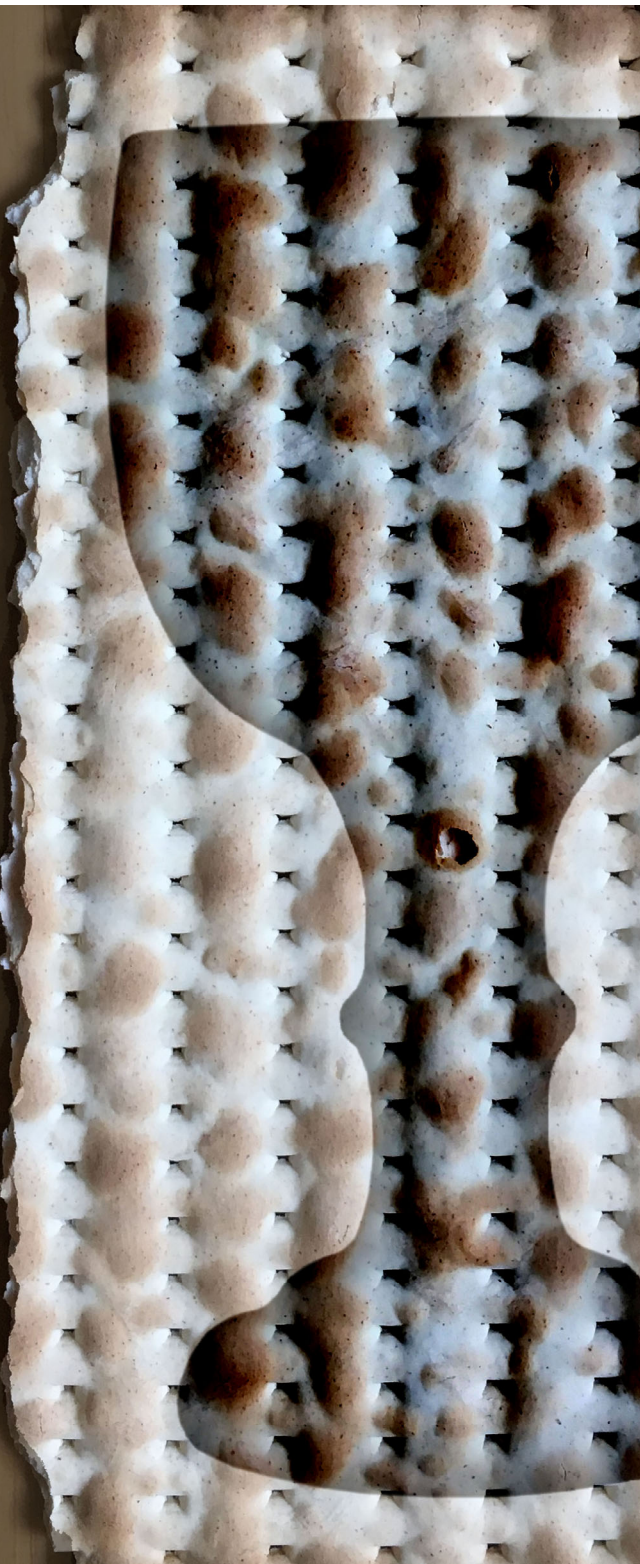


For as often
as you
EAT
this
BREAD
and
DRINK
the
CUP,
you proclaim
the
LORD'S
DEATH
until he comes.

1 CORINTHIANS 11:26



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



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



An Open and Affirming Church

January 28, 2024

10:00 a.m

**Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany
Communion**

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Voluntary*

by Francis Linley

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 111 and Deuteronomy 18: 15-20)

ONE: We come to worship

ALL: Giving thanks with whole hearts

ONE: In the company of this congregation

ALL: We worship the One who is gracious and merciful

ONE: Holy and awesome is God's name!

ALL: Let us worship God together!

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

Call to worship from Worship Ways for Epiphany 4 <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/epiphany-4b-january-28-2/>

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UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, holy, gracious, and merciful we gather mindful of your covenant with us and all creation. We gather mindful of your wonderful deeds and your powerful work among us. Grant that we may be joined with all your creation in praising you in the name of the One who was, and is, and is to come. Amen.

*OPENING HYMN

All People That on Earth Do Dwell
(Tune: OLD HUNDREDTH)

#7

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Matthew 26:17-19, 26-29 (Pew Bible NT p. 30)

TIME OF SHARING

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 111

ONE: Praise the Lord! I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

ALL: **Great are the works of the Lord, studied by all who delight in them.**

ONE: Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

ALL: **He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.**

ONE: He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

ALL: **He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.**

ONE: The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

ALL: **They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.**

ONE: He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

ALL: **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.**

ANTHEM *Song of Thanksgiving*

by Tony Ward
Quoting Psalm 111

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Michael Moren

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.

Children in grades 3-8 are invited upstairs for Sunday School at this time.

INVITATION TO DISCIPLESHIP

In this body of believers
there is no longer Jew or Greek,
no longer slave or free,
no longer male and female,
for we are all one in Christ.
In Jesus Christ all are invited
to be children of God through faith.

DISCIPLESHIP PLEDGE (and 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.
Give online at www.uccnorwichny.org/give*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 1:21-28

Pew Bible NT p. 35

* **HYMN** *O Christ, the Healer, We Have Come* Insert
(Tune: TALLIS' CANON)

SERMON *We're All Students* (Matthew 23:1-12)

Rev. James K. Boodley

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

INTERLUDE

Varied Hymn Harmonization on "Lobe den Herren"

by John H. Schaffner

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**

Thank Our God for Sisters, Brothers
(Tune: PLEADING SAVIOR)

#397

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Fugue*

by John Beckwith



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 - TODAY after the worship service.
All members are encouraged to attend.

SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS will be available on February 1st from the church office or website. **Please note the earlier deadline this year - APPLICATIONS ARE DUE MARCH 30.**

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 28

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

MONDAY, JANUARY 29

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

TUESDAY, JANUARY 30

9:00am AARP Training, Founders Rm.
1:00pm Piecemakers, Kitchen
7:00pm Zoom Meeting with Committee on Authorized Ministry

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 31

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

January 28, 2024

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 2

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

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 3

4:00pm Youth Group, upstairs

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 4

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

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS:

Sharing the Word: Rev. James K. Boodley
Liturgist: John Kolb
Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams
Organist: David Burch
Director of Children and Youth Ministries: Ericka Tyler
Children's Moment: Michael Moren
Live Stream: Chris McSweeney, Jessica Strough, Liam Hunter
Sunday Sexton: Mya Yantz
Nursery: Fiora Breese
Fellowship Hour: Pete and Mary Williams

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.)

