



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

September 4, 2022
13th Sunday after Pentecost

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

Sanctuary & Livestream Worship – 10:00am

CENTERING PRAYER

Divine weaver of life, framer of the ages, we marvel at your artistry and the trust you place in us. From our first cries to our final breaths, we are your own. Unite us now to each other in ways beyond our choosing, that your purpose might find fulfillment in our common life and service, for we pray in the name of Christ, the firstborn of creation. Amen.

PRELUDE

Christians, We Have Met to Worship
©2006 The Lorenz Publishing Corporation, OneLicense Song #111226
John Collinge, piano

M. Hayes

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 139 & Jeremiah 18

We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

Even before we speak, God knows us completely.

The Holy One knows us and sustains us,
even in our moments of confusion and doubt.

Who can count the thoughts of God?

They are more than all the sands of the desert.

Like clay in the hand of the potter,
we are shaped into vessels of divine will.

We come with praise for the wonderful works of God.

*OPENING HYMN

Take My Life, and Let It Be Consecrated

UMH 399

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Trusting in the grace and power of God not only to fashion the world, but to mend and refashion our hearts, let us open our hearts to God in prayer.

Lord, all that we have is a gift from you. You are our Creator and our Strength. Yet we do not live lives of constant gratitude. We are quick to presume your pardon and sanction our way of life. We turn from our neighbors in need and share from our leftovers, rather than our abundance. Merciful God, you created us for better use; remake us now. Where we are distorted re-center and reshape us, bring us low and raise us up. Fire our hearts until we shine with your glory and find our place in your purpose.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation; everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new. Siblings in Christ, your story is known, your sin is forgiven, your life is made new.

Let us live life as those reborn. Thanks be to God!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

READING FROM THE PROPHETS

Jeremiah 18:1-11

Paula Castiglia

This is the Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**Indicates that those who are able
are invited to rise in body and spirit.*

SPECIAL MUSIC

Seek Ye First

K. Lafferty

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John Collinge, piano & vocals

GOSPEL READING

Luke 14:25-33

SERMON

“No One Said It Would Be Easy”

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Give thanks to God, for God is good.

God’s love is everlasting.

Blessed are you, O God, who with your Word and Holy Spirit created all things and called them good. In Jesus Christ your Word became flesh and dwelt among us. Through Jesus’ suffering and death you took upon yourself our sin and death and destroyed their power forever. You raised Jesus from the dead, who now reigns with you in glory, and poured among us your Holy Spirit, making us the people of your new covenant.

Remembering the Lord Jesus, we break bread and share one cup, announcing his death from the sins of the world and telling the good news of his resurrection to all people, until Christ comes again and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, Jesus took bread, gave thanks to God, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

When the meal was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to God, gave it to his disciples, and said: “Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.”

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts, that in the breaking of the bread and the sharing of the cup we may know the presence of the living Christ and be renewed as the body of Christ redeemed by his blood.

O God, who called us from death to life: We give ourselves to you, and with the church through all the ages, we thank you for your saving love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

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

SHARING THE BREAD & CUP

In the United Methodist Church, all people, of all ages, and church affiliations, who love Jesus Christ, and seek forgiveness and peace are welcome to the Lord’s Table. At the direction of the ushers, you are invited forward to receive the gluten-free bread and non-alcoholic grape juice. If you prefer, pre-packaged communion is available. You may kneel for prayer after receiving or return to your seats by the side aisles. When you finish with your communion cup, please place it in the holders in the altar rail. If you are worshipping at home, be assured that God’s blessing is upon the bread and cup which you bring to the online gathering.

**Indicates that those who are able are invited to rise in body and spirit.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Creator God, we give you thanks for this simple and abundant meal in which you give yourself to us.
Grant that we may be nourished to go into the world to give ourselves to others in the name of Jesus.
Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN

I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

TFWS 2129

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Consolation No. 2
John Collinge, piano

F. Liszt

Your gifts, tithes and offerings allow us to continue the mission and ministries of this congregation and the connectional church. Checks may be brought to worship and dropped in the offering box in the narthex, mailed to the church office or given online through our website. Your generosity is a blessing. Thank you.

WELCOME! It is a blessing to welcome you to worship today. If you are visiting, please sign the guestbook, introduce yourself to Pastor Heather, an usher or greeter, and check out WestportUMC.org to find out more about the mission and ministries of this community of faith. **ALL ARE INVITED** to Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall following the Worship Service.

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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Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Liturgies for Year C, Volume 2, Westminster John Knox Press, 2013

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WESTPORT AND WESTON

49 WESTON ROAD ♦ WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880

OUR MINISTERS

EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION

DAN GELMAN AND CINDY GLOVER, LAY LEADERS

REV. HEATHER A. M. SINCLAIR, PASTOR

JOHN COLLINGE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & OUTREACH ♦ AHYOUNG SON, ORGANIST

STEVEN MAGDA, LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN ♦ MARILYN SMITH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

TELEPHONE: 203.227.4707

E MAIL: CHURCH:

OFFICE@WESTPORTUMC.ORG

FACSIMILE: 203.227.6979

PASTOR:

HSINCLAIR@WESTPORTUMC.ORG

WEBSITE: WESTPORTUMC.ORG

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are invited to rise in body and spirit.*



September 2022

(as of 9/4/22)



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 7pm –8:45pm Bible Study Series - The Book of Hebrews	2 3:30pm –3:45pm Serve the Evening Meal for Gillespie Center	3
4 8:30am –9:15am Communion Worship at Compo Beach Led by Area Churches 10am –11am Worship with Holy Communion; Livestream & In-Person in the Sanctuary 11am –11:45am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall	5 Labor Day Holiday Church Offices Will Be Closed	6 5:30pm –8:30pm Tuesday Supper at the Beach	7 7pm –8:45pm Prayer Group & Bible Study	8	9	10 9am –10:30am UM Men Host Breakfast - All Are Welcome!
11 10am –11am Livestream & In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary Blessing of Backpacks 10:15am –11am Sunday School 11am –11:45am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall 4pm Installation of DS Rev Inkoo Chung at Mid-Hudson Korean UMC	12 <i>Pastor Heather's day off</i>	13 5:30pm –8:30pm Tuesday Supper at the Beach 7pm –8:30pm Church Council Meeting	14 10am –12pm Ladies Book Group 7pm –8:45pm Prayer Group & Bible Study	15	16	17 5:30pm –8:30pm Missions Fundraiser Cabaret
18 10am –11am Livestream & In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary 11am –11:45am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall	19 <i>Pastor Heather's day off</i>	20 5:30pm –8:30pm Tuesday Supper at the Beach	21 7pm –8:45pm Prayer Group & Bible Study	22	23 9am–12:30pm Special Session of New York Annual Conference at White Plains High School	24
25 Welcome Sunday 10am –11am Livestream & In-Person Worship in the Sanctuary 10:15am –11am Sunday School 11am –11:45am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall	26 <i>Pastor Heather's day off</i>	27 5:30pm –8:30pm Tuesday Supper at the Beach	28 10am –12pm Ladies Book Group 7pm –8:45pm Prayer Group & Bible Study	29	30	October 1 9am –10:30am UM Men Host Breakfast - All Are Welcome!

- Information on all church events may be found on the church website: <http://WestportUMC.org>
- The most up-to-date information is sent in an all-church email on Thursdays. Please contact the church office if you are not receiving church emails (office@westportumc.org).
- Buy your **Mission Cabaret Fundraiser Tickets** today! Ticket forms are available in the Narthex.
- Use this QR code to **Donate an Item for Auction** online (<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080e48a5ab2eaaff2-auction>)

