



Newport United Methodist Church
1596 Eleventh Avenue
Newport, Minnesota 55055-1649

Jesus Christ, *Head*
The Congregation, *Ministers*
Rev. Linda J. Gesling, *Pastor*



-a Retreat in the City-

*Newport United Methodist Church is a people of God
dedicated to following the teaching of Jesus
so that we and others can grow in our faith.*

Fourth Sunday in Lent

March 11, 2018

9:30 a.m.

Rev. Linda Gesling, Pastor

Gathering

We come together in the name of the Lord.
Please record your attendance by signing the registration pad -
members, friends and visitors alike.

Prelude Judy Lieffring, Organist

Introit "Come, Come, Everybody Worship"
No. 2271

Church Bell Toll
Symbol of the Spirit's Presence

Announcements

*Call to Worship

God loves us with a steadfast love.
Let the redeemed of the Lord say so!
God loves us so much he gave us his Son.
Let us believe and have eternal life!
God loves us with a great love, rich in mercy.
Let us have faith to receive this grace!
Give thanks to the Lord, for God is good.

*Hymn "To God Be the Glory"
No. 98

*Greeting One Another

Anthem "Good News! The Chariot's Comin'" arr. Larry Shackley
[c] 1999 Hope Publ. Co. Newport UMC Choir

Prayer of Confession

**Great Triune God,
we have gathered here in your name
as an act of faith,
believing that you are not only among us,
but that you love us.**
It is often hard to recognize your love,
see your mercy, and feel your presence.
**Help us today in our worship,
that we might be transparent to your grace,
as you reveal yourself to each one of us. Amen. (Ministry Matters)**

Scripture Lesson **Numbers 21: 4-9 (OT p. 139)**

Psalter
Hymnal, No. 830

Gospel Lesson **John 3:14-21 (NT p. 94)**

*Hymn "Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"
No. 2088

Sermon "The Guiding Light" Rev. Linda Gesling

Presenting Our Gifts
Offertory

*Doxology
Invocation "Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying"
No. 2193

Prayer of Dedication

Prayer Requests
The Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

*Hymn "Help Us Accept Each Other"
No. 560

Sending Forth

The people are sent into ministry with the Lord's blessing.

*Circle of Benediction

"Blest Be the Tie That Binds"
No. 557, verse 1
Blest be the tie that binds our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds is like to that above.
Extinguishing of the Candles
Taking the Light into the World

Church Bell Toll

Postlude

LARGE PRINT BULLETINS ARE AVAILABLE ON THE
USHERS' TABLE.
CHILDREN'S BULLETINS ARE ALSO AVAILABLE.

Today's ushers are volunteers to whom we are thankful!
 Last week's ushers were Sherry Elg and Tracy Birttnen.
 Last Sunday's acolyte was Leanne Clouse.

Upholding the Church with our...

Welcome to our Visitors ...

If you would like to provide altar flowers in dedication to a loved one, or an occasion, contact the church office so that it can be noted in the bulletin.

Looking Ahead . . .

Sunday, March 11	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Fourth Sunday in Lent Worship Service Social Time
Monday, March 12	6:00-8:00 pm	Shawl We Knit, CG Library
Wednesday, March 14	6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Voice Choir, S Handbell Choir, FH
Thursday, March 15	Noon	Red Rockers Luncheon North Pole Restaurant, Npt.
Saturday, March 17	1:30 p.m.	United Church of God Sabbath Service
Sunday, March 18	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Fifth Sunday in Lent Worship Service Sunday School Social Time, Adult Study
Wednesday, March 21	6:30 p.m. 7:30 p.m.	Voice Choir, S Handbell Choir, FH
Saturday, March 24	1:30 p.m.	United Church of God Sabbath Service
Sunday, March 25	9:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m.	Palm Sunday Worship Service Sunday School Pancake Breakfast benefiting Be the Tool

Prayers: for the family of John and Phyllis' friend Marcia who passed away week before last; for the family of Arne and Barb's son-in-law whose father passed away week before last; for the family of Bob and Sue's friend Linda who passed away; for the family of Ethel's sister-in-law Eileen who has passed away; for Jill's co-workers who are in the Philippines on a mission trip; Pastor Gary G who is going on a mission trip; Nancy's friend Linda who is recovering from a car accident; Two of Doug's brothers need our prayers: Gary for renewed recovery after cancer surgery, and Ted for diagnosis and treatment of cancer; for Ruth's granddaughter Carrie who is having challenges in her pregnancy with twins; for Tom who is recovering from a brain aneurysm; for Nancy's friend Mary who faces cancer surgery; for Georgette, Lolita, Bruce, Kathy, Barb, Chuck and Joanne and grandson Joe, Scott, Vicki, Karen, Dave, Lowell, ... We pray for safety for all travelers; for good health for all of our congregation; for all those facing health care finance crises; for those facing deportation and separation from their families; for a peaceful solution in Korea; for immigrants coming and trying to come into the United States; for the victims of the school shootings in Kentucky, California, and Parkland, FL; for the victims of the attack in Mexico; for the victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma, and Maria; for everyone in the path of nor'easters; the victims and remorseful perpetrators of sexual harassment; we pray for the police and first responders whose jobs are often difficult and dangerous; for safety for elected officials; and for the victims of storms throughout the country; for people and families dealing with mental illness; for victims of violence all around us; for children who have suffered abuse; for all families whose loved ones are missing.
 Please keep Tonnie in your prayers for continued recovery.

Joys Art is back with us after a bout with pneumonia! Bob's friend Jack is doing much better!
Thank God for good outcomes!

Perhaps you have asked us to uphold a loved one in our prayers. If so please give us an update as their conditions change, as a joy or a concern.

Presence: Last week's Attendance at Worship = 47
Gifts: Last week's offering = \$1989
Service: Thanks to John Brenneman for finding materials to plug leaks in the classroom walls!

We are delighted you have chosen to worship here today! May you experience a sincere welcome and a sense of God's love for you. We gather as a community of faith to share the good news of Jesus Christ. We encourage you to return many times and to bring others with you.

Nursery care for children under 3 years of age is available during the worship service. Holy Communion is offered the first Sunday of each month and is open for all to receive as a sacramental gift from God.

We provide individual pastoral care by request. You may call Pastor Linda for an appointment. If you would like to discuss baptism for yourself or a member of your family, arrangements can be made by contacting the pastor. Persons desiring to marry may speak with the pastor to schedule pre-marital counseling. We are willing to provide additional services as needed - simply call the church office (651/459-2747, at extension 1).

You are cordially invited to become an active participant of any of our program opportunities as noted in our weekly bulletin. Christian Education is available September through May for adults. If you enjoy music, you are welcome to join our voice and handbell choirs. We share in a growing ministry where volunteer opportunities are available, matching your skills to church and community needs.

If you would like to receive our monthly newsletter, *The Key*, or wish to make a comment/suggestion, please note such on the back of a prayer request card found in the pew pocket and place it on the offering plate. We hope that we may provide the sense of community and stimulation of character you have been searching for.

Newport United Methodist Church Staff

Rev. Linda Gesling	Pastor
Judy Lieffring	Director of Music
Mike Nelson	Handbell Choir Director, Administrative Asst.
John Brenneman	Treasurer
Catherine Klimek	Custodian

Church Office Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
 Mondays, Tuesdays and Fridays
Voicemail is monitored outside office hours.

Telephone number: 651/459-2747 Website: www.newportumc.org
 Fax Number: 651/769-1216 Office e-mail: newportumc@gmail.com
 Pastor's email: ljgesling@gmail.com

UMC Love Offering

...for missions will be taken on each Sunday through May to be presented to the Conference by May 31.

65% will go to Puerto Rico Hurricane Recovery Trips;
 20% to Park Avenue (Minneapolis) UMC Freedom Schools Program;
 and 15% to NUMAS Haus in New Ulm, which provides shelter and support to homeless single women and their children.
 More details about these programs are posted on the bulletin board in the narthex.