



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

May 14, 2023

6th Sunday of Easter
Hybrid Worship – 10:00am

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

Jesus lamented, “How often have I longed to gather your children together, as a hen gathers her chicks under her wings...”
– Matthew 23:37

PRAYER FOR MEDITATION

Gracious God, you pour out your love to welcome all people into your kin-dom. Remove the barriers that we build to keep people from you, so that all might bask in the glory of your grace and peace. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

PRELUDE

A Thousand Little Things I. Eskelin; arr. C. Tornquist
2011 Early Service Music (Admin. by CURB | Word Music Publishing); CCLI #6247869
Ahyoung Son, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP

God welcomes us into God’s arms. **Come let us rest with God.**
God comforts us and eases our burdens. **God calls us home.**
Come, let us give thanks and praise to our Mother God. **Come, let us worship God.**

*HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful UMH 147

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace and glory, we confess that sometimes we wonder how we measure up as your children. We shy away from boasting in our faith; not convinced that faith is really enough. We are worried that we do not have the endurance or the hope that we need. We grumble about our suffering while ignoring the suffering of others. Help us when we are weary, anxious or afraid to remember that you walk with us and offer to ease our burdens. Bless us with your gentleness and humility. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God will give us rest for our souls. Believe in the good news: **In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD’S CHILDREN

“Mother’s Day”

Pastor Heather

Children are welcome to come forward for the Message, then children age five and up are invited to Sunday School. The Nursery is open and staffed for children under age five.

SCRIPTURE READING

Romans 5:1-11

Paula Castiglia

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

SERMON

“Boasting in Hope”

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

**Indicates that those who are able are invited to rise in body and spirit. ♦ Assisted hearing devices are available from an usher. “UMH” refers to The United Methodist Hymnal (red cover). “TFWS” refers to The Faith We Sing Hymnal (black cover).*

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

A Mother Lined a Basket
©1998 Abingdon Press; OneLicense Song #00382
Chancel Choir

M. N. Keithahn, J. D. Horman

*HYMN OF THANKS

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

A Litany for Mothers & Women of Faith

THE LORD’S PRAYER

Adaptation by Parker Palmer

**Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
Holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
We pray that your good will be done,
Let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
Give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
From each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days.
Come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
Forever your name is All in One. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN

Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

UMH 384

BENEDICTION & SUNG BENEDICTION

Now Go In Peace
©1988 Shawnee Press; OneLicense Song #206851

D. Besig

POSTLUDE

Blessed Jesus, at Thy Word
Ahyoung Son, organ

J. Ahle

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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“Narrative Lectionary Seeds of Prayer,” katyandtheword.com
Rev. Patty Lawrence, www.revgalblogpals.org
Lord’s Prayer adaptation by Parker Palmer,
www.spiritualityandpractice.com*

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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JOHN COLLINGE, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & COMMUNITY OUTREACH
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