



Credit Bing Creative Commons Image

SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP *with UCC Westerly*

August 23, 2026 @ 9:45am
In-person & Broadcast live from our
sanctuary
CCLI Streaming License #21022154
THE LAST DAYS OF SUMMER...

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

PASTOR'S WELCOME

PRELUDE *A Song in Summer*
[James Southbridge. ©1969 Lorenz Publishing Company. CCLI#4275895]

DEACON'S WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP — from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds.

One: What does this worship service need?

All: Quiet where faith can grow, song that blossoms hope, scripture that remembers love, honest words to untangle a small length of knotty existence, gifts offering service of heart.

One: Who shall come to this worship service?

All: All who are seeking for the peace of God, longing to be enfolded in God's abiding love.

OPENING HYMN *Sweet Hour of Prayer*
[©Public Domain]

W&R#478

UNISON PRAYER OF REFLECTION adapted from *Touch Holiness*, Duck & Tirabassi, Eds.

Merciful God, Just God, Faithful God, God of blessing and God of our most difficult times, we come to you for a moment of quiet in our too busy lives. We come to you for energy in our weariness. We come to you for challenge when we are quick to settle for our own small plans and dreams. We long for the peace of your presence, even as we are timid in the face of your call to be reflected in our lives. Enter, Spirit of God, into each of our lives bringing fresh perspectives and new hope. Enter, Spirit of God, into our community and enable us to love and serve you and all your children. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

THE MORNING MESSAGE

Scripture Reading: Matthew 16:21-23

Message — *Stumbling Blocks*

Meditation Music — *Restore in Us, O God*

[© Public Domain]

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

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS*

Special Music *This Is A Time to Remember*

The Tone Chimes Choir

[Bryan Jeffery Leech ©1982, 1990. Pavanne Publishing, CCLI#244913]

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."*

[©Public Domain]

CLOSING HYMN – *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant*

W&R# 391

[WORDS & MUSIC: Richard Gillard ©1977. Scripture In Song (a division of Integrity Music)]

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A PRAYER OF BENEDICTION

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 *Trumpet Tune*

[Michael A. Johnson ©2005. Lorenz Publishing Company. Used by permission.]

~~~

**#A MOMENT TO BREATHE** is an experience of Thich Nhat Hahn'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 Allana Allik.** 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 next 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 16:21-23**

<sup>21</sup> From that time on, Jesus began to show his disciples that he must go to Jerusalem and undergo great suffering at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes and be killed and on the third day be raised. <sup>22</sup> And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him, saying, "God forbid it, Lord! This must never happen to you." <sup>23</sup> But he turned and said to Peter, "Get behind me, Satan! You are a hindrance<sup>[a]</sup> to me, for you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

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

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