



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP with UCC Westerly

***May 4, 2025 @ 9:45am
In-person & Broadcast live from our
sanctuary
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Communion Sunday ~ ~ 3rd Sunday of Eastertide

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

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE — *The Love of God Is Steadfast*
[Colin Curtis. ©2005 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission.]

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP — from Psalm 30

One: O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you healed me.

All: Sing praises to God's name, his faithful ones!

One: Give thanks to God's holy name!

All: Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the morning.

OPENING HYMN *Break Now the Bread of Life*

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W&R#665

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 — *The Apostles Creed*

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, is seated at the right hand of the Father, and will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy universal church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. 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: John 21:15-19

Message – “Do You Love Me?”

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music – *Take Up Your 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 *Two Thousand Years Since Calvary*

The Voice Choir

[WORDS: Brian Hoare. ©1999 Jubilate Hymns (admin. Hope Publishing Company). MUSIC: ©Public Domain]

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.”*

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CLOSING HYMN – *God Be With You*

W&R#716

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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 *March*

[G.F. Handel, arran. David Paxton. ©1985 Lorenz Publishing Company, CCLI#2126111]

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*#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 Lynn Murray.** 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](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! 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.*

**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.*

### **JOHN 21:15-19**

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to Jesus, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time Jesus said to him, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord, you know that I love you. Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." Jesus said to him a third time, "Simon, son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this, he said to him, "Follow me."

*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, Church Operations Coordinator