





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



An Open and Affirming Church

September 25, 2022

10:00 a.m.

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

Aria Cantabilé

Samuel Wesley
(ed. Charles Callahan)

WELCOME

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul;

ALL: I will sing praises to my God all my life long.

ONE: Do not put your trust in worldly rulers,

ALL: For they are temporary, their plans will fall apart.

ONE: Happy are those whose help and hope is in God,

ALL: For God made heaven and earth, and all living things.

ONE: God executes justice for the oppressed and gives food to the hungry,

ALL: God sets the prisoners free, and opens the eyes of all.

ONE: God watches over those on the margins, the strangers, the widows and orphans;

ALL: And God will reign forever. Praise the Lord!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

*Please stand if you are able.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

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***OPENING HYMN**

God of Grace and God of Glory
(Tune: CWM RHONDDA)

#436 (v. 1-2)

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.

PASTORAL BLESSING OF PEACE

ONE: May the Peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

INVITATION TO

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 91:1-6, 14-16
Luke 16:19-31

Pew Bible OT p. 606
Pew Bible NT p. 81

CHOIR ANTHEM *Precious Lord, Take My Hand*
Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

SERMON *Gulfs and Chasms*

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

God of Grace and God of Glory
(Tune: CWM RHONDDA)

#436 (v. 3-5)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

To God Be The Glory

Victor C. Johnson
Tune: TO GOD BE THE GLORY
William H. Doane

Bulletin Notes:

Call to Worship and Invocation:

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

NO COFFEE HOUR THIS WEEK. There is Chobani yogurt in the refrigerator for anyone who would like some, compliments of Colorscape Chenango.

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

9/25 Gary Sprout

ANNIVERSARY

Chris and Jennifer Mallozzi 9/29/12

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 28.

HELPING HANDS - Rose Laughlin is looking for someone to shop with her for our donations to Helping Hands. It takes a half an hour, once a month and is done at the Dollar Tree. If you are interested, contact Rose at 607-244-1023. **BROWN PAPER BAGS ARE NEEDED** to hold our monthly donations to Helping Hands. Bring donations in to the church office or give them to Rose Laughlin. Your help is much appreciated.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS ON OCTOBER 9TH. Bring photos of your beloved animals (living or across the Rainbow Bridge) or a stuffed animal for blessing during the worship service. Those worshipping online will also be able to participate virtually with your pets. At noon that day, bring your animals to the park across from the church (weather permitting) for an "in-person" blessing. All animals should be appropriately leashed or crated as need be. In the event of inclement weather, we will look to reschedule this part of our blessing.

THE DATE AND TIME for Pastor Jason's installation is set. Please mark your calendar for Sunday, November 13 at 3:00 p.m. We will gather here and on YouTube for Pastor Jason's formal installation by the Susquehanna Association of the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ.

A BIG THANK YOU TO FOLKS who have signed up to be liturgists, host fellowship hour, and so many things! We are in need of a second liturgist for Sunday, October 30, as Pastor Jason will be away that day. He will have pre-recorded the sermon, children's time, and some other parts of worship. However, we need for someone to read the portions of the liturgy which he normally does. Please sign up if you are willing, and Pastor Jason will work with you on this.

ZOOM CHOIR has resumed Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. In-person rehearsals will start in October! Hand Bell Choir rehearsals will also 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.

CALENDAR

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

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
6:00 p.m. LGBTQ+ Forum, Zoom

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 26

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
10:00 a.m. Knitting Group, kitchen
3:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Founders' Rm.
3:00 p.m. J. Handy Lessons, upstairs
3:30 p.m. E. Fischer Lessons, Nave
6:00 p.m. Town & Country Garden Club, Founders Rm., parking

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 27

10:00 - 3:00 p.m. Pastor Jason's Office Hours

1:00 p.m. Quilting Circle, Kitchen

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 28

Church Office Closed Today

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom

9:00 a.m. Home Bureau, Kitchen

7:00 p.m. Zoom Choir

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 29

10:00 - 3:00 p.m. Pastor Jason's Office Hours

10:00 a.m. Thanksgiving Planning meeting at the church

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 30

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom

3:00 p.m. J. Handy Lessons, upstairs

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2

9:00 a.m. Children's Sunday School in-person and on Zoom

9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs

10:00 a.m. Worship Service/Communion Nave

Neighbors in Need Offering

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: **Katie Izzo**

Director of Music Ministries: **Mary Williams**

Organist: **Jason Handy**

Live Stream: **Jennifer Mallozzi, Chris McSweeney**

Sunday School Director: **Jessica Posner**

Sunday Sexton: **Elsbeth Hunter**

Nursery: **Fiora Breese**

Usher: **Jane Prime**

Cover Art: **Judy Smith**

NEXT WEEK'S PARTICIPANTS - 10/2

Usher: Pete Williams

Liturgist: Ericka Tyler

Flowers:

Coffee Hour:

September 25, 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 HOURS - By appointment only.

UCC Norwich Reopening Guidelines

Revised 03/31/22

COVID Protocols that have been modified:

- 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.

COVID Protocols that remain in place:

- 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.