



United Church of Christ
Norwich, New York



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



An Open and Affirming Church

January 5, 2025

10:00 a.m

Epiphany Sunday and Communion

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME (PASTOR): We welcome you to our service of worship today on this Epiphany Sunday. We're glad you're here. Would you please take a moment to sign the attendance pad in your pew?

ANNOUNCEMENTS (Liturgist)

GATHERING

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: From God's fullness we have received grace upon grace.

ALL: **Grace and truth came through Jesus the Christ.**

ONE: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and from the Holy Spirit.

ALL: **May the grace of our Lord, Jesus the Christ, be with us all. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Forgive us, O God, for doing so little to help others experience grace. We seldom make allowances for mistakes and shortcomings, putting conditions on our love. Too often we put limits on our willingness to understand and accept others, rarely forgiving and hardly ever forgetting. Forgive us, we pray, to be the persons you created and encourage us to be. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN** *The First Nowell*

#139

TIME OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Erika Tyler

SPECIAL MUSIC *Gesu Bambino* Arranged by Molly Ijames

Pianists: Mary Williams & David Burch

PASSING OF THE PEACE

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

ALL: And also with you.

SUNG RESPONSE *Bind Us Together*

Insert

Words and music by Bob Gillman

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

SERMON Arrivals and Departures Rev. James K. Boodley

SCRIPTURE Matthew 2:1-15

Pew Bible NT p. ??

INTERLUDE

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Matthew 26:17-19, 26-29

(Pew Bible

NT p. 30)

Pastoral Prayer

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

PASTOR: Your morning offering serves not only the work of the church here, but the work of the church in the larger community. Offering plates are available at the back of the sanctuary to receive this morning's gifts. For those of you joining us remotely, you'll find an online giving option at uccnorwichny.org/give.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God of blessings, help us bestow upon others your gifts with glad and generous hearts. May we be good stewards of your mercies, just as your mercies have blessed us. And may we live in expectation of your coming, through the birth of the holy child in Bethlehem. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS (Pastor)

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Pastor)

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

PASTOR: Please rise as you're able and join in singing the hymn #154, *Go Tell It on the Mountain*, in your hymnal and onscreen.

***CLOSING HYMN** *Go Tell It on the Mountain*

#154

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WIFI IS AVAILABLE

Network Name: UCC-Guest

Password: uccguest

NURSERY is available for children up to age 5, upstairs at the front of the church.

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IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER on a Sunday, please don't take any risks to get to church. You can always tune in to the livestream www.uccnorwichny.org/livestream. If we cancel the service, we will post on Facebook and Instagram and with a message on the church phone.

THE TRANSITION COMMITTEE invites you to the ***New Beginnings Worship Service and Potluck Luncheon on Sunday January 12, 2025***. Pastor JK Boodley will lead us, both individually and as a congregation, in bringing closure to 2024 and welcoming new possibilities in 2025. After the service we will have a potluck luncheon followed by "undecorate the

church". The Co-Chairs, Michael Moren and Miranda Hunter, will report on the committee's progress to date and will invite you to respond to some thought-provoking questions. More details on that will be **Sign up in the church office** to let us know that you will be attending and if you would like to help with set up, clean up, undecorating, and if you will be bringing a dish to share.



Link to Online Giving

www.uccnorwichny.org/give

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs

10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave - Sunday School grades 3-8, upstairs
after Children's Moment

11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour

12:30 p.m. *Free 2B Me* Youth Group, upstairs (Grades 5-12)

MONDAY JANUARY 6

2:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Founders Room

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

9:00 a.m. AARP tax Training, Founders Room

1:30 p.m. Piecemakers, Mayflower Room

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

9:00 a.m. AARP tax Training, Founders Room

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom

7:00 p.m. Choir, Nave

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

1:00 p.m. Piecemakers , Founders Room,

SATURDAY, JANUARY 11

9:00 a.m. Piecemakers, Founders Room,

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12

9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs

10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave - Sunday School grades 3-8, upstairs
after Children's Moment

11:00 a.m. New Beginnings Potluck Lunch

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

Ministers: All the People

Pastor: Rev. James K. Boodley

Liturgist:

Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams

Organist: David Burch

Director of Children's and Youth Ministries: Ericka Tyler

Livestream Director: Jennifer Mallozzi

Livestream Staff: Chris McSweeney, Jessica Strough, Liam Hunter

Sunday Sexton: Mya Yantz

Nursery: Fiora Breese

Coffee Hour: 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.

