



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.

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	Associate Pastor	dspratley@uccnorwell.org, ext. 11
Cathy Benedict	Minister of Children's Education	cbenedict@uccnorwell.org, ext. 25
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Karen Harvey	Minister of Music	kharvey@uccnorwell.org, ext. 16
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Jerry Thornell	Executive Minister	jthornell@uccnorwell.org, ext. 21
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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

October 8, 2017

10:00 a.m.

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

*Standing to praise God

Let's Go, Let's Grow, Let's Serve the Lord!

WELCOME

Rev. Leanne Walt

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*HYMN 177

What Was Your Vow and Vision

AURELIA

TIME OF RECONCILIATION

Geoff Hybertson

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Dear God,

We are precious in your sight,

yet we often forget that we are your beloved.

We confess that our love is fickle and inconsistent.

We follow selfish goals and deny that our way of life harms others and hurts your world.

We are sorry and we long to change.

Refine our hearts,

strengthen our resolve,

reconcile us to one another,

and bless us with your peace. Amen.

Assurance of Grace

God's love is sure and steadfast,

Always providing a way out,

A way through,

A way back to God.

Let us hear and accept in our hearts today the good news that is our faith.

We are forgiven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*HYMN

Children of God, Rise Up and Sing

Avery Harken

WE RECEIVE GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE	Luke 18: 15-30
SERMON	<i>The Kingdom of God: What's Holding You Back?</i> Rev. Leanne Walt
ANTHEM	<i>Child of God</i> Ken Dosso

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE	Geoff Hybertson
Response #132	<i>When God Is a Child</i> v. 1 <i>MOON BEAMS</i>
	Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on till the morning is bright. 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.

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR RESOURCES

Offertory	<i>We Are All Children of the Lord</i> Natalie Sleeth
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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>LASST UNS ERFREUEN</i>
	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

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Amelia Jane Gerg

Parents: Jennifer and Zachary Gerg
Godparents: Erin and Brian Proctor

Invitation to Baptism

Baptismal Vows

Pledge of Support (Responsive)

Deacon: Do you who witness and celebrate this sacrament, promise your love, support, and care to the one about to be baptized, as she lives and grows in Christ?

People: We promise our love, support, and care to Amelia.

Blessing of the Water (Responsive)

Leader: Lord, we come to the waters of baptism to wash and be made clean by your love. Love that rains down on the smallest of seeds and calls them to great life. Love that washes over us like the tide on the beach, a constant rhythm of assurance and grace. Love that anoints us with joy like children playing, splashing, jumping in water on a hot summer day.

People: Through Your Holy Spirit, bless this water. Create new life in the one baptized this day that she may rise in the hope, promise, love and forgiveness of Christ. Amen.

Act of Baptism

Choral Response *I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry* *WATERLIFE*
Baptismal Prayer and the Lord's Prayer (debts/debtors)

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

WE DEPART TO SERVE

*HYMN #431 *Go, My Children, with My Blessing* *AR HYD Y NOS*

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (seated) *The Church's One Foundation* *AURELIA*
Karen Harvey, organ Arr. Charles Ore