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SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP **with UCC Westerly**

November 16, 2025 @ 9:45am

In-person & Broadcast live from our sanctuary

CCLI Streaming License #21022154

STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY!

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

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE — *Thanksgiving Joy*

[Paul Davis, ©2005 Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#4755119]

DEACON'S WELCOME

A RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP *based on Psalm 98*

One: O sing to the Lord a new song, for our God has done marvelous things.

All: **God has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to God's people.**

One: Make a joyful noise all the earth; break forth into joyous songs and sing praises.

All: **Let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord.**

OPENING HYMN -- *Now Thank We All Our God*

W&R#14

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UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[*Calling on God*, Bankson & Sokolove, Eds., ©2014, Skylight Paths Publishing. P. 245-6]

Blessed are you, our God, Creator of all that is, who has given us life and sustained us and brought us to this time. Blessed are you who has poured out blessing upon blessing to us and for us. Blessed are you who poured out your life in love, dying on a cross so that we could understand the meaning of forgiveness, and rising again so that we could understand the meaning of eternal life in you. Our hearts exult in your many gifts, too numerous to count. We know our words and acts of gratitude are not enough but they are all we have. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

BLESSING OF THE PLEDGES

One: May our pledges be the beginning of our journey into the year ahead for our church in love, in faith, in hope. May our gifts be sustaining and renewing for our small but vital church and every one of our members and friends. May these leaders to whom we entrust the responsibility of managing these pledges and all the church's finances fulfill their responsibilities with wisdom, with patience and with love for this church, her people and her future.

All: **Through these pledges which symbolize our love for you, O God. Through them we dedicate ourselves to the life and many ministries of our church which offer love, peace and hope to our community and ourselves. Receive these gifts and pledges and lead us forward in wisdom and courage. Bless these leaders who will oversee the**

effective and efficient use of these gifts for the wellbeing of our church, our community and ourselves. Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Scripture Reading: Mark 12:41-44

Message – The Widow’s Abundant Gift

Meditation Music – Breathe on Me, Breath of God

Rev. Ruth

[©Public Domain]

#A MOMENT TO BREATHE

A TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

Silent Prayer

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

Musical response

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS*

Anthem *Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

The Voice Choir

[WORDS: Dorothy A. Thrupp & MUSIC: Joel Raney. ©2006, 2007 Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#5632183]

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 – Sent Forth by God’s Blessing

W&R#712

[WORDS: Omer Westendorf & MUSIC: Welsh folk tune; harm. Leland Sateren. ©1964 WORDS World Library Publications; ©1972 *Contemporary Worship 4* Admin. Augsburg Fortress. CCLI#231270]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION [UCC New Century Hymnal]

May God’s Holy Spirit lead you. May God’s strength protect you. May God’s peace be with you. Go now in the name of God, by the grace of Christ, and with the presence of the Holy Spirit. 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 21022161]

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE *Come, Let Us Join our Cheerful Songs*

[Joseph Prentiss, based on a hymn tune by Johann Crueger. ©2006, 2007 Lorenz Publishing Company, CCLI#5323753]

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***The Flowers on the altar this morning*** are offered to the glory of God by Rev. Ruth and Peter Hainsworth in celebration of November birthdays in their family.

**#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. 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!*

**STEWARDSHIP SEASON IS UPON US!** *Pledge Forms* are available in the sanctuary near to the offering plates near the sanctuary exit doors. Yes, today is Stewardship Sunday but it’s never too late to submit your pledge. Just leave it in the office in the envelope marked “Attn: Jenny Brummund” and we’ll take it from there!

**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 in the front pews prayer shawls and prayer bears to offer comfort to those struggling. For more information on our prayer ministries please speak with any Deacon or Rev. Ruth at any time.

**Our annual Christmas “Adopt-A-Family” Mission project kicks off today!** We have agreed to provide Christmas gifts for a family with six children through Operation Fresh Start. The Christmas wish list gifts are on the green tags on the altar this morning. Just grab a tag after worship this morning and start shopping! Baskets to receive your gifts will be available under the altar beginning next week. Deadline for all gifts to be returned is Sunday, December 14. Thanks!  
Food Donations will now be received in the blue bucket in the sanctuary next to the baptismal font and in Fellowship Hall on the central Food Donations Table placed in the middle of the Bazaar tables.

*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 12:41-44**

Jesus sat down opposite the treasury and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, “Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.”

*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).*

THE UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTERLY, UCC

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OUR STAFF: The Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth, Pastor

David Cranmer, Organist & Choirs Director

Jerín Peloquín, Church Operations Coordinator