

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP with UCC Westerly

April 6, 2025 @ 9:45am In-person & Broadcast live from our sanctuary CCLI Streaming License #21022154

Communion Sunday 5th Sunday of Lent

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GATHERING MUSIC — [WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2024-25 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE – Offertory on "Martyrdom"

[Hugh S. Livingston, Jr., ©2005 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission.

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP - from Psalm 126

One: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

All: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.

One: Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them."

All: The Lord has done great things for us! We are glad!

OPENING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

W&R#59

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MUTUAL PRAYERS OF REFLECTION, CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Before God, with the people of God, I confess to turning away from God, in the ways I wound my life, the lives of others and the life of the world.

Deacon & Congregation: May God forgive you, Christ renew you and the Spirit enable you to grow in love.

Deacon & Congregation: Before God, with the people of God, we confess to turning away from God, in the ways we wound our lives, the lives of others and the life of the world.

Pastor: May God forgive you, Christ renew you and the Spirit enable you to grow in love. Amen.

A CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Note: Ours is an Open Table meaning that anyone who finds meaning in the sacrament is welcome to partake. Do note that our elements are gluten and alcohol free.

An Affirmation of Faith – [from The United Church of Canada, as it appears in The United Methodist Hymnal, #883]

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.

Song of Preparation – *Let Us Break Bread Together*

W&R#699, v. 1

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Words of Invitation, Explanation and Consecration

Partaking in the bread and cup together

Meditation Music -

Prayer of Thanksgiving: As one body, we lament with those who lament. We hope with those who hope. We live with suffering. We live with beauty. Let us go from this table as a renewed community, doing the radical work of Jesus that calls us to live lives of faith. We are followers of God's way. We give thanks! Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Scripture Reading: Luke 15:4-10

Message – Do-Able

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music –

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

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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 Into the Woods My Master Went The Voice Choir [WORDS: Sidney Lanier & MUSIC: Austin C. Lovelace. ©1978 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI#1760953] 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 – I Love to Tell the Story

W&R#560

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION Numbers 6:24-26

May God bless you and keep you. May God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you. May God's countenance enfold you and give you peace, this day and forever more. Amen.

Sung Response – Let There Be Peace on Earth

W& R#614

[WORDS & MUSIC: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson, © 1955, Ren.1983 Jen-Lee Music. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 93690]

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE Contemplation

[Rob Roy Peery, ©1950 Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#3966703]

#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.

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. 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 Joann Spurley. Please feel free to be in touch with her with your joys and concerns knowing that we care about you all the time, not just when you are here.

*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 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! Today we are receiving our Deacons Fund offering in the specially marked baskets next to the regular plates in the rear of the sanctuary. These funds are used to provide emergency assistance to members of the church and the community as well as purchasing supplies used in worship. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HAS COME IN THEIR WORK CLOTHES FOR THE "DON'T SWEAT THE SMALL STUFF" CHURCH WORK DAY! Instructions on projects are available in Fellowship Hall. Lunch will be served at approximately 12:30pm.

OUR APRIL MISSIONS PROJECT is our Annual "Babies and Ladies" donation drive. We are looking for the following items: <u>Babies:</u> Diapers (Large size), baby wipes, baby powder, shampoo, lotion. <u>Ladies:</u> Intimate supplies, feminine napkins, tampons, incontinence supplies, lotion.

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 worship. 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 in the front pews to offer comfort to those struggling. 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.

LUKE 15: 4-10

Which one of you, having a hundred sheep and losing one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the wilderness and go after the one that is lost until he finds it? When he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders and rejoices. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and neighbors, saying to them, "Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost." Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous people who need no repentance. 'Or what woman having ten silver coins, if she loses one of them, does not light a lamp, sweep the house, and search carefully until she finds it? When she has found it, she calls together her friends and neighbors, saying, "Rejoice with me, for I have found the coin that I had lost." Just so, I tell you, there is joy in the presence of the angels of God over one sinner who repents.'

THE UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTERLY, UCC 9 Castle Hill Road, Pawcatuck, CT 06379

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OUR STAFF:

The Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth, Pastor David Cranmer, Organist & Choirs Director Jerin Peloquin, Church Operations Coordinator