



United Methodist Church  
of Westport and Weston

September 11, 2022  
14<sup>th</sup> 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

*Creator God, Keeper of Promises, you set a rainbow in the sky to remind us that you will never again forsake your creation. Make us ever mindful of your promise, so that we care for all that you have created and given. Help us honor our covenant with you. Amen.*

PRELUDE

*Meditation from Thais*  
John Collinge, flute

J. Massenet

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

In the beginning, God created everything:  
**the heavens above and the earth below.**

At first the earth was totally empty,  
**and the Spirit of God hovered over the waters.**

Then there was the voice of God:  
**Let there be light.**

In the beginning of your life, God created us:  
**awesomely and wonderfully made.**

The Spirit of God hovered over our baptism waters and spoke:  
**You are my beloved.**

As beloved creation of God, let us bask in the holy light  
**and lift our voices in praise of God's faithfulness.**

\*OPENING HYMN

*Great Is Thy Faithfulness*

UMH 140

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God, we confess to you those things we do that break your heart.  
We confess: Our inability to keep promises.**

**Our lack of care for and faithful stewardship of your creation.**

**Our selfishness, lack of concern, even harm, to those around us.**

**God, we stray from your will, and it breaks your heart. Hear us as we confess those things that we do in our darkest moments ... (pause for silent confession) ... Thank you, God, for your promise to never again destroy your people. Although we continue to falter and break our promises, you continue to be steadfast. Keep us mindful of your everlasting promise of grace and new creation through Jesus Christ. Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

BLESSING OF BACKPACKS AND MORE

Pastor Heather

SONG

“Jesus Loves Me”

UMH 191

*Children over the age of five are invited to Sunday School. The Nursery is open and staffed by professionals for those under the age of five.*

READING FROM THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Selected Verses from Genesis, Chapters 6-9

Nancy Everson

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

SERMON “Forecast: 100% Chance of Storms; 100% Certainty of Promise” Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

OFFERING OUR PRAYERS & GIFTS

*Through our baptism and membership in the church, we covenant to give of our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness. Financial gifts, tithes and offerings support the mission and ministries of this congregation and the connectional church. Online giving is available at WestportUMC.org.*

*Prayer cards may be placed in the offering plates to be lifted up during the Prayers of the People and/or added to the weekly Prayer List.*

MUSIC OFFERING

\*HYMN OF PRAISE *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow* UMH 95

OFFERING PRAYER

**Covenant-keeping God, whose promise is rock solid; we offer our lives and these signs of our daily living, not simply that bread might fill empty stomachs, but that, through the working of your Holy Spirit in the church and through our hands, empty lives may be filled with hope and healing in Jesus' name. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

\*CLOSING HYMN *Be Still My Soul* UMH 534  
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BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *This Is My Father's World* Arr. Mark Hayes  
*Tune: ©2006 Lorenz Publishing Corp. (admin. by Music Services) All Rights Reserved. OneLicense Song #1059097*  
John Collinge, piano

**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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**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  
REV. HEATHER A. M. SINCLAIR, PASTOR  
JOHN COLLINGE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & OUTREACH • AHYOUNG SON, ORGANIST  
STEVEN MAGDA, LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN • MARILYN SMITH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

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