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# **SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP**

*with UCC Westerly*

**May 3, 2026 @ 9:45am**

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**WORLD LABYRINTH DAY**

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

**PRELUDE** *Communion*  
[Edouard Batiste, © Public Domain]

## **DEACON'S GREETING**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** — *from Psalm 118*

One: O give thanks to the Lord, for the Lord is good.

**All: God's steadfast love endures forever.**

One: Out of my distress I called on the Lord.

**All: The Lord answered me and set me in a broad place.**

One: With the Lord on my side I do not fear.

**All: What can mortals do to me?**

**OPENING HYMN** *Break Now the Bread of Life*  
[©Public Domain]

W&R#665

## **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 — [from *The New Zealand Prayer Book*]

**You, O God, are supreme and holy. You create our world and give us life. Your purpose overarches everything we do. You have always been with us. You are God.  
You, O God, are infinitely generous, good beyond all measure. You came to us before we came to you. You have revealed and proved your love for us in Jesus Christ, who lived and died and rose again. You are with us now. You are God.  
You, O God, are Holy Spirit. You empower us to be your gospel in the world. You reconcile and heal; you overcome death. You are our God. We worship you.**

Song of Preparation – *Let Us Break Bread Together*  
[© Public Domain]

W&R#699, v. 1

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: John 14:25-31

Music Meditation – *Kum Ba Yah* [©Public Domain]

Message – *Troubled Hearts* Rev. Ruth

### **#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 – *Just a Closer Walk with Thee* Melissa Stratton, Soloist

[©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 –** *Be Thou My Vision*

W&R#502

[WORDS: Mary Byrne & Eleanor Holl. MUSIC: Irish melody arranged by Jack Schrader. ©1989 Hope Publishing Company. CCLI#30639]

### **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 – Contemplation**

[Rob Roy Peery ©1950 & 1965, Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#3966703]

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**REV. RUTH INVITES ANY WHO ARE INTERESTED TO JOIN HER IN WALKING OUR LABYRINTH** with an intention for peace immediately after worship in celebration of World Labyrinth Day. Instructions for how to do this will be provided at the end of the service.

**#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 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 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!*

**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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## **JOHN 14:25-31**

<sup>25</sup> "I have said these things to you while I am still with you. <sup>26</sup> But the Advocate,<sup>[a]</sup> the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything and remind you of all that I have said to you. <sup>27</sup> Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do

not let them be afraid. <sup>28</sup> You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. <sup>29</sup> And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur you may believe. <sup>30</sup> I will no longer talk much with you, for the ruler of this world is coming. He has no power over me, <sup>31</sup> but I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father. Rise, let us be on our way.

*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 Peloquin, Office Operations Coordinator

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