



“BLESSED ARE THOSE
WHO HUNGER AND THIRST
FOR RIGHTEOUSNESS, FOR
THEY SHALL BE SATISFIED.”

MATTHEW 5:6, ESV

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



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



An Open and Affirming Church

November 5, 2023

10:00 a.m

**Twenty-Second Sunday after Pentecost
All Saints' Day Observance; Communion**

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Andante*

by Karl Heinrich Zollner

WELCOME

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The poor, and those in solidarity with them –

ALL: God is on your side.

ONE: Those who mourn and feel grief about the state of the world –

ALL: God is on your side.

ONE: The non-violent, gentle and humble –

ALL: God is on your side.

ONE: Those who hunger and thirst for the common good –

ALL: God is on your side.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

Communion Liturgy by Mary Blashill
Prayer after Communion by Michelle Torigian
Call to Worship by Third Space Blog
Prayer of Invocation by Christine Jerrett
Litany for All Saints' Day by Jan Berry

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ONE: The merciful and compassionate –
ALL: God is on your side.
ONE: Those characterized by sincerity, kindness and generosity –
ALL: God is on your side.
ONE: Those who work for peace and reconciliation –
ALL: God is on your side.
ONE: Those who keep seeking justice –
ALL: God is on your side.
ONE: Those who stand for justice and truth as the prophets did,
who refuse to be quiet even when slandered,
misrepresented, threatened, imprisoned or harmed –
ALL: God is on your side!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***OPENING HYMN** *I Sing a Song of the Saints of God* # 295
(Tune: GRAND ISLE)

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY

WE COME TO THE TABLE AND PRAY WITH THE SAINTS

ONE: Come! Come to this table in this sacred place to worship
the God who loves and nurtures us into wholeness.
**ALL: Come to this table and sing the praises of Christ the
Son who teaches us what it means to be human.**
ONE: Come to this table and embrace the Holy Spirit who guides
and comforts us as we live out our lives.
**ALL: Come to this table and remember those saints who
held us, understood us, accepted us, and made us
better people.**
ONE: Come, people of God, and rejoice!
**ALL: We come, Holy One, into your presence with joy and
thanksgiving! We rest in the security of your love and
grace. Although we have been given the
commandment to “love one another as I have loved
you,” we do not always follow Christ’s directive. We
fail to say a kind word, comfort a friend, help a
stranger, and thank those who have shaped our lives.
Our fears and excuses hold us back when you would
have us act. In admitting out loud, and inwardly, our
faults, we are asking for your forgiveness and mercy.
Create in us a desire, a thirst, to do your will. Mold us
into your saints, people who do your work here on
earth. Amen.**

REMEMBERING THE SAINTS

We remember those who have died in the past year. We celebrate their lives, even as we continue to grieve. We remember those in this congregation we have lost:

*Henry Carpenter, Virginia Chaplin, Julie Gonzalez,
Gary Gray, Vicki Gray, Ruth Tucker*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

UNISON PRAYER OF BLESSING

Come, Holy Spirit, fill our minds and hearts. May our sharing of this feast transform our thoughts and actions so we might be the Body of Christ in the world: erasing divisions, healing the wounded, fulfilling the needs of others, and offering shelter to those who have none. Shape us into the saints our community, our nation, and our world so desperately longs for. Amen.

SHARING BREAD AND CUP

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

We express our gratitude for this meal, Divine Host. We give thanks for the times we spent with our loved ones here at this table, and we thank you that this table is a reminder of our love for you, God. Accompany us into the world with peace in our hearts and strength in the days to come. Amen.

TIME OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Children are welcome to stay in the front pew until after the Special Music.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Christians We Have Met to Worship*
Bell Choir based on the hymn tune HOLY MANNA
arranged by Lloyd Larson

Children in grades K-8 are invited 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.

SUNG RESPONSE *Peace*

by Judy A. Rose

Peace be the song that we will sing.

Peace be the joy, our spirits ring.

Peace be the love that sets us free,
peace for all, peace for you and me.

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

Psalm 34: 1-10, 22

Pew Bible NT p. 560

Matthew 5:1-12

Pew Bible NT p. 4

REFLECTION *Saintly Blessings*

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INTERLUDE *There I will Find Comfort*

by Janet Vogt

LITANY FOR ALL SAINTS' DAY

ALL: Holy God, within and amongst us, for those who lit our lives with joy, for those who have touched us with tenderness, for those whose loss fills us with longing, we give glad thanks in remembrance.

ONE: We celebrate those who have loved us for ourselves, looking with acceptance on all that we are, and cherishing us without condition or constraint.

ALL: Holy God, within and amongst us, we give thanks in glad remembrance.

ONE: We celebrate those who have stood alongside us, holding us in the depths of elation or despair where words of joy or rescue fall silent.

ALL: Holy God, within and amongst us, we give thanks in glad remembrance.

ONE: We celebrate those who would not let us stand still, edging us gently into the open space of new understanding and delighted exploration.

ALL: Holy God, within and amongst us, we give thanks in glad remembrance.

ONE: We celebrate those who have challenged us to grow, perceiving all that we have it in us to become and daring us to dream beyond our imagining.

ALL: Holy God, within and amongst us, we give thanks in glad remembrance.

ONE: We celebrate those who have traveled before us, showing us in their persistent courage and tenderness how to live in love, and die in faith and hope.

ALL: Holy God, within and amongst us, we give thanks in glad remembrance.

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: Holy God, within and amongst us, for those who lit our lives with joy, for those who have touched us with tenderness, for those whose loss fills us with longing, we give glad thanks in remembrance. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

November 5, 2023

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor and Teacher: Rev. Jason Boyd

Liturgist: Bob Oehme

Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams

Organist: David Burch

Bell Choir Members: Megan Carpenter, Lilit Danielyan, Hannah DeBates, Maxine Gage, Alyssa Jutting, John Kolb, Bob Oehme, Amy Rogers, Destinie (DJ) Smith, Ericka Tyler, Pete Williams. Mary Williams-Director

Director of Children and Youth Ministries: Ericka Tyler

Live Stream: Chris McSweeney, Jennifer Strough, Liam Hunter

Sunday Sexton: Mya Yantz

Nursery: Fiora Breese

Fellowship Hour: Pat Burke

NEXT WEEK'S PARTICIPANTS - 11/12

Usher:

Liturgist: Ed Tucker

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



CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Temporarily by appointment only.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY IS AVAILABLE for children up to age 5, upstairs at the front of the church.

OUR PRAYERS AND SYMPATHY to the family and loved ones of Vicki Gray, who died on 10/31/23.

THANKSGIVING PROJECT - We need your help. Donations are welcome to help cover the cost. Cash or checks made out to "UCC Norwich" with *Thanksgiving* in the memo can be put in the offering plate or dropped in the secure mail slot on the front door. We also need volunteers to give out the gift cards. Fill out the insert in the bulletin and leave it in the offering plate or the church office.

LET'S TALK RACE continues to meet at 6:30pm in the Founders Room on November 7, 14, & 28, December 5 & 12. Presenting and facilitating the program is Rev. Gary Smith, Founding Director of the Center for Racial Justice and Racial Justice Consultant for the New York Conference of the United Church of Christ.

FAMILY FUN - Today, 12:00 noon - The Christ Lutheran Church invites you to their community *Sunday School November Celebration*. For all ages (0 -109). Join us for lunch, learning, a service activity, and a fun community based activity. This month we will have a lesson on prayer, create prayer cards for Thanksgiving Boxes and visit Wolf Mountain. RSVP/questions to Elly Powers at ellypow@gmail.com

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY is next week, November 12th when we will present our pledges in worship. Pledge cards will be available.

MONDAY EVENING MUSICAL CLUB will present a performance by club members and area music teachers on Monday, November 6 at 7:00 p.m. in the Nave. It will also be livestreamed on their Facebook page. Free and open to the public. Donations accepted for their scholarship fund.

SAVE THE DATE - November 25 at 10:00 a.m. the Deacons invite you to come and help to decorate the church for the Advent Season. Sign up in the church office or talk to Rose Laughlin.

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 5

- 9:00am Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00am Worship/Communion, Nave - All Saints Day Observance
Sunday School for K-8 - after the Children's Moment
- 11:00am Fellowship Hour, Founders Room
- 11:30am Handbell Choir, upstairs
- 12:00pm Lutheran Church Family Fun. See announcements
- 3:00pm Christmas Cantata Rehearsal, Nave

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 6

- 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 10:00am Knitting, Kitchen
- 3:00pm Tai Chi, Founders Room
- 7:00pm Monday Evening Musical Club Concert, Nave. See announcements.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 7

- 1:00pm Piecemakers, Kitchen
- 5:00pm Soup Kitchen, St. Bart's Parish Center
- 6:30pm Let's Talk Race, Founders Room

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 8

- 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 6:00pm D. Burch, Nave
- 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Nave

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 9

- 1:00pm Piecemakers, Founders Room, kitchen
- 7:00pm Executive Council Meeting, Founders Room, Zoom

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 10

Church Office Closed in Observance of Veterans' Day

- 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11 - Veterans' Day

- 4:00pm Free 2B Me Youth Group for grades 5-12, upstairs

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 12

- 9:00am Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00am Worship, Nave - Stewardship Sunday
Sunday School for K-8 - after the Children's Moment
- 11:00am Fellowship Hour, Founders Room
- 11:30am Handbell Choir, upstairs
- 3:00pm Christmas Cantata Rehearsal, Nave