Sunday September 27, 2026
18th Sunday After Pentecost

Welcome to Worship! We are so glad that you are here with us today! Newtonville United Methodist Church celebrates two years as a Reconciling Congregation. Being a Reconciling Congregation means that we celebrate God's gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all. We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, marital, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to journey in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.

Welcome and Announcements

Centering Song

We Share Christ's Peace

We Are Called to Worship
Becoming a baby…
Christ transformed all of us into his siblings.
Telling us stories that we had forgotten…
God helps us to walk the paths of discipleship.
Becoming foolish in the world's eyes…
The Spirit teaches us all we need to find our way into the kingdom.

We Join in Song: Welcome (#3152)

Opening Prayer
When we think your job is to listen to our petty quarrels, you lean over, put your finger to our lips, whispering "let me tell you a story." Rock Splitter, we worship you.
When we want to ask you all sorts of questions, and demand to see your background check, you put your arms around us, gently saying "I want you to meet some friends of mine." Self-Emptier, we follow you.
When we are burned out by our chronic anger, when our throats are parched by our litany of laments, you take us by the hand, inviting, "let's go get a cold drink and sit together." Sharing Spirit, we adore you.
God in Community, Holy in One, you are God, to whom we pray. Amen!

A Time for Young People

We Pray Together
Joys and Concerns
Silence
Pastoral Prayer

We Pray Together, 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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 and ever. Amen.

We Offer Our Gifts
*Doxology #2036 "Give Thanks" / Offertory Prayer
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One, give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son. And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us. And now let the weak say I am strong, let the poor say I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us. Give thanks, give thanks!

We Hear the 1st Reading: Acts 3: 1-19

We Join in Song**:** I Love to Tell the Story (#156)

We Hear the Gospel Reading: Matthew 21: 23-32

Message: Pastor Nick

An Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone; we live in God's world. We believe in God, who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust in God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God! Amen.

We Join in Song: Give Me Jesus (#3140)

Our Statement of Commitment to Racial Justice

The United Methodist Church proclaims the value of each person as a unique child of God and commits itself to the healing and wholeness of all persons. The United Methodist Church recognizes that the sin of racism has been destructive throughout its history, and racism continues to cause painful division and marginalization. We, the community of faith at Newtonville United Methodist Church, shall confront racism in organizations and in individuals. We commit to eliminate racism in every facet of life and in society at large. We will work with others to address racial injustice at all times and in all places.

Sending Song/Blessing: Draw the Circle Wide

Newtonville United Methodist Church

Rev. Dr. Nick Bufano, Pastor
Brandon Malowski, Music Director
Carrie Boyer, Administrative Assistant
Joy Bufano, Children's Church and Youth Leader
Church Office Phone: 518-785-6789
Pastor Nick's Cell: 443-813-7584
Church Email: NewtonvilleUMC@gmail.com
Website: www.numc.net
Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/newtonville