

The United Church of Northfield Welcomes You To Morning Worship

November 27, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.



PEACE

***"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here."***

We are a member of Vermont Conference, The United Church of Christ and are affiliated with the National Unitarian Universalist Association and the Northern New England District of the UUA. Historically we are united from Congregational and Universalist roots.

On the First Sunday of each month we have Communion Sunday and our Dolma Sunday Offering (sponsored child of the Tibetan Children's Village, Dharamsala, India). We offer a Gluten Free Communion option. We are handicap accessible.

The United Church of Northfield
First Sunday of Advent - Peace

Allison Cerutti
UCN Choir

Prelude & Candle Lighting:

Choral Introit:

Words of Welcome

Processional Drama

***Call To Worship:** (by Rev. Penny L. Lowes at UCC Worship Ways)

Leader: We come into God's presence in hopeful anticipation,
We await the coming of the Son of God.

**People: The sun may be dimmed, the moon may lose its light,
The stars may fall from the sky...**

Leader: Still, the Divine Spirit is with us.

**People: God sends angels from the four winds,
From the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.**

All: We hear Jesus' words, "Keep awake! Be alert!"

***Hymn of Praise:** "Keep Awake, Be Always Ready"

NCH 112

Invocation:

God of the four winds, blow your Spirit through this space.

**From north and south, east and west, we gather to worship your holy name;
We belong to you; we are clay in your hands. Open our ears to the sound of
your voice echoing through the spheres. Open our eyes to the brilliance of
your presence shining in each new day. Open our hearts to the new reign of
Jesus Christ come now to earth. Amen.**

Lighting of the Advent Candle:

Jessica Avery and Family

One: In first century Christianity, Paul wrote these words to the church in Corinth:

Two: *God has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been
enriched in Christ, in speech and knowledge of every kind – just as the testimony
of Christ has been strengthened among you – you are not lacking in any spiritual
gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ.*

Three: ***Advent is the season when we await the revelation of our Lord Jesus
Christ made new again in the baby of Bethlehem. God sends the peace of
Christ to earth.***

One: On the first Sunday of Advent, we light this candle named *paz*, peace. May
this light ever remind us God is peace. In the name of Jesus, we pray. **Amen.**

Call to Confession: (Worship Ways):

Leader: God is peace: the ever-present, ever-loving, ever-compassionate power
that governs the world. Like generations before us, we fail in our efforts to live in
the peace and harmony God desires. As in Isaiah's time we become unclean and
our righteous deeds become as filthy cloths. We alone cannot wipe clean the slate
of our transgressions. We fade like leaves and our iniquities, like the wind, take us
away.

Prayer of Confession: (Worship Ways):

Yet, You O God, are Father and Mother; like the potter you fashioned us from clay in your holy image. In these silent moments hear the sighing of our spirits as we lay open our hearts to you. Mold us anew, O God, recreate a right image within us.

Silent Prayer

Affirmation of Forgiveness: (Worship Ways):

At God's command the heavens open, the mountains quake and love descends as an ever-flowing stream. A light shines in the night and the night cannot endure. Trust that the Power that created you in love now forgives and renews you in the same divine spirit. Go forth to proclaim the awesome deeds of our loving God!

Amen.

The Congregation's Response:

Page 793 NCH

Holy, Holy, Holy, my heart, my heart adores you!

My heart is glad to say the words: you are holy, God.

Choral Anthem:

UCN Choir

A Time With Children:

Rev. Jennifer Kimball

(Infant and toddler care provided. Discovery Hour for all ages)

Sermon Hymn: "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

PH 103

Scripture Readings:

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19 (NCH 672-673)

Old Testament: Isaiah 64:1-9

New Testament: Mark 13:24-37

Sermon: "Seeing in the Dark"

Rev. Jennifer Kimball

Joys and Concerns: *These are the joys and concerns of the people. Please share what you would like us to be praying for including a person's name if appropriate.*

Silent Prayer: We take a minute to be in silence to await God's peace.

Pastoral Prayer: (I will pause during this prayer for those who would like to lift up loved ones by name, or other thoughts.)

The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, 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 Offering: (Worship Ways):

In good times and bad times, God is faithful to us. We bring forth our offerings – our tithes, our treasures, our least coins – to demonstrate our faithfulness to God. Today we bring these offerings in the name of the Ruler of Peace, God's only Son, Jesus Christ. Come, give your peace to God.

The Offertory: Alison Cerutti
Doxology: # 780 NCH
Prayer of Dedication: (Worship Ways): (standing, in unison):
God, whose faithfulness exceeds the limits of the earth, accept these gifts of our hearts and hands. May they be multiplied and magnified as the living presence of Christ's peace in the world. Amen.

***Passing of the Peace of Christ:** "May the peace of Christ be with you."
Response: "And also with you."

Closing Hymn: "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" PH 110

Brief Announcements

Benediction: Rev. Jennifer Kimball

Choral Benediction: "Amen" UCN Choir

Postlude: Alison Cerutti

** Denotes standing if you are able. NCH is the New Century Hymnal with a black cover. PH is the Pilgrim Hymnal with a red cover.*

Giving for November 20, 2011: Pledge Income: \$615; Plate Offering: \$68.55; Heifer Offering: \$5.01, Total Heifer \$87.33, Goal: Tree Seedlings \$180; Other: SOS: \$400. Thank you for your faithful giving.

The Ministry of The United Church of Northfield

Ministers to the World: The Congregation	Secretary: Laura Ranker
Pastor and Teacher: Reverend Jennifer Kimball	Sexton: Arnold Nichols
Greeters: Lauren and Judy Howard	Ushers: Beverly and John Knox
Choir Leadership: Alison Cerutti	Pianist/Organist: Alison Cerutti
Deacon in charge: Beverly Knox	Infant/Childcare: TBD

CONTACT INFORMATION

Reverend Jennifer Kimball: matisonjm@yahoo.com or home phone number (802) 778-0813; cell (607) 434-5632.

OFFICE HOURS: *Pastor's study in Howe's Hall*

TUESDAY 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

WEDNESDAY 1:00 P.M. - 2:00 P.M.

ALSO BY APPOINTMENT.

FRIDAY - PASTOR'S DAY OFF

BIBLE STUDY -MONDAYS FROM 9:00 A.M. - 11:00 A.M.

WITH LOCATION TO BE ANNOUNCED.

Church Office Phone: 485-4431; Church e-mail: uccnorthfield@trans-video.net

Visit us at our website: www.unitedchurchofnorthfield.org

SOS webpage-Visit us at: www.unitedchurchofnorthfield.org/sos



THIS WEEK AT THE UNITED CHURCH
November 28th to December 4th

Meetings in Howe's Hall unless otherwise noted.

Mon.: Bible Study 9:00-11:00 at Bev Knox's house. We will be studying Isaiah 40:1-11 and 2 Peter 3:8-15.

7:00 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. Men's AA.

Poinsettia orders due to Bev Knox.

Wed.: 9:30 A.M. - 11:00 A.M. CV Building Bright Futures (play group) ages birth to 6 years old gather.

7:00 P.M. Women's 12 Step AA Meeting.

7:00 P.M. Choir rehearsal in the church Sanctuary.

Thu.: 5:30 P.M. SOS Committee meeting.

7:00 P.M. BSA Troop 759.

Sun.: *Return Stewardship pledge with Time & Talent.*

- **Poinsettias** Orders being taken now, \$13.50 per plant, orders due Monday, November 28, 2011 to Bev Knox. Order forms available in the back of the sanctuary.
- **Advent Open House at the Parsonage** - Pastor Jennifer, John, Chloe and Matison invite the members and friends of the United Church to join them in welcoming the season of Advent. On Sunday **December 4th** from 2:00 to 4:00 they will be hosting an Open House at the Parsonage, 356 Central Street. Please stop by for cookies, coffee, hot chocolate, cider, and other holiday treats.
- **SOS RAFFLE** - winners drawn **December 4th**. Buy your ticket now. Three Prizes: Overnight with dinner for two at the Inn at Essex; two Bash Badges at Smuggler's Notch; VT Products Gift Basket. See Deb Maloney-Evans, Judy Knapp, Frank Plumley, Kevin Beal, Lauren Howard or Laura Ranker for tickets.
- **ANGEL TREE** - Be an angel for a local child and family; Pick up your angel in the back of the sanctuary from the Angel Tree and return the unwrapped gift by **December 4th**.



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