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

**August 16, 2026 @ 9:45am**  
**In-person & Broadcast live from our**  
**sanctuary**  
**CCLI Streaming License #21022154**

*Let's try this again...*

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

### **PASTOR'S WELCOME**

**PRELUDE**      *Christ, the Bread*

[James Southbridge. ©2006 Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission.]

### **DEACON'S WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** — excerpted from *Psalm 67*

One: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make His face to shine upon us.

**All: That God's way may be known upon earth;**

One: God's saving power among all peoples.

**All: Let all the peoples praise you, O God.**

**OPENING HYMN**

*Open My Eyes, That I May See*

W&R#480

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**UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION**

adapted from *The Iona Prayer Book*, p. 81

**"I sit down, Lord, to watch television, to write an email, to do laundry, to rest my feet and my back; to listen to music, to read a novel or an article, to just close my eyes and forget everything heavy on my heart. You sit down, Lord, to wait for me to be ready for you. Help me, among other things for which I sit, to remember you always waiting for me." In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### **THE MORNING MESSAGE**

**Scripture Reading:** Matthew 15:21-28

**Message** — *Persistence Required*

**Meditation Music** — *Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus*

Rev. Ruth

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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

## ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS\*

Special Music *My Heart Ever Faithful*

Erin Blake, Soloist

[J.S. Bach © Public Domain]

Doxology *"Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ all creature here below; Praise Holy Spirit, Comforter; One God, Triune, whom we adore. Amen."*

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## CLOSING HYMN –

*Wonderful Words of Life*

W&R# 668

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION

*Sung Response – Let There Be Peace on Earth*

W&R#614

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## PASSING OF THE PEACE

**POSTLUDE** *Postlude on 'St. Denio'*

[Robert Graham, ©1970. Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#4241214]

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**WELCOME BACK TO OUR SANCTUARY** after last Sunday's last minute cancellation due to heat and high humidity. Church leadership and I felt better to be safe than to risk anyone's health. 😊

**#A MOMENT TO BREATHE** is an experience of Thich Nhat Hanh's calming 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.

**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 OUR ANNUAL "IN-THE-MIDDLE" SCHOOL SUPPLIES DRIVE** ends on Sunday, August 30. Supplies list in the Beacon and at church. Donation basket 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.

*Flowers for the chancel are always welcome. For information on how to do this, please speak with Jerin in the office.*

**MATTHEW 15:21-28**

<sup>21</sup> Jesus left that place and went away to the district of Tyre and Sidon. <sup>22</sup> Just then a Canaanite woman from that region came out and started shouting, "Have mercy on me, Lord, Son of David; my daughter is tormented by a demon." <sup>23</sup> But he did not answer her at all. And his disciples came and urged him, saying, "Send her away, for she keeps shouting after us." <sup>24</sup> He answered, "I was sent only to the lost sheep of the house of Israel." <sup>25</sup> But she came and knelt before him, saying, "Lord, help me." <sup>26</sup> He answered, "It is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs." <sup>27</sup> She said, "Yes, Lord, yet even the dogs eat the crumbs that fall from their masters' <sup>[a]</sup> table." <sup>28</sup> Then Jesus answered her, "Woman, great is your faith! Let it be done for you as you wish." And her daughter was healed from that moment.

*A copy of today's message can be sent to you by contacting the office.*

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OUR STAFF:

The Rev. Ruth Shilling Hainsworth, Pastor

David Cranmer, Organist & Choirs Director

Jerin Peloquin, Church Operations Coordinator