



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

with UCC Westerly

ENJOYING THE LAST DAYS OF SUMMER!

August 29, 2021 @ 9:45am

In-person &

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 – "Meditation on 'Dunlap's Creek'"

[HYMN TUNE by Freeman Lewis, MEDITATION by Steven Scott, ©2001 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161].

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds., ©1990, United Church Press, p. 97]

May the peace of God rest upon our busy lives so that we may be quieted into prayer.

May the love of God flow through our worship words that they may come alive in our hearts.

May the grace of God seek out our every need and may the restless gospel set our hearts afire

OPENING SONG -- "*This Is a Day of New Beginnings*"

[WORDS: Brian Wren & MUSIC: Carlton R. Young © 1983,1987 WORDS Hope Publishing Company & © 1987 MUSIC Hope Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161. *Worship & Rejoice* #355]

1. *This a day of new beginnings, time to remember and move on,
Time to believe what love is bringing, laying to rest the pain that's gone.*
2. *For by the life and death of Jesus, love's mighty Spirit, now as then,
Can make for us a world of difference, as faith and hope are born again.*
3. *Then, let us with the Spirit's daring, step from the past and leave behind
Our disappointment, guilt, and grieving, seeking new paths and sure to find.*

BLESSING OF THE SCHOOL SUPPLIES

(<https://pres-outlook.org/2021/08/a-prayer-for-the-start-of-the-2021-school-year/>)

Merciful God, We are grateful for the resilience, innovation and determination our students, teachers, school staff, parents and administrators demonstrated and developed over the past year. We begin this new school year in prayer because we are anxious for our students to resume school in person, yet still be safe from COVID-19.

We pray for a better year; for a safe return to classrooms; for the health of students, teachers and school staff; for school boards and administrators under pressure to make difficult decisions; and for parents exhausted by the uncertainty and constantly changing plans. Help us, Holy God, to bear with one another in love as we face the new challenges this year will inevitably bring. We pray that our teachers banked enough summer renewal to face any new disruptions. We ask that the hard lessons students learned in since the start of this pandemic will give them the confidence and courage to face whatever lies ahead. With confidence in your ability to do more than we ask or imagine, we pray that faith will deter fear and hope will bring new life. Bless us, Holy God, in our efforts to protect and care for students so they can focus on their healthy development and their studies. Lead us all to health and healing. In Christ's name we pray, amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds., ©1990, United Church Press, p. 104]

Gracious and holy God, we come to you because you have first come to us. We know you because you have revealed yourself to us. Give us in this time of worship a new sense of your Spirit breathing through us. Lift our hearts with the wings of song, heal our souls with the balm of prayer, enliven our minds with the words of scripture and interpretation, and newly enable us to dedicate our strength, our substance, and our service to your work in the world. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE –

Scripture Reading: Luke 6:27-38

Message – *Mary's Song Explained*

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music: --"Interlude in G"

By Cesar Franck, ©Public Domain.

A TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayers & Silent Prayer

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

Musical Response

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

OFFERTORY ANTHEM --

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings*

Doxology: [©Public Domain]

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

CLOSING SONG – "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

[WORDS: Edwin Hatch & MUSIC: Robert Jackson, © Public Domain. *Worship & Rejoice #461*]

1. *Breathe on me, breath of God, fill me with life anew,
That I may love whate'er you love, and do what you would do.*
2. *Breathe on me, breath of God, until my heart is pure,
Until with you I will one will, to do and to endure.*

3. *Breathe on me, breath of God, so that your will is mine,
Until this earthly part of me glows with your fire divine.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*** A request that everyone please make their way to the chancel up front as soon as possible as the service ends so we can sing our anniversary greetings to a special couple!*

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION—

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds., ©1990, United Church Press, p. 243]

God sends you forth from the gathered church to be ambassadors for Christ. God looks for anyone who will lift instead of lean, help instead of hinder. Go to claim a corner of the world for God and may God's Spirit go with you and abide with you. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE – "Life Eternal"

[by Gerald Peterson, ©2007 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 21022161].

Luke 6:27-38

‘But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. Do to others as you would have them do to you.

‘If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return. Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

‘Do not judge, and you will not be judged; do not condemn, and you will not be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven; give, and it will be given to you. A

good measure, pressed down, shaken together, running over, will be put into your lap; for the measure you give will be the measure you get back.'