



You are  
**BELOVED BY GOD**



**UNITED  
CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**  
*First Congregational of Norwich, NY*



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



**An Open and Affirming Church**

**June 11, 2023**

**10:00 a.m**

**Pride/Open and Affirming Sunday Observed  
Second Sunday after Pentecost**

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***PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD***

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**PRELUDE** *Gratitude*  
Hand Bell Choir

by Alex Guebert

**WELCOME**

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

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***GATHERING***

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**ONE:** Celebrate the life that God has given us.

**ALL:** **We celebrate that we are alive, unique, and free in God.**

**ONE:** Celebrate finding joy in God and being filled with empowering, inclusive love.

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\*Please stand in body or in spirit.

**Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.**

**Call to Worship:** Adapted from Metropolitan Community Churches

**Rainbow Prayer Litany for Pride:** Adapted from Rob Walker, Emmanuel United Church; Peterborough, Ontario, Canada

**Opening Hymn:** Words © 2012 Jann Aldredge-Clanton; Tune: Hymn to Joy (Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You)

**Prayer for Generosity:** Adapted from Rev. Dr. Sharon Fennema

**Prayer of Invocation:** Rev. Kimi Floyd Reisch

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**ALL: We celebrate those who have gone before us,  
making a way for us.**

ONE: Celebrate that God has brought us together in the  
rainbow covenant.

**ALL: We celebrate those who are with us now to  
support us even when life is hard.**

ONE: Celebrate how we are working together for a world  
where we all live in compassion and justice.

**ALL: We celebrate life as God created us to live.**

ONE: Celebrate that God created us to love.

**ALL: Let us love and celebrate! Let us worship God!**

## **PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**\*OPENING HYMN** *Praise the Source of All Creation* Insert  
(Tune: HYMN TO JOY)

## ***TIME OF SHARING***

## **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

*(After the Children's Moment, children are welcome to stay in  
the front pew during the Special Music.)*

**SPECIAL MUSIC** *This Little Light of Mine*  
African-American Spiritual  
arranged by Williams E. Moats

*(Children in K-8 are excused to go upstairs for Sunday  
School at this time.)*

## **PASTORAL BLESSING OF PEACE**

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

**ALL: And also with you.**



## **RAINBOW PRAYER: LITANY FOR PRIDE**

**ONE:** Living and liberating God, you have created all people in your own image. You have coaxed us into our uniqueness and you delight in who we are.

**ALL:** Give us hearts that are open to you and to each other, that we may live for you, honorably overcome our aloneness, and enjoy your gifts of sexuality and creativity.

**ONE:** Healing and generous God, you have blessed us with salvation, wholeness, and health. You have given us Jesus, who healed the sick and included the outcasts. You have given us your Spirit, who calls us to the same ministry, firing our hearts with compassion and graciousness.

**ALL:** Give us the hospitality to offer true healing: let all we have hurt receive the gift of healing tears and laughter; let all we have hurt receive everlasting knowledge of your saving love.

**ONE:** God of resurrection and fullness of joy, you have called us to be your people, making us a community in you. You dance over us with singing; you have called us, not servants, but your friends. You have promised us that all will be well, and we trust that we will be well.

**ALL:** We open ourselves, today, to fresh words from the Word: for new notes to sing, for new thoughts to think, and for new and ancient ways to live, because of your promise to make all things new.

**ONE:** Holy One, you have blessed us with various skills and abilities. You have told us what is good: to do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with you.

**ALL:** You send us out into the world as citizens of your commonwealth, that your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven. We ask for fresh vision and a new strength, so that we may have power to work for what is right, and to be ministers of reconciliation.

**ONE:** Rainbow God of the covenant, you create all things good and call them to yourself. You make us fearfully and wonderfully. You allow us to live with respect in

Creation and to serve it well, which brings you glory and delight.

**ALL: Send your creative Spirit on your people in this place, that we may embrace the art of your creation, and the beauty of all humanity, your myriad masterpieces in Christ.**

**ONE: Holy One: You are the One Community before all time, the dance that spills over in the gift of Creation. You sweep us up into your life by the incarnation, cross, and resurrection of Jesus, so that we may be one as you are one. You give all of those united in Christ Jesus the one Spirit to drink, making one body of us all.**

**ALL: Give us the one mind and one heart and one spirit that you promise us in Christ, the grace to hold each other across our disagreements, and the willingness to sing the saving love of Jesus to a beautiful and hurting world. We commit to being the RAINBOW People of God. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

## **SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

#### **NEW ZEALAND PRAYER BOOK VERSION**

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver,  
Source of all that is and that shall be,  
Father and Mother of us all,  
Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;  
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of  
the world;**

**Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;  
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom  
Sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.  
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.  
From trial too great to endure, spare us.  
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.  
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now  
and forever. Amen.

### **COMMISSION AND BLESSING**

#### **\*CLOSING HYMN**

*In The Midst of New Dimensions* # 391 (vv. 1, 2, 3, 5)  
(Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS)

#### **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Northern Song* by Robert Schumann



June 11, 2023

**TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS:**

**Pastor and Teacher:** Rev. Jason Boyd

**Liturgist:** Miranda Hunter

**Director of Music Ministries:** Mary Williams

**Pianist:** Anita Humer

**Bell Choir:** Sarah Benson, Megan Carpenter, Hannah DeBates, Elspeth Hunter, Michael Moren, Amy Rogers, Destinie (DJ) Smith, Ericka Tyler, Josiah Tyler, Leona Tyler, Pete Williams.  
Mary Williams-Director

**Director of Children and Youth Ministries:** Ericka Tyler

**Live Stream:** Jennifer Mallozzi

**Sunday Sexton:** Elspeth Hunter

**Nursery:** Fiora Breese

**Usher:** Pete Williams

**NEXT WEEK'S PARTICIPANTS - 6/18**

Usher:

Liturgist: Elinor Beebe

Flowers: Weiseman Family

Coffee Hour:

**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

**PASTOR AND TEACHER:** Rev. Jason Boyd

**MODERATOR:** John Kolb

**CHAIR OF DEACONS:** Mary Williams

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES:** Mary Williams

**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES:** Ericka Tyler

**PARISH COORDINATOR:** Cheri Oakley

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANT:** Jennifer Mallozzi



**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS**

*(Closed daily for lunch 12:00pm - 1:00pm)*

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday 8:00am - 3:00pm

Wednesday 9:00am - 4:00pm

Friday 8:00am - 12:00pm



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**NURSERY CARE** is available for children up to the age of five beginning at 9:00am. The Nursery is located up the stairs at the front of the building.

**CALL TO THE 209<sup>th</sup> JUNE ANNUAL MEETING NEXT SUNDAY** - June 18<sup>th</sup> following the worship service in the Founders Room. All members are encouraged to attend. We will be voting on the 2023-24 Board Members and Officers.

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY OF SUNDAY SCHOOL** until September. Enjoy your summer!

**PASTOR JASON WILL BE AWAY FOR SUMMER VACATION** starting after church July 2 until July 25. During that time, Rev. Mary Rublee from Broad Street United Methodist Church will be available for emergency pastoral care. Her contact information will be available in the church office and the July newsletter.

**SUMMER CAMP SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE.** The Susquehanna Association has scholarship funds in the amount of \$50 per person per year for children and youth to attend faith-based summer camp programs located within NYS and approved by their church. Payments will be made within two weeks of receipt of the request. (Request for payment can be made from May- September.) For the application form, contact Cheri in the church office.

**VBC IS COMING - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED** (*Wait! What's VBC? Vacation Bible Camp. Formerly known as Vacation Bible School or VBS.*) VBC will take place **Sunday, July 23 through Wednesday, July 26, 5:30 - 7:30pm** on the grounds of Christ Lutheran Church, 94 North Broad St. Folks from several local churches are working to make it all happen, and this year's theme is *Holy Ever After*. We are in need of volunteers to help grill hot dogs and/or bring a grill for the grilling of hot dogs on Wednesday, July 26. Please let the church office know as soon as possible if you can help in this area.

**WE ARE STILL WORKING** to provide a safe and clean environment for worship and other activities. You can read our full COVID SAFETY PROTOCOLS posted on the bulletin board and online.

## **CALENDAR**

*The Chenango Muslim Community meets upstairs daily at 9:30pm & Fridays at 1:30pm*

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 11**

9:00am Nursery, upstairs  
10:00am Worship - Pride Sunday, Nave -  
Last Day for Sunday School K-8  
11:00am Coffee Hour  
11:30am Bell Choir, upstairs  
6:00pm LGBTQ+ Fellowship, Zoom

### **MONDAY, JUNE 12**

10:00am Knitting Group, Kitchen  
10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom  
3:00pm Tai Chi, Founders Room  
7:00pm Deacons Meeting, Zoom

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 13**

1:00pm Piecemakers, Kitchen  
3:30pm Erin Fischer Lessons, Nave

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14**

10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 15**

6:00pm Garden Club, Founders Room  
6:00pm Helping Hands Giveaway at the Norwich YMCA

### **FRIDAY, JUNE 16**

UCC New York Conference Annual Meeting, Niagara Falls  
10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom

### **SATURDAY JUNE 17**

UCC New York Conference Annual Meeting, Niagara Falls

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 18**

9:00am Nursery, upstairs  
10:00am Worship, Nave  
11:00am Annual Meeting, Founders Room  
11:00am Coffee Hour  
11:30am Bell Choir, upstairs  
6:00pm LGBTQ+ Fellowship, Zoom