



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





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



**An Open and Affirming Church**

**June 1, 2025**

**10:00 a.m**

**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

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**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

*Please enjoy the music with those around you as you prepare for worship.*

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

**ONE:** Create in me a clean heart, O God.

**ALL:** And put a new and right spirit within me.

**ONE:** Restore to me the joy of your salvation.

**ALL** And sustain in me a willing spirit. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

**UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION**

**Mighty and Holy God, we thank you for the life you have given us and for your renewing Holy Spirit that meets us with challenge and comfort. We pray for this community of faith, that we may be instruments of peace on earth. Guide both our church and all around the world to extend the spirit of Jesus the Christ throughout your**

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

**Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.**

realm through service and commitment to faith and understanding. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

#### **OPENING HYMN**

*Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!*

#257 (vv. 1, 2, 4)

#### **TIME OF SHARING**

#### **CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

Ericka Tyler

#### **RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS**

Naomi and Heavenly Mahaffey, Joe Phelps

#### **CONGREGATION'S AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

ONE: Let us affirm together our faith as we receive Naomi, Heavenly and Joe into membership in this church.

ALL: **We believe in God who has created and is creating.**

ONE: God has come to us in Jesus Christ to reconcile and make us new. God works in us and others by the Holy Spirit.

ALL: **We trust God. God calls us to be the church.**

#### **NEW MEMBER CANDIDATES' AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

#### **CONGREGATIONAL WELCOME**

ONE: Let us, the members of the United Church of Christ, First Congregational, express our welcome and affirm our mutual ministry in Christ.

ALL: **We welcome you, Naomi, Heavenly and Joe, with joy into the common life of this church. We promise you our friendship and prayers as we share the hopes and labors of the church of Jesus, the Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love and be witnesses of our risen Savior.**

#### **UNISON PRAYER OF THANKS & BLESSING**

O God, we praise you for calling us to faith and for gathering us into the church, the body of Christ. We thank you for your people gathered in this local church



**and rejoice that Naomi, Heavenly and Joe have joined our community of faith. Together may we live in the Spirit, building one another up in love, sharing in the life and worship of the church, and serving the world for the sake of Jesus, the Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

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

**ALL:** And also with you.

*Please greet one another with the passing of the peace.*

**SUNG RESPONSE** *Deep Peace*

Insert

**ANTHEM** *Higher Ground*

By Thomas Keesecker

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

**SERMON** *The Ascension of the Lord*

Rev. James K. Boodley

**SCRIPTURE** Luke 24:44-53

Pew Bible NT p. 93

**SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER**

Matthew 26:17-19, 26-29

Pew Bible NT p. 30

*After the Gospel reading and blessing of the elements, please come forward as you're able. For anyone who would prefer to remain seated, we will bring the elements to you. Come, the table is set and all are welcome.*

Pastoral Prayer

**COMMUNION HYMN** *Jesus, the Joy of Loving Hearts* #329

**INVITATION TO GENEROSITY**

## **UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Our lives are stories, Holy God, which others read. May the offerings we bring and the service we offer enable our stories to lift the Holy Spirit into the midst of our church and our community. In Jesus' name we pray. 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** *Amazing Grace*

**#547** (vs. 1, 2, 5)

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **WIFI IS AVAILABLE**

Network Name: UCC-Guest

Password: uccguest

**THE PRELUDE** is meant as a time of preparation for worship. Please enjoy the music with those around you. Keep in mind that even whispered conversations are picked up by the livestream microphones.

**THE DOORS TO THE CHURCH** are locked during the service from 10:05 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. for security reasons. The doors will remain open from 11:00 a.m. to 11:40 a.m. for coffee hour and bell choir. Members and regular attenders can request a key fob from the church office to allow them to enter during the time that the doors are locked.

**JUNE 9 - DEADLINE FOR Action Committee Annual Reports and Newsletter Articles.** This information can be sent to the church office at [office@uccnorwichny.org](mailto:office@uccnorwichny.org).

**HOSPICE SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE** - June 5 at 5:30 p.m., at the Hospice Office on Court Street. This will be a candlelight ceremony honoring the lives of those who have recently passed. For information call 607-334-3558.

### **STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING NEXT SUNDAY JUNE 8**

The Strengthen the Church Offering furthers the work of our conferences and the national UCC as we work together to strengthen and renew existing congregations, fund leadership development, and provide exciting new programs for youth and young adults. The offering is divided with 50% staying regionally within your conference and 50% supporting the National Ministries. Envelopes will be in the bulletins for your gifts.

## **CALENDAR**

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

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 1**

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service with Communion  
Welcoming New Members  
Sunday School grades 3 - 8
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Founders Rm.
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs
- 12:30 p.m. Service at Chenango Valley Home
- 1:30 p.m. Chenango Change, Founders Rm.

### **MONDAY, JUNE 2**

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

### **TUESDAY, JUNE 3**

- 1:00 p.m. Piecemakers Circle, Kitchen
- 4:00 p.m. M. Maholchic, Nave

### **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 4**

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

### **THURSDAY, JUNE 5**

- 4:00 p.m. M. Maholchic, Nave

### **SUNDAY, JUNE 9 - Pentecost**

- 9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
- 10:00 a.m. Worship Service  
Strengthen the Church Offering  
Sunday School grades 3 - 8
- 11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Founders Rm.
- 12:30 p.m. Youth Group, upstairs
- 1:30 p.m. Chenango Change, Founders Rm.
- 7:00 p.m. M. Maholchic, Nave





Link to Online Giving  
[www.uccnorwichny.org/give](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/give)

#### **PARTICIPANTS TODAY**

**Ministers:** All the People

**Pastor:** Rev. James K. Boodley

**Vice Moderator:** Deb Phelps

**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:** Deb Phelps

**Usher:** Veronica Burdick

**Coffee Hour:** Norma Kinney and Judy Smith

#### **UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST FIRST CONGREGATIONAL**

11 West Main St., Norwich NY 13815

607-334-3434 - [office@uccnorwichny.org](mailto:office@uccnorwichny.org) - [www.uccnorwichny.org](http://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.

