

*** 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: Let's thank the Lord, for the Lord is good.

All: God's love endures forever.

One: Who can proclaim the mighty acts of the Lord or fully declare God's praise?

All: Blessed are those who act justly, who always do what is right. Our God is worthy of our Praise!

One: Remember us, O Lord, when you show favor to your people that we may enjoy your blessings.

All: Let us worship our good God, who blesses us with infinite love and abundant grace. Amen!

OPENING PRAYER*

All: Lord Jesus, we gather to worship you today with our hearts and appreciation for the beauty of your extravagant welcome. We invite your Holy Spirit to this space to celebrate your goodness and presence in our worship together. Prepare our hearts to receive what you have for us today. Amen!

HYMN "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" Red Hymnal #140

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL Matthew 22:1-14 (CEB)

Jesus responded by speaking again in parables: "The kingdom of heaven is like a king who prepared a wedding party for his son. He sent his servants to call those invited to the wedding party. But they didn't want to come. Again he sent other servants and said to them, 'Tell those who have been invited, "Look, the meal is all prepared. I've butchered the oxen and the fattened cattle. Now everything's

ready. Come to the wedding party!" But they paid no attention and went away—some to their fields, others to their businesses. The rest of them grabbed his servants, abused them, and killed them.

"The king was angry. He sent his soldiers to destroy those murderers and set their city on fire. Then he said to his servants, 'The wedding party is prepared, but those who were invited weren't worthy. Therefore, go to the roads on the edge of town and invite everyone you find to the wedding party.'

"Then those servants went to the roads and gathered everyone they found, both evil and good. The wedding party was full of guests. Now when the king came in and saw the guests, he spotted a man who wasn't wearing wedding clothes. He said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without wedding clothes?' But he was speechless. Then the king said to his servants, 'Tie his hands and feet and throw him out into the farthest darkness. People there will be weeping and grinding their teeth.'

"Many people are invited, but few people are chosen."

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

MESSAGE "Worthy" Pastor Anne Kadue

HYMN "Near to the Heart of God" Red Hymnal #472

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.

OFFERING

HYMN "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling" Red Hymnal #348 vs 1,2,4

OFFERTORY PRAYER

All: Take our offerings and tithes, O God, bless them that they may be used to share your love and blessing in our community and the world. May these offerings provide for the least of these needs and the proclamation of your word to those seeking hope. Amen!

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**

Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost
October 15, 2023