

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 during summer worship is available for infants through age four downstairs in room 10.

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.

The Deacons today are Mark Nittel and Donna Nelson.

The flowers on the pedestal today are given by Marilee and Frank Cantelmo in celebration of 42 years of marriage.

"Prayer Chairs" (with prayer shawls on them) are located in the back right corner of the sanctuary. You are invited to come to them any time during our service. A prayer partner from our Healing and Wholeness Ministry Team will lay hands on your shoulders and *silently* pray for you. You do not need to tell them your specific prayer concern, unless you choose to do so.

Parking notes: The front driveway and rear parking lot have reserved spaces for handicapped parking. Also, some members require easier access through the front door. Please save the front driveway and marked spaces in back for those who need them.

Flower donations: A sign-up calendar is located in Fellowship Hall *on the bulletin board near the doorway to the elevator and back stairs*. You will receive a form a few weeks before the date you have signed up for inquiring about details for your donation (flowers cost \$35).

Allergy Alert! - We have children in our church community who have life-threatening allergies to nuts and eggs. Did you know that a simple smear of peanut butter (*or the oils not washed away with soap*) can cause a child to stop breathing within 1-2 minutes? (Anti-bacterial wipes or instant hand sanitizers *do not* take care of the problem.) Thank you for your help!

Please note: Our **Church School for All Ages** does not meet during the summer, but will resume again on September 24.



United Church of Christ, Congregational
An Open and Affirming Church

Ministers to the World
Ministers to the Congregation

All the Congregation
All the Staff

July 16, 2017

9:00 a.m.

We Gather in God's Name

CALL OF THE BELL

WELCOME

Rev. Deborah Spratley

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: By your words I can see where I'm going; they throw a beam of light on my dark path. I've committed myself and I'll never turn back from living by your righteous order.

ALL: Everything's falling apart on me, God; put me together again with your Word. Festoon me with your finest sayings, God; teach me your holy rules.

ONE: My life is as close as my own hands, but I don't forget what you have revealed. The wicked do their best to throw me off track, but I don't swerve an inch from your course.

ALL: I inherited your book on living; it's mine forever—what a gift! And how happy it makes me! I concentrate on doing exactly what you say— I always have and always will.

***HYMN**

#88 *All My Hope on God Is Founded*

NEANDER

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Larry Howell

Lord God, you show no partiality, loving us all equally, while treating us all differently. We, however, show partiality. We love our neighbor differently,

demanding to be treated better than they are. Forgive us when we allow the dysfunction of favoritism to be passed from generation to generation. Lord, we want to be changed. We want to be transformed. And so, in silence, we offer to you those moments when we have failed to love each of our neighbors equally. (time for prayer in silence) We pray in Jesus name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

The good news in Christ is that when we face ourselves and God with the awareness of our need, we are given grace to grow, and courage to continue the journey. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

ALL: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN** *Open the Eyes of My Heart* Paul Baloche

We Receive God's Word

SCRIPTURE Genesis 25: 19-34

SERMON *Manipulation* Rev. Deborah Spratley

ANTHEM *Morning Has Broken* *BUNESSAN;*
Stephanie Sousa, flute Karen Harvey, piano Arr. Brant Adams

We Respond to God's Love

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Larry Howell

Response (all seated) #322 *O Word of God Incarnate* v.1 *MUNICH*

O Word of God incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky:
we praise you for the radiance that from the hallowed page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory *Giocoso* G.P. Telemann

Stephanie Sousa, flute Karen Harvey, organ
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 *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

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Rev. Deborah Spratley

***THE LORD'S PRAYER** (debts/debtors) Hand in Hand

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

***HYMN** #66 *Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise* v. 1, 2, 4 *ST. DENIO*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (seated) *Allegro* G.P. Telemann
Stephanie Sousa, flute Karen Harvey, organ

*Standing to praise God

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We are a Christ-centered inclusive community called to ministry.