



United Methodist Church  
of Westport and Weston

August 2, 2020  
9th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Online Worship – 9:30am

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

John 6:33, 35 (CEB)

*Jesus said, “The bread of God is the one who comes down from heaven and gives life to the world...I am the bread of life. Whoever comes to me will never go hungry, and whoever believes in me will never be thirsty.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

PRELUDE

*My Jesus, I Love Thee*  
Ahyoung Son, organ

A. J. Gordon

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Gray Family

Everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines and the rain falls,  
Come and worship God.

**Let us praise God together!**

For listening when we call and answering our prayers,

**Let us praise God together!**

Everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines and the rain falls,  
Come and worship God.

**Let us praise God together!**

For forgiving our mistakes, and providing what we need:

**Let us praise God together!**

Everyone on earth, everywhere the sun shines and the rain falls,  
Come and worship God.

**Let us praise God together!**

OPENING HYMN

*Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*

UMH 381, vv. 1, 2 & 4

**Verse 1**

Savior, like a shepherd lead us,  
much we need thy tender care;  
in thy pleasant pastures feed us,  
for our use thy folds prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

**Verse 2**

We are thine, thou dost befriend us,  
be the guardian of our way;  
keep thy flock, from sin defend us,

*(continues on next page)*

seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Hear, O hear us when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Hear, O hear us when we pray.

*Verse 4*

Early let us seek thy favor,  
early let us do thy will;  
blessed Lord and only Savior,  
with thy love our bosoms fill.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast loved us, love us still.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus!  
Thou hast loved us, love us still.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Lord of mercy and hope, we come before you with hesitation and doubt. We know that we have fallen short of being the kind of disciples that you have called us to be. We have turned our backs on people in need; we have closed our ears to the cries of the voiceless. We want to be faithful. We desire to love you with heart, mind, soul and strength. But we get caught up in the ways of the world. Remind us again that you are merciful and your love transforms and changes our lives. When we falter and slide off the path of hope you place before us, you “pick us up and dust us off” and put us again on the trail, confident of your faithful presence with us. Forgive us our weakness. Strengthen us and give us courage; help us to be bearers of your good news of peace. We pray this in Christ’s name. AMEN.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Feel God’s healing love and forgiving grace pouring over you and into your lives. Know that God delights in you and will always be present with you.

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

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

“Comfort Food”

Pastor Heather

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 14:13-21

Dan Gelman

<sup>13</sup> Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. <sup>14</sup> When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. <sup>15</sup> When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, “This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.” <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to them, “They need not go away; you give them something to eat.” <sup>17</sup> They replied, “We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.” <sup>18</sup> And he said, “Bring them here to me.” <sup>19</sup> Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. <sup>20</sup> And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. <sup>21</sup> And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

*The ministry of the church is ongoing during these days. Your gifts, tithes and offerings continue to allow us to “be the church.” Checks may be sent to the church office or give online through our website. Your generosity is a blessing. Thank you.*

## SPECIAL MUSIC

*Air on the G string*  
Martha Hisey, piano & Chris Hisey, viola

J. S. Bach

## HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*  
Ahyoung Son, organ

UMH 95

## 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

*I Have Decided to Follow Jesus*

TFWS 2129

**Verse 1**

I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus,  
I have decided to follow Jesus –  
no turning back, no turning back.

**Verse 2**

The world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me,  
the world behind me, the cross before me –  
no turning back, no turning back.

**Verse 3**

Though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow,  
though none go with me, still I will follow –  
no turning back, no turning back.

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## BENEDICTION

Pastor Heather

CHORAL BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*  
Ahyoung Son, organ

A. H. Messiter

A BLESSING FOR THE TABLE

Holy Comforter, we gather in your name  
invited by Jesus  
bound together with your Spirit  
in union with each other.

Feed our bodies and our spirits  
with your comforting presence  
so that we might be your comfort to others

Bless this food and break open our hearts.  
Bless this drink and pour out your love.  
Bless this table and all who we welcome to it in your name.

Sung to the tune of *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*, UMH 95

**Be present at our table, Lord;  
Be here and everywhere adored;  
Thy creatures bless, and grant that we  
May feast in paradise with Thee. Amen.**

Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from:  
*The United Methodist Hymnal, The United Methodist Book of Worship*  
The United Methodist Publishing House  
*The Faith We Sing*, Abingdon Press, Nashville, TN  
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re-worship.blogspot.com; ministrymatters.com  
Dr. Marcia McFee, "*Comfort Food: A Feast of Love*," [www.worshipdesignstudio.com/series](http://www.worshipdesignstudio.com/series)

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**  
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OUR MINISTERS

EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION  
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