

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

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

GREETING & ANNOUNCEMENTS

We invite all to participate by signing the attendance pad located in each pew. If you are a guest and visiting with us – we are glad you are here.

A MOMENT OF SILENCE

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.

CALL TO WORSHIP*

One: We gather as God’s people to celebrate the beauty of our diversity.

All: Let us love each other as God loves us beautifully and wonderfully made in God’s image.

One: We give thanks for who we are.

All: Let us open our hearts to God’s spirit of love and unity.

One: We celebrate the gifts of all gathered here today.

All: Let us worship God with all we are and celebrate the beauty of all God’s creation. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER*

All: God of hope and peace, you are with us all our days and in all our ways. You walked with the Israelites in the desert. When they had given up hope, you came to them with nourishment and your steadfast love. Be with us this day as we gather to hear your word. Inspire and encourage us that we may serve you bringing your hope and love to this thirsting world. Amen.

HYMN “Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing” Red Hymnal #400

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

GOSPEL Matthew 21:23-32 (CEB)
When Jesus entered the temple, the chief priests and elders of the people came to him as he was teaching. They asked, “What kind of authority do you have for doing these things? Who gave you this authority?” Jesus replied, “I have a question for you. If you tell me the answer, I’ll tell you what kind of authority I have to do these things. Where did John get his authority to baptize? Did he get it from heaven or from humans?” They argued among themselves, “If we say ‘from heaven,’ he’ll say to us, ‘Then why didn’t you believe him?’ But we can’t say ‘from

humans’ because we’re afraid of the crowd, since everyone thinks John was a prophet.” Then they replied, “We don’t know.”

Jesus also said to them, “Neither will I tell you what kind of authority I have to do these things.

“What do you think? A man had two sons. Now he came to the first and said, ‘Son, go and work in the vineyard today.’ “No, I don’t want to,’ he replied. But later he changed his mind and went.

“The father said the same thing to the other son, who replied, ‘Yes, sir.’ But he didn’t go.

“Which one of these two did his father’s will?” They said, “The first one.”

Jesus said to them, “I assure you that tax collectors and prostitutes are entering God’s kingdom ahead of you. For John came to you on the righteous road, and you didn’t believe him. But tax collectors and prostitutes believed him. Yet even after you saw this, you didn’t change your hearts and lives and you didn’t believe him.

One: Word of God, for the people of God. **All: Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE “Sincere Grace” Pastor Anne Kadue

CHOIR ANTHEM “Surrounded By Love” Words & Music by Jerry Estes

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.

HYMN “One Bread, One Body” Red Hymnal #620

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (see insert for liturgy) - We celebrate an open communion table acknowledging that it is Christ’s table and not our own. Come, you are welcome at the table just as you are.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

All: Holy One, we ask that you bless these offerings and tithes so they can multiply to be a blessing for our community, our mission, and

worldwide. Accept our offerings and tithes, O God, as a testimony of your goodness in our lives. Amen!

OFFERING & HYMN

“Fairest Lord Jesus”

Red Hymnal #189

DOXOLOGY*

All: Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SENDING & CIRCLE OF BENEDICTION*

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

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.

CHURCH STAFF & WORSHIP LEADERS

Pastor Anne Kadue	Lead Pastor
Donald Birttnen	Worship Tech Assistant
Stephanie Caughey	Office Administrator
Donna Zilge	Office Assistant
Judy Lieffring	Worship Accompanist & Choir Director
Mike Nelson	Pianist & Bell Choir Director

You are loved. ❤️

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

World Communion Sunday
October 1, 2023