



**United Church of Christ
Norwich, New York**



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



An Open and Affirming Church

August 6, 2023

10:00 a.m

**Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion**

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *My Jesus, I Love Thee*

Lenny Seidel
Tune: GORDON
by Adoniram J. Gordon

WELCOME

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Only the hungry search for bread. Only the thirsty look for water.

ALL: **This is a place for those who are hungry and thirsty in spirit.**

ONE: Only those who ache for meaning will pursue it. Only those who yearn for a deeper life will seek it.

ALL: **This is a place for those who ache and yearn for something more.**

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

Communion Liturgy by Samuel Wells

Call to Worship by Ann Siddall

Prayer of Invocation by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell

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ONE: So let us come here today with our hunger and thirst, our unsatisfied longings, and our heart-felt yearnings.

ALL: Let us worship today and let the God of life satisfy our souls.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***OPENING HYMN**

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ
(Tune: LINSTEAD)

347

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

WE COME TO THE TABLE

ONE: O Jesus, you have invited us to come to this table.

ALL: We have come from many places and experiences; we have come with all our differences;

ONE: We have come to the place where journeys meet.

ALL: You have called us into the heart of God.

ONE: On the night that Jesus was betrayed he told us to prepare a place for him.

ALL: And then he offered us a sign. A sign of how he would give himself to us to give us new life.

ONE: He had always loved us, and now he showed us how perfect his love was.

ALL: We accept His invitation to feast in that love this day.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

UNISON PRAYER OF BLESSING

Breathe your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine that they may be heaven's food, renewing, transforming, sustaining and making us whole, so that we may be your body on earth, loving and caring for your creation, where all are welcome and the poorest are fed. Bless the earth, heal the sick, let the oppressed go free, and fill each one of us with your love from on high. Gather your people from the ends of the earth to feast at your table with all your saints. Amen.

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God of hope, in bread and wine, you have restored us to relationship with you. Show us how to be a people that live your reconciling love in the world, so that we may recognize your presence in those we meet, and our hearts like those first disciples may burn within us upon the road. You are the Word for us to speak; You are the Truth for us to tell; You are the Light for us to light in the darkness. You are the Bread of Life for us to share. Now all of us must go out into the world and live God's love there. Look for Jesus in the oppressed and burdened. Look for Jesus in those who have lost hope. Look for him among the poor in heart. Among the merciful. Among the peacemakers. Among the persecuted for the sake of right. Look for Jesus on the edge. Amen.

TIME OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

SPECIAL MUSIC

Come to Jesus

Steve Emmons, soloist

words and music by Chris Rice

arranged by Mark Hayes

PASTORAL BLESSING OF PEACE

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

ALL: And also with you.

SUNG RESPONSE *Peace*

by Judy A. Rose

Peace be to you in all you do.

Peace be the way in all you say.

Peace be the light that shines so bright
from your heart on the world this day.

Peace, peace, peace, peace. Peace be to you in all you do.

Peace, peace, peace, peace. Peace be to you in all you do.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP AND GENEROSITY

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

Romans 9:1-5

Pew Bible NT p. 165

Matthew 14:13-21

Pew Bible NT p. 16

REFLECTION *The Other Miracle*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INTERLUDE

Prelude No II

J. S. Bach

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

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

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.

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

*CLOSING HYMN

Hope of the World
(Tune: WELWYN)

insert

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Musette*

J. S. Bach



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

SAVE THE DATE - August 26 Elizabeth Orleski of Drumzzone will be giving an African Jembe drum lesson at the Guernsey Library. Time to be determined. We are sponsoring this fun, musical experience for anyone who wants to participate.

SUMMER YOUTH GROUP for grades 7-12 Sundays, will continue to meet through August 27, 12:00pm - 1:30pm. This will be a mostly unstructured time where students can come to relax and unwind, play some games, have snacks (and maybe pizza!), and spend time hanging with their friends in a safe and welcoming environment.

WE'RE GOING TO PRIDE! Our church is a sponsor of the first ever Chenango County Pride Festival, which will be held from 12:00pm to 6:00pm on August 26, 2023 at Boname Park in Oxford. We are listed on the sponsor materials, and we will have a booth at the event. Would you like to participate? Please leave your name on the signup sheet in the office, and more information will be provided to you when it becomes available.

THE PLACE is holding A BACK TO SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE. Drop off your donations at The Place August 1 - 15. Give away will begin after August 22nd. Needed items include: spiral notebooks, loose-leaf paper, dividers, pocket folders, pencil case, pencils/pens, scissors, glue sticks, 12-in. rulers, backpacks, highlighters, washable markers/colored pencils, 1"-3" binders, 24-count crayons, cap erasers. Details at: www.theplacenorwich.com or call 607-336-9696.

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 on our website.

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 6

9:00am Nursery, upstairs
10:00am Worship/Communion, Nave
12:00pm Youth Group (grades 7-12), upstairs
6:00pm LGBTQ+ Fellowship, Zoom

MONDAY, AUGUST 7

10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom
3:00pm Tai Chi, Founders Room

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8

1:00 p.m. Piecemakers, Kitchen

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 9

10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom
11:00am Free hotdog lunch at Emmanuel Episcopal Church

August 6, 2023

THURSDAY, AUGUST 10

1:00pm Piecemakers Monthly Meeting, Founders Room

FRIDAY, AUGUST 11

10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom

SUNDAY, AUGUST 13

9:00am Nursery, upstairs

10:00am Worship, Nave

11:00am Coffee Hour

12:00pm Youth Group (grades 7-12), upstairs

6:00pm LGBTQ+ Fellowship, Zoom

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor and Teacher: Rev. Jason Boyd

Liturgist: Ericka Tyler

Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams

Organist: Robert Oehme

Live Stream: Chris McSweeney

Sunday Sexton: Elspeth Hunter

Nursery: Fiora Breese

NEXT WEEK'S PARTICIPANTS 8/13

Usher:

Liturgist: Elinor Beebe

Flowers:

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: Pete Williams

DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES: Mary Williams

DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN AND YOUTH MINISTRIES: Ericka Tyler

PARISH COORDINATOR: Cheri Oakley

FINANCIAL ASSISTANT: Jennifer Mallozzi

facebook



CHURCH OFFICE SUMMER HOURS

Monday - Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.