

*** 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 a community of compassion and hope.

All: Jesus calls us to care for each other tenderly and willingly.

One: By this caring and sharing we will be known as followers of Jesus.

All: By our example others may be led to lives of peace.

One: Lord, open our hearts and minds this day to your word.

All: Teach us to serve you with all our gifts and talents. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER*

All: Lord of summer sunshine and autumn harvest, be with us this day as we encounter your word and your way for us. Remind us that we can place our trust in your eternal love. Enable us to be more effective in our witness to that love by word and deed. Guide our steps and pick us up when we falter. Dust us off and place us on the pathways of grace and service. These things we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

HYMN "Come, We That Love the Lord" Red Hymnal #732

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL

Matthew 16:21-28 (CEB)

From that time Jesus began to show his disciples that he had to go to Jerusalem and suffer many things from the elders, chief priests, and legal experts, and that he had to be killed and raised on the third day. Then Peter took hold of Jesus and, scolding him, began to correct him: "God forbid, Lord! This won't happen to you." But he turned to Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan. You are a stone that could make me stumble, for you are not thinking God's thoughts but human thoughts."

Then Jesus said to his disciples, "All who want to come after me must say no to themselves, take up their cross, and follow me. All who want to save their lives will lose them. But all who lose their lives because of me will find them. Why would people gain the whole world but lose their lives? What will people give in exchange for their lives? For the Human One is about to come with the majesty of his Father with his angels. And then he will repay each one for what that person has done. I assure you that some standing here won't die before they see the Human One coming in his kingdom."

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

MESSAGE "Crown or Cross?" Pastor Grace Anderson

HYMN "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah" Red Hymnal #127

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.

THE COMMUNION PRAYER (see insert for liturgy) - We celebrate an open communion table acknowledging that it is Christ's table and not our own. You are welcome at the table.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

All: God of power and might: We, like Peter, struggle with the image of a savior sent to suffer and die. We may seem to be doing great in following Christ, but we too stumble at this point. Perhaps we stumble because we know that what follows is Christ's call to us to deny ourselves and pick up a cross of our own in order to follow. As we bring gifts for the work of building your kingdom, help us to learn to deny, carry, and follow. In Christ's holy name, we pray. Amen.

OFFERING & HYMN "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" Red Hymnal #581

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

Rev. Grace Anderson	Guest Preacher
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**

Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2023