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SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP with UCC Westerly

August 31, 2025 @ 9:45am

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

**LABOR DAY WEEKEND!!
Reflecting on the Housing Crisis**

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

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE *Prelude on "Angel's Story"*
[Brian Glyncannon. ©2005 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission.]

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP — from Psalm 81

One: Sing aloud to God our strength.

All: Shout for joy to the God of Jacob.

One: Raise a song, sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp.

All: I am the Lord your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

OPENING HYMN *Go Down, Moses* W&R#618
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UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[Bankson & Sokolove, Eds. *Calling on God*, ©2014 Skylight Paths Publishing, p. 223]

Most loving and amazing God, you bring into being all that is good, all that is true, all that sustains our lives. We hunger and thirst for your perfect peace. Bless our stumbling words of prayer and praise and fill us with your spirit of love and kindness for all. We offer ourselves to you in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Scripture Reading: Matthew 7:24-27

Meditation Music *Help Us to Help Each Other* [©Public Domain]

Message — *Housing Matters* Lucienne Andrew, Guest Speaker

#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 *"Abide with Me"*

Allana Allik, Soloist

[Words by Henry Francis Lyte, music by William Henry Monk, ©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."*

[©Public Domain]

CLOSING HYMN – *God Be with You*

W&R#716

[©Public Domain]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION *adapted from 1 Thessalonians 5:13-16*

Be at peace among yourselves. Encourage the faint-hearted, help the weak, be patient with all. Do not repay evil for evil but always seek to do good. Rejoice always, prayer without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances. May the God of peace, the grace of Jesus Christ and the unquenchable confidence of the Holy Spirit surround you this moment and always. Amen.

Sung Response – Let There Be Peace on Earth

W&R#614

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE - *Ceremonial March*

[Murial Dillon, ©2005 Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#759587]

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WE ARE EXCITED TO WELCOME OUR GUEST SPEAKER THIS MORNING!

Lucienne Andrew is the Executive Director of the Westerly Housing Authority. She will be speaking with us about the ongoing housing issues in the Westerly-Pawcatuck area where affordable housing for moderate and lower income families is in dangerously short supply. Lucienne will also be with us in Fellowship time to answer any questions you may have.

#A MOMENT TO BREATHE is an experience of Thich Nhat Hanh'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.

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 and 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 Christina Brummund. 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 encouraged to give via the “Donate” button at 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 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 take with you as a source of 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.

Matthew 7:24-27

Everyone then who hears these words of mine and acts on them will be like a wise man who built his house on rock. The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock. And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not act on them will be like a foolish man who built his house on sand. The rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat against that house, and it fell—and great was its fall!”

To request a copy of today’s message be sent to you, kindly contact the office at (860) 599-1226 or uccwesterly@gmail.com.

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OUR STAFF:

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