



SUNDAY WORSHIP

with UCC Westerly

February 1, 2026 @ 9:45am

In-person &

**Broadcast live from our sanctuary
CCLI Streaming License #21022154**

Annual Meeting Sunday

PLEASE NOTE! The first Sunday of the month is usually a Communion Sunday BUT due to the recent cancellations of services, we will be delaying Communion until next Sunday, February 8.

GATHERING MUSIC – A selection from the many songs written, performed and recorded by Doug Brummund.
[WORDS & MUSIC: Doug Brummund, ©2022, 23,24,25 B.R. Music. All rights reserved. Used with permission.]

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE *Peace Descends*

[Lani Smith ©2006 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission]

DEACON'S GREETING

CALL TO WORSHIP – *from Psalm 27*

One: The Lord is my light and salvation; whom shall I fear?

All: The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

One: One thing I asked of the Lord, that will I seek after;

All: To live in the house of the Lord all the days of my life.

OPENING HYMN – *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

W&R#358, v. 1-3

[© Public Domain]

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION

[adapted from *Calling on God*, Bankson & Sokolove, Eds., ©2014, Skylights Paths Publishing, p. 20]

Amazing and Encouraging Creator God, we gather again to be present to you in community, surrounded by our chosen family of faith. We gather again to celebrate the power of your Holy Spirit, a steady source of hope in the midst of gray days. We pray that you will fill our hearts with shouts of joy for we gather as always in the name of your incarnate presence, Jesus the Christ, our Savior and our hope. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR MISSIONS – *Blessing of the Food Bank Donations to the PNC*

We bring before you, O God, our humble gifts and donations as one small thing we can do in the face of the troubles and perils so many people in our community face each day. Holy One, please bless all the families who will benefit from this food and all those working to distribute it. Bless us in our giving. Help us always to remember that those who receive these gifts are precious to you and that it is you who calls us to share from our abundance with them. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Scripture Reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

Message – Trusting in Possibilities

Music Meditation – God Moves in a Mysterious Way

Rev. Ruth

[© 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

OUR RESPONSE TO GOD

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings*

Anthem – *Once to Every Man and Nation*

The Voice Choir

[WORDS: James Russell Lowell & MUSIC: David Stanley York, ©1954 by Theodore Presser Company. CCLI#759831.]

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 –

Take My Life and Let It Be

W&R#466, v. 1, 2, 4

[©Public Domain]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION *From THE UCC BOOK OF WORSHIP*

Let us go and meet the world which God loves and for which Christ died. Let us proclaim that God is worthy of our trust and Christ of our discipleship. Let us live as heirs of Christ and as the people of God in the midst of God's world. Amen.

Sung Response – Let There Be Peace on Earth

[WORDS & MUSIC: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson, © 1955, Ren.1983 Jen-Lee Music. Used by Permission. CCLI # 21022161]

Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me;

let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

With God our creator, children all are we.

Let us walk with each other, in perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me, let this be the moment now.

With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow:

To take each moment and live each moment in peace eternally.

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE – *A Light on Our Way*

[Edward Broughton. ©2006, Lorenz Publishing Company, CCLI#4756493]

~~~~~

***THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CHURCH takes place immediately following worship this morning. Only members can vote but all are welcome and encouraged to attend to gain a deeper insight and understanding into how our church operates. IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE MEETING, we will gather in Fellowship Hall for our celebratory Annual Meeting Brunch! All welcome!***

**#A MOMENT TO BREATHE** is an experience of Thích 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 can reset 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 so we respectfully request that you fill out one of our visitor cards with a little information about yourself. And please 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 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!*

**OUR CURRENT MISSIONS DONATION DRIVE to support the community food pantry at the Pawcatuck Neighborhood Center ends today. Our February donation drive will be the collection of new and gently used blankets which will go to our sister church in Hartford, CT to support its emergency overnight shelter which operates from December through April. Also, please plan now to join us for our HOMELESS AWARENESS VIGIL taking place around a bonfire in our upper parking lot on Saturday, February 7 from 6-7pm. We meet outside to witness to and pray for the homeless and housing insecure in our community. Donations of blankets accepted here as well!**

**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 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.

**If you have any comments or questions on the sermon each week, please look for Rev. Ruth during Fellowship Time and talk with her! She always enjoys chatting!!!**

*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.*

~~~~~

EZEKIEL 37:1-14

The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” Then he said to me, “Prophecy to these bones and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath^[a] to enter you, and you shall live. I will lay sinews on you and will

cause flesh to come upon you and cover you with skin and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord.”

So I prophesied as I had been commanded, and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them, but there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ Therefore prophecy and say to them: Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people, and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord when I open your graves and bring you up from your graves, O my people. I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

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

THE UNITED CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF WESTERLY, UCC
9 Castle Hill Road, Pawcatuck, CT 06379
860-599-1226 <> email: uccwesterly@gmail.com
www.uccwesterly.org <> <https://www.facebook.com/UCCWesterly>

OUR STAFF:

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