mysterious and profound:
myrrh and frankincense and gold, grave and God and king foretold.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory	<i>We Three Kings</i> <i>Rockin' Ringers</i>	Tune: John Hopkins; Arr. Karen Harvey
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*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.*

*Doxology	<i>What Child Is This? v. 3</i>	<i>GREENSLEEVES</i>
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*So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come, rich and poor, to own him,
the King of Kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing:
haste, haste to bring him laud, the Babe, the Son of Mary.*

*Prayer of Dedication

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: Come, Holy Spirit, come. Bless this bread, and bless this fruit
of the vine.

**People: Bless all of us in our eating and drinking at this table that our
eyes may be opened, and that we may recognize the risen Christ in our
midst, in each other, and in all for whom Christ died.**

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

(Gluten-free is available at center station. Grape juice, not wine, is served to all.)

*THE LORD'S PRAYER

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*HYMN #173 *As with Gladness* *DIX*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (seated) *I Saw Three Ships* English; Arr. Jason Payne
Karen Harvey, organ