

He said COME



SO PETER GOT OUT OF THE BOAT
AND STARTED WALKING ON THE WATER
AND CAME TO JESUS.

Matthew 14:29

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



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



An Open and Affirming Church

April 28, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday of Easter

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Gradual*

by Edouard Batiste

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: Rejoice in the Lord, you righteous;

ALL: **it is good for the faithful to sing praises to God.**

ONE: Happy are the people whose God is the Lord!

ALL: **Happy are the people loved by God!**

ONE: Let your loving kindness be upon us, O Lord.

ALL: **As we put our trust in you. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.**

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION (PASTOR)

Gracious and loving God, we offer praise and thanksgiving for the gift of your son, Jesus the Christ, whom you sent into the world to lead us home to you. Enable us to see in his life, death, and resurrection the way to you, the truth about you, and the life you offer to all of your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

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***OPENING HYMN**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
(Tune: SOLID ROCK)

#403

TIME OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

BLESSING OF PEACE

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

ALL: And also with you.

*Please greet one another in a manner most comfortable to you:
hug, wave, fist bump, handshake. Children in grades
3-8 are invited upstairs for Sunday school at this time.*

SUNG RESPONSE *Bind Us Together*

Insert

EASTER INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

How grateful we are, O God, for all of the gifts you provide. You have blessed us with abundance, not only fulfilling our needs, but going far beyond. May our giving today reflect your generosity, and may it be used to further your work, both in our community of faith and throughout your realm. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Offering plates are located at both doors or
give online at www.uccnorwichny.org/give*

HYMN *God Moves in a Mysterious Way*
(Tune: DUNDEE)

#412 (verses 1-4)

SERMON: *Proximity to Jesus*

Rev. James K. Boodley

Scripture: Matthew 14:22-33 (Pew Bible NT p. 16)

SPECIAL MUSIC *Come to Jesus*

Steve Emmons, soloist

Words and Music by Chris Rice
Arranged by Mark Hayes

SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

April 28, 2024

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

How Firm a Foundation
(Tune: FOUNDATION)

#407, (verses 1, 2, 5)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Voluntary*

by Francis Linley

TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS:

Pastor: Rev. James K. Boodley

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

PASTOR: Rev. James K. Boodley

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 8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.

(closed for lunch 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.)

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NURSERY is available for children up to age 5 upstairs beginning at 9:00 a.m.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT: A special congregational meeting will be held **Today Sunday, April 28th following the worship service at 11:15 a.m.** for the sole purpose of voting on the updated By-Laws. A Zoom link with voting capabilities will be available for those unable to attend in person.

The proposed updated version addresses the details of moving from the current leadership structure of having a Board of Deacons, a Board of Trustees, and an Executive Council to a single leadership body which will retain the title of Executive Council. Copies of the current By-Laws as well as the proposed By-Laws and a summary list of the changes are available at the back of the Nave for you to take and review.

PARSONAGE OPEN HOUSE

(65 West Main St.), May 2, 4:00 - 6:00 p.m.

The parsonage has some wonderful new living room furniture and has had a spic-and-span spring cleaning. Pastor J.K. will be hosting congregational gatherings there when he is in town on Thursdays. He would like to start with an open house from 4:00-6:00 p.m. this Thursday, May 2nd. Nothing fancy, just an opportunity for you to come in to see a space that hasn't been open to you in the past.

THE UCCNY CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING will be held on **Friday and Saturday, May 31st – June 1st** at the Holiday Inn, **Binghamton**. Our church is allowed to send two delegates. Any covenant member is eligible and with the meeting location so close to Norwich, it is very convenient to attend this year. This is a good opportunity to witness the workings of the conference and be a part of voting and the decision making process. It is also a good opportunity to meet people from the conference and other local area churches. If you have any desire to attend or would like additional information on this event, please contact Pete or Mary Williams (last year's attendees) or the church office and we can get you additional information.

Registration deadline for this event is May 10, 2024.

HOSPICE SPRING PLANT SALE - This year customers will purchase vouchers for their plant orders and then bring their vouchers to pick their plants up directly from the respective florists, Pires Flower Basket in Norwich and Mountain View Gardens in Sherburne, from **April 25 to May 25!** (Vouchers and gift cards are not redeemable for cash.) Shop online at <https://hospicechenango.org/shop/> or check out the brochure on the bulletin board outside the church office.

CALENDAR

The Chenango Muslim Community meets upstairs daily at 9:30 p.m. & Fridays at 1:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 28

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Sunday School
- 11:15 a.m. Congregational Meeting to vote on the By-laws changes
- 11:30 a.m. Pot Luck Lunch (following the vote)
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs
- 2:00 p.m. Susquehanna Association Spring Meeting, Maine Federated Church
- 2:00 p.m. Anita Humer and Matt Nakoa present a free Piano Recital at Broad St. United Methodist Church.

MONDAY, APRIL 29

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 3:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Founders Room
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Council Meeting, Founders Room

TUESDAY, APRIL 30

- 1:00 p.m. Piecemakers, Kitchen

WEDNESDAY, MAY 1

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Nave

THURSDAY, MAY 2

- 4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.) Open House at the parsonage
65 W. Main Street.

FRIDAY, MAY 3

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom

SUNDAY, MAY 5

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery
- 10:00 a.m. Worship
Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs
- 2:30 p.m. Installation of Rev. Barbara Blom, Groton Community Church