



SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP with UCC Westerly

June 1, 2025 @ 9:45am

*In-person & Broadcast live
from our sanctuary
CCLI Streaming License #21022154*

Scholarship Sunday!!!

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

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE — *My Lord and God*

[James Southbridge. ©2005 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission]

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP — from Psalm 97

One: The heavens proclaim God's righteousness; all the peoples behold God's glory.

All: You, O Lord, are most high over all the earth

One: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

All: Rejoice in the Lord and give thanks to God's holy name!

OPENING HYMN *Spirit of the Living God* (sing three times!) *W&R#283*

[WORDS & MUSIC: Daniel Everson. ©1935, ren. 1963 Birdwing Music (Admin. By Capitol CG Publishing). CCLI#23488]

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 -- *An Affirmation of God's Freeing Love*

[adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds., ©1990. The Pilgrim Press. p. 211]

God's love frees me to be the person I am without having to become more attractive, more intelligent, more popular.

God's love frees me to live in confidence, not needing to be self-absorbed, but ready to listen and to hear the stories of others.

God's love frees me to take risks, to surprise even myself with courage, sometimes to fall flat on my face – but always to move onward with the knowledge that God is encouraging me.

God's love frees me to view the world not from the standpoint of wealth gained or ambition achieved, but from the perspective of relationships lived and human love shared.

God's love frees me to put my sins behind me, to know that no sin is too great or too small to be healed by God's gentle touch.

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: May we find in this sacred meal renewal for our hearts and minds, sustenance for our bodies and courage for the journey ahead wherever it may lead us. As we move forward today may we never forget that we always have a place waiting for us at the Table of Jesus Christ. Thanks be to God! Amen.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE BARBARA MURANO SCHOLARSHIPS

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:41-52

Message – Heart Treasures

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music – *Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive*

[©Public Domain]

#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 *Let the Song of Praise Be Heard*

The Voice Choir

[WORDS & MUSIC: Mary McDonald. ©2023 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI#7234883]

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 – *Blessed Be the Tie That Binds*

W&R#393

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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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE

Photo Credit on cover photo: Microsoft Office Stock Image

#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. This is a remarkably simple but highly effective breathing exercise that calms your mind and heart.

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR BARBARA MURANO SCHOLARSHIP

RECIPIENTS FOR 2025: Hazel Allik & Ivy Allik. Receiving their scholarships on their behalf is their mother, Allana Allik. Please join in our celebration of them this morning during Fellowship Time!

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 take one of our Welcome brochures in the pew. We'd love to stay in touch with you so if you could fill out the information part of the flyer leave it in one of the offering plates, we promise to honor your privacy and not be too pushy! 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 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.

LUKE 2:41-52

Now every year Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends. When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him, they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

To request a copy of today's message be sent to you, kindly contact the office @ (860) 599-1226 or 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