



**United Church of Christ
First Congregational
Norwich, NY**



**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
Norwich, New York 13815**



An Open and Affirming Church

September 18, 2022

10:00 a.m.

Rally Day

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

Morning Has Broken

Mark Hayes,
arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Tune: BUNESSAN

WELCOME

(Please sign the attendance pad found in the pew.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Like trees planted by streams of water,

ALL: The faithful are rooted in God's ways.

ONE: We cannot be blown about by every movement,

ALL: When we follow the way of Christ Jesus our Lord.

ONE: Meditate and study the scriptures handed down to us,

ALL: Find joy and peace in the wisdom of God.

ONE: Come, join our hearts in worship,

ALL: God's Spirit is present with us now.

INVOCATION

*Please stand if you are able.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

Permission to reprint, podcast, and / or stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE with license #735996-A. All rights reserved.

***OPENING HYMN** *Be Now My Vision*
(Tune: SLANE)

#451

TIME OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBER

ONE: Let us affirm together our faith as we receive Pastor Jason into membership in this church.

ALL: We believe in God who has created and is creating.

ONE: God has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new. God works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.

ALL: We trust God. God calls us to be the church.

ONE: Pastor Jason, will you promise to support this congregation, celebrating God's presence, loving and serving others, seeking justice, and caring for creation?

WELCOME AND RECEPTION

ONE: Let us, the members of the United Church of Christ, First Congregational, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

ALL: We welcome you with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus, the Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.

PRAYER

***HYMN** *Called as Partners in Christ's Service*
(Tune: BEECHER)

#495 (v. 1)

GREETING IN CHRISTIAN LOVE

THE CONGREGATIONAL GREETING OF PEACE

ONE: May the peace of the Lord be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

DISCIPLESHIP PLEDGE (An Offertory Prayer)

ONE: We love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

ALL: We pledge our whole selves to God.

ONE: We love our neighbors as ourselves.

ALL: We pledge to do justice as Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation.

ONE: We love one another as Jesus loves us.

ALL: We pledge to be and become Christ's Beloved Community in our life together.

ONE: We make disciples by teaching and modeling how to follow Jesus' Way of Love.

ALL: We pledge to be Jesus' disciples sharing Jesus' Way of Love in the way we live our lives and practice our faith.

Offering plates are located at both Nave doors for your convenience.

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 79: 1-9

Pew Bible OT p. 597

Luke 16:1-13

Pew Bible NT p. 81

CHOIR ANTHEM

Let Justice Flow Like Streams Jane Parker Humber, 1984

Tune: ST. THOMAS

SERMON *Being a Bad Roman*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INTERLUDE

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

United Church of Christ Statement of Faith in the form of a doxology

ONE: We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,

ALL: God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God, and to your deeds we testify:

ONE: You call the worlds into being,
ALL: create persons in your own image, and set before each one the ways of life and death.

ONE: You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.
ALL: You judge people and nations by your righteous will declared through prophets and apostles.

ONE: In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen Savior, you have come to us and shared our common lot,
ALL: conquering sin and death and reconciling the world to yourself.

ONE: You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
ALL: creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ, binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and races.

ONE: You call us into your church to accept the cost and joy of discipleship, to be your servants in the service of others,
ALL: to proclaim the gospel to all the world and resist the powers of evil, to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table, to join him in his passion and victory.

ONE: You promise to all who trust you forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
ALL: courage in the struggle for justice and peace, your presence in trial and rejoicing, and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

ONE: Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.
ALL: Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

***CLOSING HYMN** *Be Still, My Soul* #488
(Tune: FINLANDIA)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Fanfare for a Festive Occasion

by Lani Smith

Bulletin Notes:

Invocation and Call to Worship from:

Rev-o-lution Resources by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

<http://rev-o-lution.org>, (c) 2020. Used by permission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY CARE is available for children up to the age of five beginning at 9:00 a.m. The Nursery is located up the stairs at the front of the building. Children are also welcome in the entire the service or can leave after the Children's Moment – whatever works best for your family.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

9/22 Pat Burke

9/23 Arlene Wade

9/24 Henry Carpenter

ANNIVERSARY- John Kolb and Lilit Danielyan – 9/23/08

SIGN UP TO BE AN USHER, LITURGIST OR COFFEE HOUR HOST.

Check the bulletin board in the hallway.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed Wednesday, September 21.

ZOOM CHOIR will resume Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. beginning on September 14. We will move to in-person rehearsals at church during October and November! An Advent/Christmas cantata is being planned as well. Preparation for that will be held virtually AND in-person. Several songs will be shared as virtual anthems with a live performance planned for a Sunday afternoon in December. Hand Bell Choir rehearsals will resume in October with performances during the Advent season. We are looking for more SINGERS and RINGERS! Contact Mary Williams or the church office if you are interested in joining either group.

THANKSGIVING BOX PLANNING - Linda Oehme, our “Turkey Lady” for many years, is unable to head the project this year due to health concerns. The Executive Council is looking for a volunteer or two to step in and lead this project. You would not be left to figure it out on your own; the church leadership and staff will provide support and information every step of the way. Please consider volunteering so that we can keep this tradition going. For more details or If you are interested in helping out, please talk to Pete Williams or contact the church office.

IF YOU NEED HELP with something, please reach out to the church office or a Deacon. We're here to help each other.

CALENDAR

The Chenango Muslim Community meets upstairs daily at 9:30 p.m. & Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 18

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School, upstairs and Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Nave
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Founders' Room
- 4:00 p.m. Deacons Meeting, Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. LGBTQ+ Forum, Zoom

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 19

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 1:30 p.m. Tutoring, kitchen
- 3:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Founders' Rm.

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 20

- 1:00 p.m. Quilting Circle, Kitchen
- 7:00 p.m. Trustees Meeting, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 21

Church Office Closed Today

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Home Bureau, Kitchen
- 6:00 p.m. Democratic Committee, Founders' Rm., Parking Lot
- 7:00 p.m. Zoom Choir

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 23

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 25

- 9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School, on Zoom
- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Nave
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Founders' Room
- 6:00 p.m. LGBTQ+ Forum, Zoom

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS IN MINISTRY OF SERVICE:

Pastor and Teacher: **Rev. Jason Boyd**
Liturgist: **Ericka Tyler**
Moderator: **John Kolb**
Director of Music Ministries: **Mary Williams**
Organist: **Jason Handy**
Live Stream: **Jennifer Mallozzi, Chris McSweeney**
Sunday Sexton: **Elsbeth Hunter**
Nursery: **Fiora Breese**
Usher: **to be determined**
Coffee Hour: **Joni Kreuz and Bob Bartlett**

NEXT WEEK'S PARTICIPANTS - 9/25

Usher: Jane Prime
Liturgist: Katie Izzo
Flowers:
Coffee Hour:

September 18, 2022

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

11 West Main St., Norwich NY 13815

607-334-3434 - office@uccnorwichny.org - www.uccnorwichny.org

MINISTERS: All the People

[facebook](#)

PASTOR AND TEACHER: Rev. Jason Boyd

MODERATOR: John Kolb

CHAIR OF DEACONS: Mary Williams

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: Mary Williams

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH MINISTRIES: Linda Oehme

PARISH COORDINATOR: Cheri Oakley

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: Jennifer Mallozzi

CHURCH OFFICE OPEN:

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

(closed for lunch 12:30 - 1:30 p.m.)

Tuesday and Friday 8:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m.

UCC Norwich Reopening Guidelines (Revised 03/31/22)

- Face coverings in the church building will be optional
- Social distancing of 6 feet is still recommended.
- Childcare will be available again beginning in September 2022
- Parishioners may choose their own seating in the Nave. Distancing between non-family groups is still recommended.
- Hymnals, Pew Bibles will be in the pew racks and may be used.
- Congregational singing is now permitted.
- Prayer requests may be spoken during the worship service or may be submitted in the prayer basket. (Usher will bring microphone around to congregation. Microphone cover will be supplied)
- Coffee Hour will resume April 24, 2022 and will be hosted and coordinated by the Deacons.
- Passing of the peace will continue to be suspended at this time.
- Offerings will be collected by placing your envelope in a basket upon entering or exiting the Nave.
- Communion will be offered in the pews using individually portioned elements.
- Hearing assistive devices will be available for those that need them. You will receive the headset in a bag. Please write your name on the bag and store the headset in the same bag for use during future services.
- Hand sanitizing stations are located near the Nave entrance hall and in each pew. Please wash your hands or use sanitizing stations frequently.
- We ask that if you are not feeling well and /or may be exhibiting cold or flu-like symptoms, that you refrain from attending until you feel better.
- Disinfection Plan: our Custodian will disinfect all high touch surfaces, including rest rooms and seating areas, before and/or after weekly services.