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## **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP** *with UCC Westerly*

**February 8, 2026 @ 9:45am**  
**In-person &**  
**Broadcast live from our sanctuary**  
**CCLI Streaming License #21022154**

### **HOMELESS AWARENESS WEEKEND**

**GATHERING MUSIC** — A selection from the many songs written, performed and recorded by Doug Brummund.  
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### **PASTOR'S WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**      *Dawn's Awakening*  
[David Paxton, ©2006 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission.]

### **DEACON'S GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** — *from Psalm 112*

One: It is well with those who deal generously ... who conduct their affairs with justice.

**All: For the righteous will never be moved; they will be remembered forever.**

One: Their hearts are steady, they will not be afraid.

**All: Their righteousness endures forever.**

**OPENING HYMN** — *As We Gather at Your Table* W&R#695  
[WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr. & MUSIC: Attr. B.F.White. © 1989 Words – Hope Publishing Company & ©1992 Music – Hope Publishing Company. CCLI#6271859]

### **MUTUAL PRAYERS OF REFLECTION, CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

[from *The Iona Community*]

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 — [adapted from an entry in *Touch Holiness*, p. 212]

**In faith we acknowledge that God has acted in the past, in a holy history. In faith we confess that God desires to guide our lives today. In faith we affirm that God continues to send prophets and speak through willing vessels to guide the course of all history. In faith we celebrate that as followers of Jesus Christ we are to embody as he did compassion, justice, and love. In faith we long to be part of God's purpose for our lives and for the world. Amen.**

Song of Preparation – *Let Us Break Bread Together* W&R#699, v. 1 [© Public Domain]

Words of Invitation, Explanation and Consecration

Partaking in the bread and cup together

Prayer of Thanksgiving [from *The New Century Hymnal*, p. 11]

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, newly nourished and rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## **THE MORNING MESSAGE**

**Scripture Reading:** Daniel 5:3-9;13-16; 24-28

*Message – The Writing on the Wall*

Rev. Ruth

Music Meditation – *Come Down, O Love Divine*

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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

### **OUR RESPONSE TO GOD**

Acknowledgement of Gifts & Offerings\*

Anthem – *Swing Low, Sweet Chariot*

The Tone Chimes Choir

[©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 SONG –** *Leaning on the Everlasting Arms*

W&R#496

[©Public Domain]

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION** from 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 divine presence be lifted up upon you and give you peace, this day and forever more. 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 – March Movement

[W. A. Mozart ©Public Domain]

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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 can reset 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 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 Christina Brummund.** 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! **Also kindly remember that the Deacons Fund offering is received on Communion Sundays in the marked baskets near the regular offering plates at the back of the sanctuary. The Deacons Fund is used to respond to requests for emergency financial assistance as well as to purchase supplies used for worship.**

**A REMINDER! The Missions Donation Project** for the month is new and gentle used blankets.

**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.

*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 .*

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## Daniel 5:3-9;13-16; 24-28

<sup>3</sup> So they brought in the vessels of gold that had been taken out of the temple, the house of God in Jerusalem, and the king and his lords, his wives, and his concubines drank from

them. <sup>4</sup> They drank the wine and praised the gods of gold and silver, bronze, iron, wood, and stone.

<sup>5</sup> Immediately the fingers of a human hand appeared and began writing on the plaster of the wall of the royal palace, next to the lampstand. The king was watching the hand as it wrote. <sup>6</sup> Then the king's face turned pale, and his thoughts terrified him. His limbs gave way, and his knees knocked together. <sup>7</sup> The king cried aloud to bring in the enchanters, the Chaldeans, and the diviners, and the king said to the wise men of Babylon, "Whoever can read this writing and tell me its interpretation shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around his neck, and rank third in the kingdom." <sup>8</sup> Then all the king's wise men came in, but they could not read the writing or tell the king the interpretation. <sup>9</sup> Then King Belshazzar became greatly terrified, and his face turned pale, and his lords were perplexed.

<sup>13</sup> Then Daniel was brought in before the king. The king said to Daniel, "So you are Daniel, one of the exiles of Judah, whom my father the king brought from Judah? <sup>14</sup> I have heard of you that a spirit of the gods<sup>[a]</sup> is in you and that enlightenment, understanding, and excellent wisdom are found in you. <sup>15</sup> Now the wise men, the enchanters, have been brought in before me to read this writing and tell me its interpretation, but they were not able to reveal the interpretation of the matter. <sup>16</sup> But I have heard that you can give interpretations and solve problems. Now if you are able to read the writing and tell me its interpretation, you shall be clothed in purple, have a chain of gold around your neck, and rank third in the kingdom."

<sup>24</sup> "So from his presence the hand was sent and this writing was inscribed. <sup>25</sup> And this is the writing that was inscribed: *mene*,<sup>[a]</sup> *tekel*, and *parsin*. <sup>26</sup> This is the interpretation of the matter: *mene*: God has numbered the days of<sup>[b]</sup> your kingdom and brought it to an end; <sup>27</sup> *tekel*: you have been weighed on the scales and found wanting; <sup>28</sup> *peres*:<sup>[c]</sup> your kingdom is divided and given to the Medes and Persians."

*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 Pelouquin, Office Operations Coordinator