

*** We invite you to stand as you are able**

INTROIT* “Come, Come, Everybody Worship” The Faith We Sing #2271

STATEMENT OF WELCOME TO ALL AND FOR ALL

All: No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey you are welcome here.

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We invite members, friends, visitors to record visit by signing the attendance pad.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE (church bell tolls)

CALL TO WORSHIP*

One: Be patient! Wait and watch for the Lord is drawing near to us.

All: We have gathered here this day to hear the good news and to gather strength for the times to come.

One: Be at peace with one another.

All: Let love and wisdom prevail.

One: Open your hearts and souls to God’s healing word.

All: Lord, touch our hearts. Teach us to patiently listen for your words of love. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER*

All: O Lord, you know the deserts and the parched places in our lives. We seek your healing power. Lead us on this Advent journey to the place of new birth and to the place of our redemption; in Jesus’ name. Amen.

OPENING HYMN “All Earth Is Waiting” vs. 1 & 2 Red Hymnal #210

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE: JOY

JOYFUL SHARING OF THE PEACE

FIRST READING

James 5:7-10 (CEV)

My friends, be patient until the Lord returns. Think of farmers who wait patiently for the autumn and spring rains to make their valuable crops grow. Be patient like those farmers and don't give up. The Lord will soon be here! Don't grumble about each other or you will be judged, and the judge is right outside the door. My friends, follow the example of the prophets who spoke for the Lord. They were patient, even when they had to suffer.

HYMN “My Soul Gives Glory to My God” vs. 1 & 4 Black Hymnal 119

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 11:2-11 (CEV)

John was in prison when he heard what Christ was doing. So John sent some of his followers to ask Jesus, “Are you the one we should be looking for? Or must we wait for someone else?” Jesus answered, “Go and tell John what you have heard and seen. The blind are now able to see, and the lame can walk. People with leprosy are being healed, and the deaf can hear. The dead are raised to life, and the poor are hearing the good news. God will bless everyone who doesn't reject me because of what I do.” As John's followers were going away, Jesus spoke to the crowds about John: What sort of person did you go out into the desert to see? Was he like tall grass blown about by the wind? What kind of man did you go out to see? Was he someone dressed in fine clothes? People who dress like that live in the king's palace. What did you really go out to see? Was he a prophet? He certainly was. I tell you that he was more than a prophet. In the Scriptures God says about him, “I am sending my messenger ahead to get things ready for you.” I tell you no one ever born on this earth is greater than John the Baptist. But whoever is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than John.

MESSAGE

“Waiting & Longing for the Promise”

Pastor Anne Kadue

BELL CHOIR

“The First Noel”

Mike Nelson, Director

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Our God, 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER*

All: Generous God, as we bring our gifts to you this day, we acknowledge that we have been given so much by your goodness, but we have been tight-fisted and slow in giving to help others. We ask you to help us live in a new way, to walk a new highway, to set ourselves on the path that leads to a closer walk with Jesus. May this be the season when he finds the highways to our hearts prepared for his coming. Amen.

OFFERING & HYMN*

“Comfort, Comfort, O My People”

Black Hymnal #101

CIRCLE OF BENEDICTION*

**Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.**

SENDING

We welcome all persons of every age, gender identity, racial or ethnic background, sexual orientation, marital or socioeconomic status, nationality, and physical or mental ability into full participation in the life of this faith community. We are committed to the reconciliation of all persons as children of God and declare ourselves to be a Reconciling Congregation.

Large Print bulletins are available from the ushers.

CHURCH STAFF & WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Anne Kadue	Lead Pastor
Donald Birttnen	Worship Tech Assistant
Donna Zilge	Office Assistant
James Prince	Custodian
Judy Lieffring	Pianist & Organist
Mike Nelson	Bell Choir Director



You are loved.❤️

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newportumc.org

stpaulparkucc.org

**Welcome to
Newport United Methodist Church &
Community United Church of Christ**

Third Sunday of Advent
December 11, 2022