

Luke 12:15, NRSV



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



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



An Open and Affirming Church

August 3, 2025

10:00 a.m

Eighth Sunday after Pentecost

CHIMING OF THE HOUR

PRELUDE *Prayer*

by Robert Lau

WELCOME

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

ONE: The first commandment is this: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.

ALL: The second commandment is this: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. There are no other commandments greater than these. Thanks be to God. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of salvation, long ago you took your people out of bondage and brought them to freedom. Your son, Jesus, offers to guide us from bondage to sin to everlasting life. Grant us freedom and life, we pray, that we may bravely follow him in order to truly live in your holy presence. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Please stand in body or in spirit.

Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.

OPENING HYMN

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending #565 (vs. 1, 3)

TIME OF SHARING

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* (bulletin insert)

SCRIPTURE Luke 12:13-21 Pew Bible NT p. 76

SERMON *That ALL May Have Abundant Life*
Rev. Glenn Mahaffey

SPECIAL MUSIC *Flee as a Bird* by Anna Laura Page
David Burch, piano

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O Holy God, as we offer our gifts to you, remind us that they are not burdens, but a measure of the love you have first given us. Look upon our giving with favor, we pray, that we may once again rejoice in your grace. 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.

August 3, 2025

COMMISSION AND BLESSING

***CLOSING HYMN** *We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky* #563

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Celebration* by David Lasky



Link to Online Giving
www.uccnorwichny.org/give

PARTICIPANTS TODAY

Ministers: All the People

Sermon: Rev. Glenn Mahaffey

Director of Music Ministries: Mary Williams

Organist: David Burch

Livestream Director: Jennifer Mallozzi

Livestream Staff: Chris McSweeney, Jessica Strough, Liam Hunter,
Breanna Rogers

Sunday Sexton: Mya Yantz

Nursery: Fiora Breese

Liturgists: Ericka Tyler, Mary Williams

Usher: Joe Phelps

Coffee Hour: Ice Cream Social - Jane Prime, Rose Laughlin

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.





As part of outreach ministries, the United Church of Christ, First Congregational of Norwich NY will sponsor a weekend event called "Water From The Well" for area church music leaders and music lovers of all ages. This FREE event will be held on Saturday and Sunday August 23-24, 2025 at 11 West Main Street in Norwich. In addition to offering resources for church music directors, the event will offer opportunities for youth and adults in our community to experience ringing and drumming. No previous experience is needed!

Saturday August 23, 2025 - Focus: Handbells

Clinician: Sarah Hazel, Area 2 Chair for Handbell Musicians of America



10:00 AM Session 1- "Getting Started:Resources for New Handbell Bell Directors"

This will be a general session for new directors to include such topics as; resources, ringing techniques, care of handbells, how to start an ensemble, choosing repertoire, etc. A free pamphlet "[Back to Bells](#)" will be provided to workshop participants. Participants are welcome to observe Session 2 as an example of how to engage interested non-ringers.

11:00 AM Session 2- "Hands-on Ringing Fun" (for youth ages 8 through adult)

This will be an experiential session for beginners to include instruction on proper bell ringing and handling, keeping a steady beat with others while ringing, and creating a chordal accompaniment to familiar songs.

1:00-3:00 PM Session 3- "Ringing Techniques and Artistry" (by invitation only)

This will be a coaching session for our UCC Handbell Choir. This session is open for observation.

Sunday August 24, 2025 - Focus: Drumming

Clinician: Rob Weinberger, multi-instrumentalist and teaching artist

10:00 AM Worship Service, featuring percussionist Rob Weinberger

All are welcome to attend.

12:00 -1:30 Session 4- "Drumming Fun For All Ages"

Let's make a joyful noise! Drummers of any age are welcome to participate in this African drumming session.



WAYS TO REGISTER:

- scan this QR code
- [CLICK HERE](#)
- find the link at uccnorwichny.org.
- call the church office 607-334-3434.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

WIFI IS AVAILABLE

Network Name: UCC-Guest

Password: uccguest

NURSERY IS AVAILABLE upstairs for children up to age 5. Children of all ages are always welcome to stay in the Nave throughout the service. Coloring books and crayons are available at the back of the Nave if you'd like to use them.

COFFEE HOUR this week is an ice cream social, in the Mayflower Room after the service. Next week, 8/10, we will resume the "pot luck" coffee hours - you are invited to bring something to share.

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION has been moved to next Sunday, August 10.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING after the service today to vote on the pastoral candidate. All members are urged to attend.

WATER FROM THE WELL MUSIC SEMINAR - As part of outreach ministries, our music department is sponsoring a weekend event called *Water From The Well* for area church music leaders and music lovers of all ages. This FREE event will be held on **Saturday and Sunday August 23-24** at 11 West Main Street in Norwich. In addition to offering resources for church music directors, the event will offer opportunities for youth and adults in our community to experience ringing and drumming. No previous experience is needed! See the enclosed flier, or the one on the bulletin board for details. **Ways to register:** go to www.uccnorwichny.org and click the *Water from the Well* link, call 607-334-3434 and choose option 3, or scan the QR code on the flier.

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.

IF YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW NEEDS FOOD ASSISTANCE, there are two opportunities for a free lunch in Norwich each week during the summer. On **Tuesdays**, the Broad St. United Methodist Church gives out a free bag lunch starting at 11 a.m. And on **Wednesdays**, you can enjoy a free hot dog lunch at Emmanul Episcopal Church at 11 a.m.

DONATIONS TO THE DEACONS FUND are always welcome. These funds are used to help people in our community who need help with utility bills and rent among other things. Envelopes are in the pews or choose the Deacons Fund when you give online at uccnorwichny.org/give.

CALENDAR

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

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
10:00 a.m. Worship Service, Nave
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Mayflower Room - Ice Cream Social

MONDAY, AUGUST 4

12:30 p.m. Tutoring, Sunday School Room
2:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Mayflower Rm.
5:00 p.m. Music Committee, Chapel

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

11:00 a.m. Free bag lunch at Broad St. United Methodist Church
1:00 p.m. Piecemakers Circle, Mayflower Room

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, Zoom
11:00 a.m. Free hotdog lunch, Emmanuel Episcopal Church

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

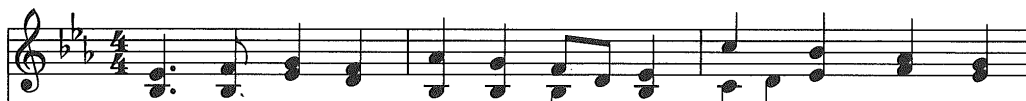
9:00 a.m. Nursery, upstairs
10:00 a.m. Worship Service with Communion, Nave
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Mayflower Room
1:30 p.m. Chenango Change, Chapel

Luke 12:13-21


¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.”

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Robert L. Edwards, 1961; alt.




1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for serv - ing, that your will on
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your
 4 Lend your joy to all our giv - ing, let it light our




end - less store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's
 earth be done: All at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the
 grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the
 pil - grim way; From the night of anx - ious keep - ing, loose us in - to



shat - tered door: Gift - ed by you, we turn to you
 Church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor,
 gos - pel Word. O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing
 gen - erous day. Then when years on earth are o - ver,



of - fering up our - selves in praise; Thank - ful song shall
 lest we strive for self a - lone; born with tal - ents,
 as we heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing, teach - ing,
 and we've lived our hu - man span, God, ful - fill be -



rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, hon - oring you by lov - ing all.
 yond our dream - ing, all our stew - ard - ship be - gan.

Robert L. Edwards, an ordained United Church of Christ minister,
 has served several churches in Connecticut. He wrote this text for a
 competition of The Hymn Society, and it was subsequently
 published in Ten New Stewardship Hymns in 1961.

Tune: AUSTRIAN HYMN 8.7.8.7.D.
 Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797
 Alternate tune: HYFRYDOL

Deep Peace

Words and Music by Marian M. Thomas ©2000



We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky

Ruth Duck, 1984; rev. 1989

1 We can - not own the sun - lit sky, the moon, the wild - flowers
 2 When bod - ies shiv - er in the night and, wea - ry, wait for
 3 God calls hu - man - i - ty to join as part - ners in cre -

grow - ing, for we are part of all that is with -
 morn - ing, when chil - dren have no bread but tears, and
 a - ting a fu - ture free from want or fear, life's

in life's riv - er flow - ing. With o - pen hands re -
 war - horns sound their warn - ing, God calls hu - man - i -
 good - ness cel - e - brat - ing. That new world beck - ons

ceive and share the gifts of God's cre - a - tion, that
 ty to wake, to join in com - mon la - bor, that
 from a - far, in - vites our shared en - deav - or, that

all may have a - bun - dant life in ev - ery earth - ly na - tion.
 all may have a - bun - dant life in one - ness with their neigh - bor.
 all may have a - bun - dant life and peace en - dure for - ev - er.