



United Methodist Church  
of Westport and Weston

May 17, 2020  
6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

*Our Vision is to Know, to Live and to Share the Love of Jesus Christ.*

## Online Worship – 9:30am

### THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

*Excerpted from 1 Peter 3:13-15, The Message*

*If with heart and soul you're doing good, do you think you can be stopped?...Through thick and thin, keep your hearts at attention before Christ the Lord...Be ready to speak up and tell anyone who asks why you're living the way you are, and always with the utmost courtesy.*

### GATHERING THE PEOPLE OF GOD

#### PRELUDE

*God Will Take Care of You*  
Ahyoung Son, piano

W. S. Martin

#### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

The Chapman Kirwan Family

Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord!**

Sing to the glory of God's name!

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord!**

All of creation praises God!

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord!**

O God, you watch over us and keep us safe.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord!**

Your steadfast love is with us forever.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord! Alleluia! Amen.**

#### OPENING HYMN

*I Sing the Almighty Power of God*

UMH 152

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**O God, in whom we live and move and have our very being, giver of all that makes life good:**

**We gather to give you our thanks, yet we confess that we have often failed to live our thankfulness.**

**What we have we take for granted, and we grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty, with little thought of those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less.**

**Forgive us, O God. In this time of worship, accept our thanksgiving; and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

#### SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear these words of assurance, “God is our refuge, our strength, and the source of our salvation. Christ gave his life, so that we might know God’s steadfast love and the promise of eternal life.

**In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Alleluia! Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MOMENTS OF JOY

Pastor Heather

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 17:22-31

Gillian Anderson

<sup>22</sup> Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, “Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. <sup>23</sup> For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, ‘To an unknown god.’ What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup> The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, <sup>25</sup> nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. <sup>26</sup> From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, <sup>27</sup> so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. <sup>28</sup> For ‘In him we live and move and have our being’; as even some of your own poets have said,

‘For we too are his offspring.’

<sup>29</sup> Since we are God’s offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. <sup>30</sup> While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, <sup>31</sup> because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead.”

SERMON

“What the World Needs Now”

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SPECIAL MUSIC

*Divertimento in F Major Movement 2: Andante*  
Chris Hisey, strings

W. A. Mozart

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
Grace Sinclair & Sophia Sinclair, piano

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise God above, ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER *You are invited to pray in the version and language of your heart.*

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for yours is the kingdom, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

GOING FORTH TO LOVE AND SERVE

CLOSING HYMN

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Words: C. Wesley

Tune: Hyfrydol

*Verse 1*

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heav'n to earth come down:  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown:  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter ev'ry trembling heart.

*Verse 2*

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit  
into ev'ry troubled breast;  
let us all in thee inherit,  
let us find the promised rest:  
take away the love of sinning;  
Alpha and Omega be;  
End of faith, as its Beginning,  
set our hearts at liberty.

*Verse 3*

Come, Almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray and praise thee without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

*Verse 4*

Finish, then, thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be:  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee;  
changed from glory into glory,  
'til in heav'n we take our place,  
'til we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Cwm Rhondda*  
Ahyoung Son, piano

J. Hughes

Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from:

*The United Methodist Hymnal and The United Methodist Book of Worship*, Nashville, TN: The United Methodist Publishing House  
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Our Mission is:

**To Know the love of Jesus in personal ways through worship, prayer and study**  
**To Live the love of Jesus through acts of compassion, gentleness and justice**  
**To Share the love of Jesus in our homes, our community and the world**  
**To Welcome all of God's children regardless of age, race, ability,**  
**sexual or gender orientation, and economic circumstance.**

**UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WESTPORT AND WESTON**  
49 WESTON ROAD • WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880

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OUR MINISTERS

EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION

JAY LUDY AND CINDY GLOVER, LAY LEADERS

REV. HEATHER A. M. SINCLAIR, PASTOR

CHRISTOPHER HISEY, MUSIC DIRECTOR • AHYOUNG SON, ORGANIST

MARILYN SMITH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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TELEPHONE: 203.227.4707  
FACSIMILE: 203.227.6979  
WEB SITE: WESTPORTUMC.ORG

E MAIL: CHURCH: OFFICE@WESTPORTUMC.ORG  
PASTOR: HSINCLAIR@WESTPORTUMC.ORG  
DIRECTOR OF MUSIC: MAESTROCJH@AOL.COM