

*** 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: Open your hearts to God’s loving mercy.

All: Lord, come into our hearts this day.

One: Having received God’s mercy, extend that love to others.

All: Lord, be with us as we reach out to others in compassion.

One: Feel your spirits filled with the goodness of God.

All: Lord, we thank you for our many blessings. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER*

All: Lord, who lifts us up, reside in our hearts today. Help us to listen closely to your Word for us. Remind us that you are always with us, throughout our lives. Give us confidence in your presence, so that we may go into your world ready to give witness to your love through our works and our deeds. Amen.

HYMN “Morning Has Broken” Red Hymnal #145

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

GOSPEL Matthew 20:1-16 (CEB)

“The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire workers for his vineyard. After he agreed with the workers to pay them a denarion, he sent them into his vineyard.

“Then he went out around nine in the morning and saw others standing around the marketplace doing nothing. He said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I’ll pay you whatever is right.’ And they went.

“Again around noon and then at three in the afternoon, he did the same thing. Around five in the afternoon he went and found others standing around, and he

said to them, ‘Why are you just standing around here doing nothing all day long?’ “‘Because nobody has hired us,’ they replied. “He responded, ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

“When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, ‘Call the workers and give them their wages, beginning with the last ones hired and moving on finally to the first.’ When those who were hired at five in the afternoon came, each one received a denarion. Now when those hired first came, they thought they would receive more. But each of them also received a denarion. When they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, ‘These who were hired last worked one hour, and they received the same pay as we did even though we had to work the whole day in the hot sun.’

“But he replied to one of them, ‘Friend, I did you no wrong. Didn’t I agree to pay you a denarion? Take what belongs to you and go. I want to give to this one who was hired last the same as I give to you. Don’t I have the right to do what I want with what belongs to me? Or are you resentful because I’m generous?’ So those who are last will be first. And those who are first will be last.”

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

MESSAGE “Living Wage” Pastor Anne Kadue

HYMN “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken” Red Hymnal #731 vs. 1,2,3

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: God of endless patience, we know that the sound of our complaining is not the music that pleases your ears. We complain about the food that is under or overcooked; yet you hear the stomachs that have no food. We whine about the bed being too soft; yet you see those whose bed is the sidewalk or the floor of a cell. May the offering we bring today be an act of praise that drowns out the noise of our complaining. May it find its way to bring comfort to your children who have little or nothing; and may it bring joy. Amen.

OFFERING & HYMN “Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing” Red Hymnal #671

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**

Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost
September 24, 2023