

*At once
they left their
nets and
followed him.*

MATTHEW 4:20, NIV



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



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



An Open and Affirming Church

January 21, 2024

10:00 a.m

Third Sunday after the Epiphany

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*
by William Henry Monk

WELCOME

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Jesus calls us to praise and prayer, to song and
silence;

ALL: Jesus calls us to worship.

ONE: Jesus calls us to hearing and healing, to service and
solidarity;

ALL: Jesus calls us to love.

ONE: Jesus calls us to advocacy and action, to protest and
provision;

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

Call to Worship by Joanna Harader

Prayer of Invocation by Mary J. Scifres and B.J. Beu

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ALL: Jesus calls us to justice.
ONE: Let us heed the call of Christ.
ALL: Let us worship together with joy.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

***OPENING HYMN** *Beautiful Jesus* #44
(Tune: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU)

TIME OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

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

ANTHEM *O Jesus, I Have Promised*
Words by John E. Bode, 1868
Tune ANGEL'S STORY, by A.H. Mann, 1883

Children in grades 3-8 are invited 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 live in you in all you do.

Peace, peace, peace, peace. Peace live in you in all you do.

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 62:5-12

Pew Bible OT p. 581

Mark 1:14-20

Pew Bible NT p. 35

REFLECTION

Rev. Barbara Toll

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INTERLUDE *Noah's Dove*

by Stan Pethel

AFFIRMING OUR FAITH

United Church of Christ Statement of 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**

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore #173
(Tune: PESCADOR DE HOMBRES)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Aria Pastorella* by Valentin Rathgeber

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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

SUNDAY SCHOOL for children in grades 3 - 8 takes place upstairs after the choir anthem.

FREE 2B ME YOUTH GROUP Saturdays, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m. For youth in grades 5 -12.

CALL TO THE ANNUAL MEETING - Sunday January 28 after the worship service. All members are encouraged to attend.

COMMUNITY ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE -

Wednesday, February 14, 7:00 p.m. at Christ Lutheran Church, 94 N Broad St. All are welcome. Livestreaming is available.

COMMUNITY LENTEN STUDY of the book *Simon Peter: Flawed but Faithful Disciple*, Wednesdays Feb 13 - Mar 28. Lite Lunch 11:30 a.m., Study 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. at Broad St. United Methodist Church.

PLEASE DON'T TAKE ANY RISKS to get to church on a Sunday morning if the weather is bad, especially since you can tune in to the livestream. If we cancel church all together, we will send an email to our weekly worship information list, post on Facebook and Instagram, and also announce it with message on the church phone (607-334-3434).

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 21

- 9:00am Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00am Worship, Nave
- Sunday School grades 3 - 8
- 11:00am Fellowship coffee hour, Founders Rm.
- 11:30am Hand Bell Rehearsal, upstairs

MONDAY, JANUARY 22

- 10:00am Knitting Group, kitchen
- 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 3:00pm Tai Chi, Founders Room
- 6:30pm Town & Country Garden Club, Founders Rm.
- 6:30pm Yoga Sampler - sleep yoga and essential oils at Guernsey Memorial Library, 607-334-4034.
- 7:00pm Deacons Meeting, Zoom

TUESDAY, JANUARY 23

- 1:00pm Piecemakers, Kitchen

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 24

- 9:00am AARP Tax Training, Founders Room
- 10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 7:00pm Choir Rehearsal, Nave

JANUARY 21, 2024

FRIDAY, JANUARY 26

10:00am Prayer Circle, Zoom
9:00am AARP Training, Founders Room

SATURDAY, 27

1:00pm LGBTQ+ Support Group, Guernsey Memorial
Library. email
<norwichLGBTQgroup@gmail.com> for details.
4:00pm Youth Group, upstairs

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28

9:00am Nursery, upstairs
10:00am Worship, Nave
Sunday School grades 3 - 8
11:00am Annual Meeting, Founders Rm.

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS:

Sharing the Word: Rev. Barbara Toll
Associate Conference Minister, UCC New York Conference
Liturgist: Ed Tucker
Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams
Organist: David Burch
Director of Children and Youth Ministries: Ericka Tyler
Live Stream: Chris McSweeney, Jessica Strough, Liam Hunter
Sunday Sexton: Mya Yantz
Nursery: Fiora Breese

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
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

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday-Friday
8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.
(closed for lunch 1:00 - 2:00 p.m.)

