



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP
*with UCC Westerly
during Lent*

February 28, 2021 @ 9:45am
Broadcast live from our sanctuary

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Gathering Music — A selection by Doug Brummund. [WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2020 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

PASTOR'S WELCOME

Prelude — “Ah, Holy Jesus”

[MUSIC: Gary Davidson ©2001 Lorenz Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE#A-734569]

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP —

[Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth. © 2021. All rights reserved.]

Winter reigns in the moment, but Spring awaits, tempting us forward in fits and starts. Patience is needed as we stare hopefully at gardens still clothed in winter garb where bulbs and seeds still sleep. Hope is needed on rainy, snowy, icy days to see footsteps forward anyway. Trust is needed that warmer days will come, that gardens will bloom, that new life awaits God's moment to awaken.

OPENING SONG -- “Lord, Speak to Me”

[WORDS: Frances R. Havergal & MUSIC: Robert A. Schumann, , © Public Domain, *Worship & Rejoice* #593]

1. *Lord, speak to me that I may speak in living echoes of your tone;
As you have sought, so let me seek your wandering children, lost, alone.*
2. *O lead me, Lord, that I may lead the stumbling and the straying feet;
And feed me, Lord, that I may feed your hungry ones with manna sweet.*
3. *O teach me, Lord, that I may teach the precious things which you impart;
And wing my words, that they may reach the hidden depths of many-a heart.*

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth. © 2021. All rights reserved.]

Behold, Lord, this gathering of empty vessels waiting to be filled. We ask, Holy One, fill us. We admit we are weak in faith and ask you to strengthen it. We confess we are sometimes cold in love but we long to become warm and fervent, sending love out far and wide to all who need to bask in its presence. We know that sometimes we doubt and are unable to trust you as we should. Merciful God, help us. Strengthen our faith and our trust in you and bless us with patience as waiting for strength so often requires. In Jesus we pray, Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE –

Scripture Reading: James 5:7-11

Message – *The Gift of Patience*

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music – *“Wait for the Lord”*

[MUSIC: Taize Community, ©1984 GIA Publications; *Worship & Rejoice #166*]

A TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayers

The Lord’s Prayer in whatever words are most comfortable for you.

Musical response

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings*

Doxology *“Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creatures here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen.”*

[©Public Domain]

CLOSING SONG – *Sweet Hour of Prayer*

[WORDS: William W. Walford & MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, © Public Domain, *Worship & Rejoice #478*]

1. *Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, that calls me from a world of care,
And bids me at my Father’s throne make all my wants and wishes known.
In seasons of distress and grief my soul has often found relief,
And oft escaped the tempter’s snare by your return, sweet hour of prayer.*

2. *Sweet hour of prayer, sweet hour of prayer, your wings shall my petition bear
To him whose truth and faithfulness engage the waiting soul to bless.
And since he bids me seek his face, believe his Word, and trust his grace,
I’ll cast on him my every care, and wait for you, sweet hour of prayer.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION— [anonymous]

O Loving God, grant us minds to know you every day, hearts to sense you every moment, hands to do your work with joy and patience, voices to endlessly sing your praises. May the peace of Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you this day and always. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE – “Come, Let Us Join Our Cheerful Songs”

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**James 5:7-11**

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. Indeed we call blessed those who showed endurance. You have heard of the endurance of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

*To request a copy of today's sermon be sent to you, kindly contact Carol in the office @ 860-599-1226 or [uccwesterly@gmail.com](mailto:uccwesterly@gmail.com).*