



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

May 2, 2021
5th Sunday of Easter

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

Outdoor, In-Person & Livestream
Worship – 10:00am

THOUGHT FOR MEDITATION

John 15:4-5

Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.

PRELUDE

Come, O Thou Traveler Unknown
Ahyoung Son, piano

Trad. Scottish melody
harm. C. R. Young

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Based on John 15: 1-8

We are branches, rooted in the vine of Christ.

We come because we seek to abide in Christ.

The branches that remain in the vine bear much fruit.

We come because we long to be spiritually vibrant, alive, fruitful.

If we abide in Christ, then Christ's words will abide in us.

We come because we strive to be faithful disciples.

We gather for worship now to the glory of the One God: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer.

May we grow wildly as God tends us lovingly.

OPENING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UMH 384

Verse 1

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven 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 every trembling heart.

Verse 2

Breathe, O breathe thy loving Spirit into every troubled breast!
Let us all in thee inherit, let us find that second rest.
Take away our bent to 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, till in heaven we take our place,
till we cast our crowns before thee, lost in wonder, love, and praise.

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

"A Chain Reaction"

Pastor Heather

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 8:26-40

SERMON

"Go!"

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of mercy, we confess that we have not borne the fruit of the Spirit. We have not loved others as you love us. We have denied the promises of baptism to ourselves and others. We have cut ourselves off from you. Forgive us, restore us, that we may abide in your love and live out your mercy, for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

You have already been cleansed by the word that God has spoken to you. In baptism God claimed you and joined you to the body of Christ, as branches to a vine. Believe the promise given to you.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

THE OFFERING

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 given online through our website. Your generosity is a blessing. Thank you.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Abide with Me
Chris & Heather Hisey, vocals
Chris Hisey, viola

Words: H. F. Lyte
Music: W. H. Monk

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 power, and the glory, now and forever. Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD & CUP

COMMUNION MUSIC

Now Let Us from This Table Rise

UMH 634

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BENEDICTION & SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

- Verse 1** The spirit sends us forth to serve; we go in Jesus' name
to bring glad tidings to the poor, God's favor to proclaim.
- Verse 2** We go to comfort those who mourn and set the burdened free:
where hope is dim, to share a dream and help the blind to see.
- Verse 3** We go to be the hands of Christ, to scatter joy like seed
and all our days, to cherish life, to do the loving deed.
- Verse 4** Then let us go to serve in peace, the gospel to proclaim.
God's Spirit has empowered us; we go in Jesus' name.

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O Jesus, I Have Promised
Ahyoung Son, piano

Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from:
The United Methodist Hymnal, The United Methodist Book of Worship, and The Faith We Sing,
Nashville, TN: The United Methodist Publishing House
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Call to Worship by Joanna Harader, www.spaciousfaith.com, 2011
Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion – Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1, Westminster John Knox Press, 2014.
UMCDiscipleship.org



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
DAN GELMAN AND CINDY GLOVER, LAY LEADERS

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