

*** 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: Celebrate God's love, which has been poured into your life!

All: Forgiveness, encouragement, support, and healing are gifts of God to us.

One: Reach out and care for those around you.

All: We will be people of peace and justice.

One: Shout for joy!

All: Sing God's praises always! Amen.

OPENING PRAYER*

All: God, you are our refuge. When the world gets to be too much for us, we turn to you for consolation and healing. Help us today to hear your words of compassion. Enable us to be those who would willingly serve all people in need. For we ask these things in the name of Jesus our Lord. Amen.

HYMN "Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise" Red Hymnal #103 vs 1,2,3

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL Mark 12: 28-34 (CEB)

One of the legal experts heard their dispute and saw how well Jesus answered them. He came over and asked him, "Which commandment is the most important of all?"

Jesus replied, "The most important one is *Israel, listen! Our God is the one Lord, and you must love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your being, with all your mind, and with all your strength.* The second is this, *You will love your neighbor as yourself.* No other commandment is greater than these."

The legal expert said to him, "Well said, Teacher. You have truthfully said that God is one and there is no other besides him. And to love God with all of the heart, a full understanding, and all of one's strength, and to love one's neighbor as oneself is much more important than all kinds of entirely burned offerings and sacrifices."

When Jesus saw that he had answered with wisdom, he said to him, "You aren't far from God's kingdom." After that, no one dared to ask him any more questions.

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

MESSAGE "Love Your Neighbor as Yourself" Leanne Clouse

CHOIR ANTHEM "I'm Gonna Sing and Shout!"
Words and Music by Mary McDonald

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: Holy God, source of every good gift: the tithes and offerings we bring to you are simply a token of our desire to walk more closely beside you.

We give, knowing that "rendering unto you what is yours" would mean leaving everything at your altar – all we have and all we are. We are not there yet, but with your help, we are on the road to getting there. Amen.

OFFERING

HYMN "Help Us Accept Each Other" Red Hymnal #560 vs 1,2,4

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 PEACE*

All: Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me; let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be. With God our creator, children all are we. Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony. Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now. With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow: to take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally. Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

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**

Twenty-First Sunday after Pentecost
October 22, 2023