



**SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**  
*with UCC Westerly*

**October 20, 2024 @ 9:45am**  
**In-person & Broadcast live from our sanctuary**  
**CCLI Streaming License #21022154**

***Ephphatha!***

*Photo Credit: Microsoft Office Stock Image*

**GATHERING MUSIC** – [WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2022 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

**PASTOR'S WELCOME**

**PRELUDE** – *Interlude* by Theodore Dubois

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**DEACON'S WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** – adapted from Psalm 91

**One:** For God will command the angels concerning you;

**All:** **To guard you in all your ways.**

**One:** On their hands they will bear you up;

**All:** **So that you will not dash your foot against a stone.**

**OPENING HYMN** *Open My Eyes, That I May See*

*W&R#480*

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**UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION**

[*Calling on God*, Bankson & Sokolove, Eds., ©2014 Skylight Paths Publishing, p. 237.]

**Mysterious, wonderful Creator of the future, we come together this soft fall morning to celebrate the knowledge that you are in our midst. We marvel in the way you set the earth on its foundation so that it shall never be shaken. We celebrate the way you call us into the future that you reveal to us only as fast as move toward it. We treasure the call to love and justice you draw gently from our hearts. We celebrate the knowledge that you are in our midst. Reveal to us your presence, O God of all Creation, for we gather in the name of Jesus as your beloved people. Amen.**

**THE MORNING MESSAGE**

**Scripture Reading:** Mark 7:31-37

Message – *Be Opened*

Meditation Music

Rev. Ruth

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**#A MOMENT TO BREATHE**

**A TIME OF PRAYER**

Pastoral Prayer & Silent Prayers

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

Musical response

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS\*

Special Music - *There's A Quiet Understanding* - offered by the Voice Choir

[WORDS & MUSIC: Tedd Smith, choral setting by John F. Wilson. ©1973 Hope Publishing Company, CCLI#15135]

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 HYMN** – *Breathe on Me, Breath of God*

W&R#461

[©Public Domain]

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION** (from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds.)

Holy One, like a rock be under our feet. Like a roof, be over our heads. Like the horizon, be beyond us to encourage our stretching. Like a water pitcher, be within us and in the pouring out of us. Like a pebble in the sea, may we find ourselves totally immersed in you, this day and always. Amen.

*Sung Response – Let There Be Peace on Earth*

W&R#614

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## PASSING OF THE PEACE

**POSTLUDE**

*Marcietta*

by Theodore Dubois

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***We are pleased to welcome our guest organist this morning, Michael McCarthy*** as Dav enjoys some well-earned time off with his family.

**#A MOMENT TO BREATHE** is an experience of Thich Nhat Hahn's breath of 10 exercise. It is very simple, inviting you to breathe as you normally would but counting each breath in and each breath out until you reach 10. If you lose track of your count at any point, start over. This is a remarkably simple but highly effective breathing exercise that calms your mind and heart. Enjoy! 😊

**TO ANY VISITORS WITH US THIS MORNING, WELCOME!** We are so glad you decided to join us! We would love to be able to connect with you after your visit today. If you are comfortable doing so, please find one of our *CONTACT* cards in the back of the sanctuary to fill out and leave in one of the offering plates. We also hope you will join us for fellowship time if you are so inclined!

**Our Diaconate Person of the Week for this week is Bethany Foster.** Please feel free to be in touch with her with your joys and concerns knowing that we care about you every day.

**\*ABOUT THE OFFERING.** *We offer our deepest gratitude to our members and friends who are so generous with their pledges and financial gifts to the church, both those here in person and those joining online. Online participants are invited to give online via our "Donate" button @ [www.uccwesterly.org](http://www.uccwesterly.org) or mail your checks, made payable to UCC Westerly, to us at 9 Castle Hill Road, Pawcatuck, CT 06379. A REMINDER that offering plates are located at each entrance to the sanctuary. Thank you!*

**THE PRAYER MINISTRIES** of this church are many and varied and you are welcome to participate in any or all of them. In the sanctuary, you will find prayer notebooks by either door within which to write specific prayer requests for Sunday. You will also find prayer candle tables at which you

may light a candle for your own prayer concerns. You will also find prayer shawls and prayer bears to offer comfort to those struggling in the front pews. For more information on our prayer ministries please speak with any Deacon or Rev. Ruth at any time.

*You are welcome to donate flowers for the chancel any week. Our sign-up sheet is located on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall or speak with Rev. Ruth for more information.*

### **Mark 7:31-37**

Then Jesus returned from the region of Tyre and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, “Ephphatha,” that is, “Be opened.” And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, “He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.”

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

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#### OUR STAFF:

The Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth, Pastor  
David Cranmer, Organist & Choirs Director  
Jerin Peloquin, Office Assistant