



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



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



An Open and Affirming Church

October 20, 2024

10:00 a.m.

Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost

PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Variations on "Beautiful Savior"*

by Rachel A. Spry

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: O people of the earth, sing praise to God!

ALL: **Praise for grace unmeasured, praise for peace unending!**

ONE: O people of the earth, sing praise to God!

ALL: **Praise for love incarnate, praise for joy proclaimed!**

ONE: O people of the earth, sing praise to God!

ALL: **Praise for hope abounding, praise for faith manifest! In Jesus' name, we praise God. Amen.**

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

O God, our faith goes through stages when it is strong and when it is weak. You are the foundation that keeps us strong and keeps us together, as individuals and as a community of faith. Therefore, we anticipate the future with hope and confidence. Lead us through our valleys and our concerns, we pray, bringing us into your realm and into your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

#25

***Please stand in body or in spirit.**

2 Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ericka Tyler

ANTHEM *In Everything Fair*

Words and music by Patricia Mock and Douglas Nolan
incorporating *This is My Father's World*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ALL: And also with you.

Please greet one another in a manner most comfortable to you.

SUNG RESPONSE *Bind Us Together*

Insert

Children in grades K-3 are invited to go upstairs for Sunday school at this time.

TIME OF SHARING

SERMON *Asking, Searching, Knocking, Finding*

Rev. James K. Boodley

Scripture: Matthew 7:7-11, 13-14

Pew Bible NT p. 7

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

OFFERTORY #9 *Interlude*

by Flor Peeters

DOXOLOGY (*Tune #7*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, in whom all grace we know.
Praise to the Spirit, evermore;
One God, triune, whom we adore. (Amen.)

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Generous God, sometimes we hold back because we aren't convinced we have enough. Yet we already have more than enough, more than enough to share. Help us to do so with willing hearts and generous spirits so that your abundance might be shared with all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

October 20, 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** *This Little Light*

#524

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude in the Viennese Classical Style on "Mozart"

by Randolph Currie

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

Ministers: All the People

Pastor: Rev. James K. Boodley

Liturgist: Rose Laughlin

Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams

Organist: David Burch

Director of Children's & Youth Ministries: Ericka Tyler

Livestream Director: Jennifer Mallozzi

Livestream Staff: Chris McSweeney, Jessica Strough, Liam Hunter

Sunday Sexton: Ericka Tyler

Nursery: Fiora Breese

Coffee Hour: Rose Laughlin, Jessica Strough

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FIRST CONGREGATIONAL

11 West Main St., Norwich NY 13815

607-334-3434 - office@uccnorwichny.org - www.uccnorwichny.org

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Monday-Tuesday-Thursday

8:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. (*Closed 12 - 1 for lunch*)

Friday

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



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WIFI IS AVAILABLE

Network Name: UCC-Guest

Password: uccguest

NURSERY is available for children up to age 5 starting at 9:00 a.m. Located up the stairs at the front of the church.

ANNUAL BUDGET INFORMATIONAL MEETING TODAY- The Budget Meeting is in the Founders Room, following the service. All are encouraged to attend.

SAVE THE DATE: Christmas decorations will be put up on Saturday, December 7 starting at 10:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed. There will be pizza available for lunch. The time is 10:00. See Rose Laughlin for details.

ATTENTION ONLINE VIEWERS: the Worship Team is looking for two volunteers to participate in a short reading to be included in our Stewardship Sunday service. It would involve filming yourself reading part of the Stewardship liturgy. Contact the church office or Mary Williams for more information or if you would like to participate.

THE WORSHIP TEAM is looking for five family groups/pairs to participate in the Advent and Christmas Eve candle lighting liturgy. This would involve reading some short passages and lighting a candle. Contact the church office or Mary Williams for more information or if you would like to participate.

WANTING TO HELP PEOPLE AFFECTED BY THE HURRICANES?

Go to <https://support.ucc.org/global-HOPE> to donate - you can designate your gift to US Hurricane Relief (or other worldwide needs). Checks can be sent to United Church of Christ, PO Box 71957, Cleveland OH 44194.

ORDER YOUR FREE COVID TESTS to have on hand if you or someone in your home is ill. Go to [COVIDtests.gov](https://www.covidtests.gov). You can also check on the extended expiration dates for any older tests you have.

BROAD STREET UNITED METHODIST CHURCH is collecting clean coats, socks, gloves, scarves, and hats to supply a FREE coat rack made available to those who need them. Drop your donations off at BSUMC Monday - Friday from 7 a.m. - 12 p.m. Your contribution will make a real difference in keeping our community warm this winter.

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 20

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave
Sunday School grades 3-8 upstairs
- 11:00 a.m. Budget Meeting, Founders Rm.
Coffee Hour
- 12:30 p.m. *Free 2B Me* Youth Group, upstairs (Grades 5-12)
- 4:30 p.m. Free Community Dinner at Broad St. United Methodist Church

MONDAY OCTOBER 21

- 10:00 a.m. Knitting Group, kitchen
- 2:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Founders Room

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 22

- 1:00 p.m. Piecemakers, Kitchen
- 4:00 p.m. Soup Kitchen, St. Bart's Parish Center
- 7:00 p.m. Executive Council, Chapel, Zoom

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23

- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 6:00 p.m. Norwich Theater Company, Founders Rm. (Tentative)
- 7:00 p.m. Choir Rehearsal, Nave

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 27

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave
Sunday Schoolgrades 3-8, upstairs
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour
- 12:30 p.m. *Free 2B Me* Youth Group, upstairs (Grades 5-12)
- 3:00 p.m. First Rehearsal for the Christmas Cantata

Matthew 7:7-11, 13-14

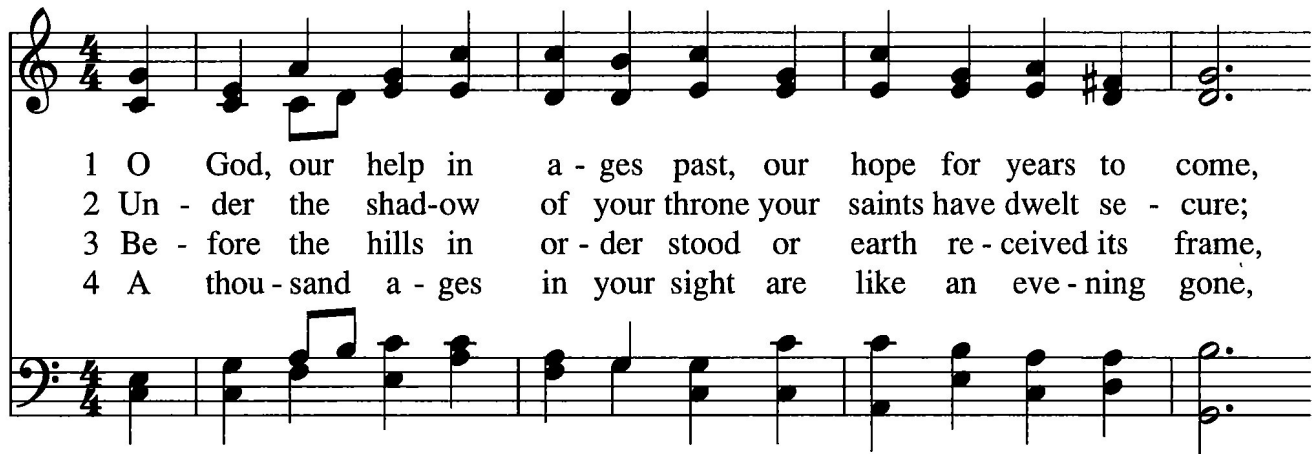
⁷“Ask, and it will be given to you; search, and you will find; knock, and the door will be opened for you. ⁸ For everyone who asks receives, and everyone who searches finds, and for everyone who knocks, the door will be opened. ⁹ Is there anyone among you who, if your child asked for bread, would give a stone? ¹⁰ Or if the child asked for a fish, would give a snake? ¹¹ If you, then, who are evil, know how to give good gifts to your children, how much more will your Father in heaven give good things to those who ask him!

¹³ “Enter through the narrow gate, for the gate is wide and the road is easy that leads to destruction, and there are many who take it. ¹⁴ For the gate is narrow and the road is hard that leads to life, and there are few who find it.

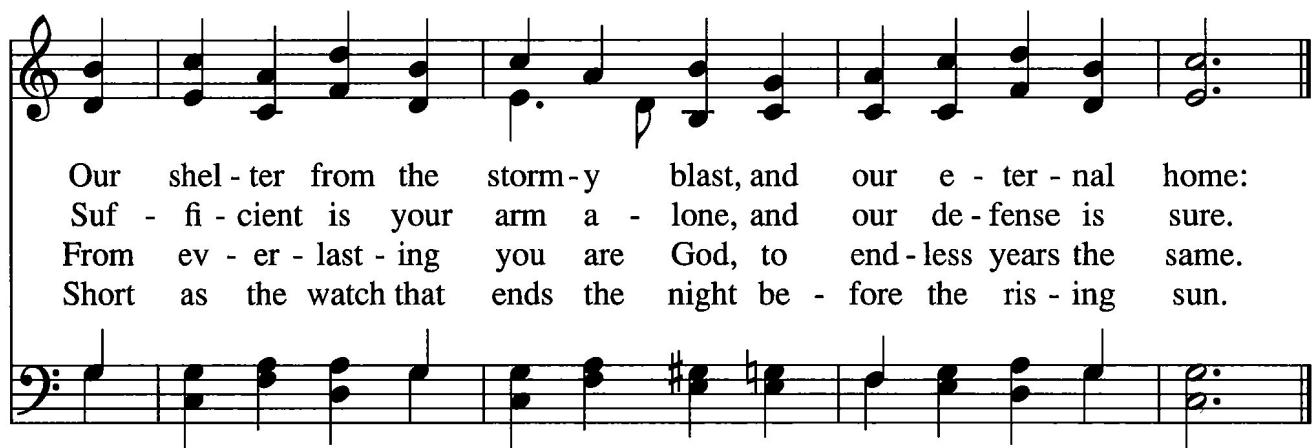
O God, Our Help in Ages Past

Isaac Watts, 1719; alt.

Ps. 90:1-2, 4-5



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad-ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm-y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:
Suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

5 Time, like an ev-er-roll-ing stream,
soon bears us all away;
We fly for-got-ten, as a dream
fades at the o-pening day.

6 O God, our help in a-ges past,
our hope for years to come,
Still be our God while trou-bles last,
and our e-ter-nal home!

Watts, minister of a Congregational church in London, wrote theological and philosophical works and hundreds of "hymns of human composure" (everyday language). He augmented the congregational singing of psalms with a new style of hymnody.

Tune: ST. ANNE C.M.
William Croft, 1708

Bind Us Together

©1977 THANKYOU MUSIC (PRS)

Words and Music by BOB GILLMAN

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of one flat (Bb). It consists of five staves of music with lyrics underneath. Chord symbols are placed above the notes. The lyrics are: "Bind us to - geth - er Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord, bind us to - geth - er, bind us to - geth - er with love. We are the fa - mily of God, we are the prom - ise di - vine. We are God's cho - sen de - sire, we are the glo - rious new wine." The score ends with a double bar line and the word "Fine".

F Dm7 Gm
Bind us to - geth - er Lord, bind us to - geth - er with cords that

6 C7 F Bb/C F
can - not be bro - ken. Bind us to - geth - er, Lord,

11 Dm7 Gm C7 F Fine
bind us to - geth - er, bind us to - geth - er with love.

17 F C7 F C7 F
We are the fa - mily of God, we are the prom - ise di - vine.

25 C7 F F/C C7 F D.C. al Fine
We are God's cho - sen de - sire, we are the glo - rious new wine.

Matt. 5:14-16

African-American spiritual

1 This lit-tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 1 This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.

I am gon - na let it, let it shine,
 oh, the world did not give to me,

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine.
 This joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.

This lit - tle light of mine, I'm gon-na let it shine,
 This . . . joy I have, the world did-n't give to me.

Hal - le-lu - jah,
 Hal - le-lu, the

let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, (oh let it shine.)
 No, the world did-n't give it, the world can't take it a - way.

“This Little Light” continued:

- 2 Ev-ery-where I go . . .
- 3 All--through the night . . .

The texts of these two spirituals may be used interchangeably with the tune This Joy. For an alternate version, this melody may be sung with the accompaniment of “Glory, Glory Hallelujah.” A more traditional setting of “This Little Light” is provided with the tune Lattimer.

Tune: THIS JOY Irr.
 African-American spiritual
 Arr. Jeffrey Radford, 1993
 See also LATTIMER