

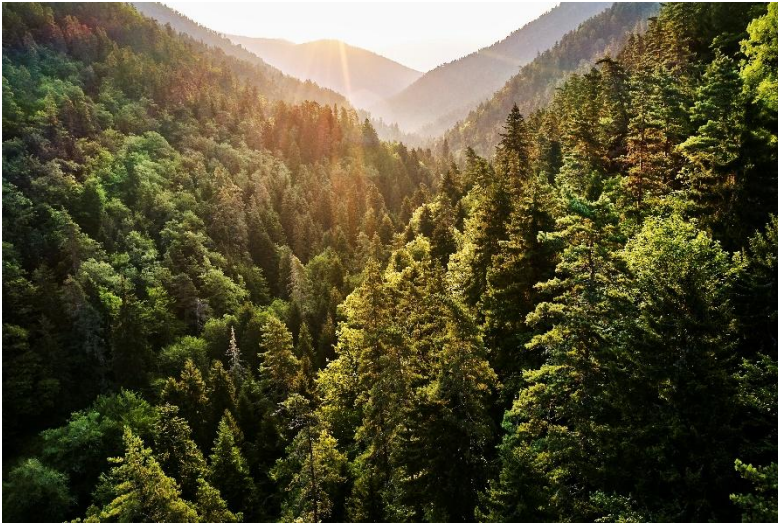


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NOTE: This is the scenery Pastor Ruth was traveling through for the past two weeks in Pennsylvania, Maryland & Ohio.

**SUNDAY MORNING
WORSHIP**
with UCC Westerly

July 26, 2026 @ 9:45am
In-person & Broadcast
live from our sanctuary
CCLI Streaming License
#21022154

SUMMER ROLLS ON!!
Pastor Ruth Is Back!!

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

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE *The Lord Is My Shepherd*

[Gerald Peterson. ©2006 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission.]

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP — excerpted from Psalm 105

One: O give thanks to the Lord and call on God's name.

All: Make known God's deeds among the people!

One: Sing praises to our God that tell of God's wonderful works in our lives.

All: Seek the Lord and his strength, seek it continually

OPENING HYMN

I Sing the Almighty Power of God

W&R#31

[© Public Domain]

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION -- [adapted from *Calling on God*]

Holy Spirit of living water, we come together on this Sabbath morning to celebrate your presence in our midst. We come together to remind ourselves that we really are your people, one small part of the Body of the Risen Christ. We celebrate the joy of community, the healing power of love and the promise you have made never to leave us. Call us to your service and reveal to us the way you would have us answer that call. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Scripture Reading: Matthew 13:31-33

PLEASE FEEL FREE TO FOLLOW ALONG IN THE PEW BIBLE, page #795 (N.T.)

Message — *"The Kingdom of Heaven Is Like..."*

Rev. Ruth

Meditation Music — Kum Ba Yah

[© 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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS*

Special Music *Trust and Obey* A Duet by Carolyn LeRoy & her sister, Eleanor Grant
[© 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."*

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CLOSING HYMN – *Sweet, Sweet Spirit*

W&R# 134

[Doris Akers, ©1962. Renewed 1990 Manna music, Inc. CCLI#18204]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION – from *The UCC Book of Worship*

God's peace go with you into the worlds in which you live; be nurtured by the time of gathering, be faithful in the time apart. Love and serve each other in the name of the faithful God who calls us to be God's people. May the blessing of God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer be with us 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. Used by Permission. CCLI Copyright License 93690]

PASSING OF THE PEACE

POSTLUDE *The Joyful Trumpet*

[Lani Smith, ©2006. Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#4861632]

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**#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 and calming breathing exercise.

**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 check out our *Welcome* flyer in the pew and fill out the information section 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 is Lynn Murray.** 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 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 THIS SUNDAY IS THE FINAL DAY OF OUR JULY DONATION DRIVE** for non-perishable food items for the food pantry at the PNC. please recall that our annual “In the Middle” School Supplies Drive begins next Sunday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>. Donation baskets for both drives are on the chancel. 😊

**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 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.*

*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

9 Castle Hill Road, Pawcatuck, CT 06379

860-599-1226 <> email: [uccwesterly@gmail.com](mailto:uccwesterly@gmail.com)

[www.uccwesterly.org](http://www.uccwesterly.org) <> <https://www.facebook.com/UCCWesterly>

OUR STAFF:

The Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth, Pastor

David Cranmer, Organist & Choirs Director

Jerin Peloquin, Church Operations Coordinator