



THESE

HARVEST

IS PLENTIFUL,

BUT THESE

LABORERS

ARE FEW.

LUKE 10:2



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



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



An Open and Affirming Church

March 9, 2025

10:00 a.m

First Sunday of Lent

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

FIRST SUNDAY IN LENT: Responsive Meditation

ONE: This is the first Sunday in Lent—the season for journeys of the heart. The Lenten candles have been lit, but over the next six weeks the light will slowly fade into darkness. For we are retelling the story of Jesus' betrayal, suffering and death.

ALL: **This is the sacred center of our faith — the truth made manifest in Jesus the Christ — that God is in each and every one of us, quietly transforming us and the world. He is waiting for us, inviting us to leave ordinary time and follow along with him on the journey that brought him to the cross. Listen in silence, for Jesus is calling.**

(Silent time.)

LENTEN SUNG RESPONSE

Just As I Am

#207 (verse 1)

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

UNISON PRAYER

Loving God, as we journey through this holy season of Lent, open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence and help us to put our trust in you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

Take Up Your Cross, the Savior Said

#204

TIME OF SHARING

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Ericka Tyler

SPECIAL MUSIC *In the Garden*

Megan Carpenter, horn

By C. Austin Miles

Arranged by Peter Hilliard

PASSING OF THE 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.

SUNG RESPONSE

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

#393 (verse 1)

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

SERMON *Sending Out Disciples*

Rev. James K. Boodley

SCRIPTURE Luke 10:1-3, 17-20

Pew Bible NT p. 72

INTERLUDE

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, you have blessed us with abundance, not only fulfilling our needs, but exceeding them. May our giving today reflect your generosity, and may these offerings be used to further your work, both in this community of faith and throughout your creation. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

March 9, 2025

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 *O God of Strength*

Insert

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



Link to Online Giving
www.uccnorwichny.org/give

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

Ministers: All the People

Pastor: Rev. James K. Boodley

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,
Breanna Rogers

Sunday Sexton: Mya Yantz

Nursery: Fiora Breese

Liturgist: Jen Mallozzi

Usher: Naomi Mahaffey

Coffee Hour: Elissa Sawyer, Jane Prime

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, upstairs at the front of the church.

POT LUCK LUNCH RE-SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 30. Rev. Ryan Henderson from the New York Conference UCC will be with us. Bring a dish to pass. Table service and beverages provided. A sign up sheet for the luncheon is in the office.

NO YOUTH GROUP TODAY. Support two of our Youth Group teens at **NEWSIES** today at 2:30 p.m. Norwich High School Auditorium. Free admission.

SIGN UP ON THE BULLETIN board outside the church office if you are interested in volunteering in the community when opportunities arise.

24 HOURS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD - Community Lenten Book Study. Every Tuesday March 11 - April 8, at Christ Lutheran Church, 94 N. Broad St. (*Note new location.*) Books will be provided. Lite Lunch at 11:30 a.m., Study 12:00 - 1:00 p.m. Everyone is welcome.

WANT TO JOIN THE CHURCH? The Church leadership is making an open invitation to a new member orientation process for anyone interested. This invitation is open to all ages who may want to officially become a member of the church or just renew their faith commitment. Details of exactly what this will entail is still in the works, but if there is any interest in becoming a new member or if you would like more information on what that may look like, speak to either Pastor J.K. or Pete Williams, Moderator.

IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER on a Sunday, please don't take any risks to get to church. You can always watch 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.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE a call or text to let you know if we cancel the church service, please sign up in the church office.

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, MARCH 9

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave - Sunday School grades 3-8 after the Children's Moment
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Mayflower Room
- 1:30 p.m. Chenango Change, Founders Room

MONDAY, MARCH 10

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Rm., Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. Knitting Group, Mayflower Room
- 2:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Mayflower Room

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

- 11:30 a.m. Lent Book Study, Christ Lutheran Church. See announcements for details.
- 1:00 p.m. Piecemakers Circle, Kitchen
- 5:00 p.m. Pride Alliance Meeting, Founders Rm.
- 5:15 p.m. Free Meal at St. Bart's Catholic Church (Doors open at 4:00 p.m.)

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room, Kitchen
- 10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
- 7:00 p.m. Choir, Nave

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

- 1:00 p.m. Piecemakers Monthly Meeting, Founders Rm.

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

- 9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Preparation, Founders Room, Kitchen

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

- 9:00 a.m. Piecemakers National Quilting Day, Founders Rm.

SUNDAY, MARCH 16

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave - Sunday School grades 3-8 after the Children's Moment
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Mayflower Room
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs
- 1:30 p.m. Chenango Change, Founders Room

Luke 10:1-3

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two others and sent them on ahead of him in pairs to every town and place where he himself intended to go. ² He said to them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest. ³ Go on your way; I am sending you out like lambs into the midst of wolves.

Luke 10:17-20

¹⁷ The seventy-two returned with joy, saying, “Lord, in your name even the demons submit to us!” ¹⁸ He said to them, “I watched Satan fall from heaven like a flash of lightning. ¹⁹ Indeed, I have given you authority to tread on snakes and scorpions and over all the power of the enemy, and nothing will hurt you. ²⁰ Nevertheless, do not rejoice at this, that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

Just as I Am

207

Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt.

John 6:37; Eph. 2:14

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
3 Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,
4 Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, And that you called in -
con - flict, many a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -
par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise
ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and

vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

This text appeared in Charlotte Elliott's Invalid's Hymn Book, published in England in 1836. Disabled at age thirty, she continued a career of writing and editing. This hymn has been translated into many languages.

Tune: WOODWORTH L.M.
William B. Bradbury, 1849

"Take Up Your Cross," the Savior Said

Mark 8:34

Charles W. Everest, 1883; alt.

1 "Take up your cross," the Sav - ior said, "if you would
 2 Take up your cross; let not its weight fill your weak
 3 Take up your cross, heed not the shame, and let your
 4 Take up your cross and fol - low Christ, nor think till

my dis - ci - ple be; Take up your cross with
 spir - it with a - larm; Christ's strength will bear your
 fool - ish pride be still; For Christ did not re -
 death to lay it down, For on - ly those who

will - ing heart and hum - bly fol - low af - ter me."
 spir - it up and brace your heart, sup - port your arm.
 fuse to die up - on a cross on Cal - vary's hill.
 bear the cross may hope to wear the glo - rious crown.

Charles Everest, after graduating from Trinity College, Hartford, was rector of a parish in Hamden, Connecticut, for thirty-one years. This sermon in verse is from his collection of hymns titled *Visions of Death and Other Poems*.

Tune: DEUS TUORUM MILITUM L.M.
 Grenoble Antiphoner, 1753

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

393

John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,
4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,

The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

An English Baptist minister, John Fawcett published a number of poetic works. His entire ministry was spent at a church near Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, where he wrote most of his hymns to follow his sermons.

Tune: DENNIS S.M.
Melody by Johann G. Nägeli (c. 1768-1836)
Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

O God of Strength

534

Shepherd Knapp, 1907

1 O God of strength, whose pur - pose, nev - er swerv - ing,
2 O Word Made Flesh, whose work God's work con - tin - ued,
3 O power of Peace, who brings to us good tid - ings,
4 O God, whose grace has called us to your ser - vice,

shall make com - plete the work Christ has be - gun,
one with the Spir - it's thought and deed and word,
teach us to speak your word of hope and cheer;
how good your thoughts toward us, how great their sum!

Grant us to join and work with all dis - ci - ples,
Now make us one, com - pan - ions in your ser - vice,
Rest for the soul, and strength for all our striv - ing,
We work with you, we go where you will lead us,

filled with your strength to see your will is done.
your liv - ing body - y by the Spir - it stirred.
light for the path of life, your truth brought near.
un - til in all the earth your reign shall come.

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Tune: WELWYN 11.10.11.10.
Alfred Scott-Gatty, 1900