



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

September 17, 2023
16th Sunday after Pentecost

Hybrid Worship – 10:00am

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

CENTERING PRAYER

God of promise, Abraham scoffed and Sarah laughed when they were told of your plans for them and their family. Yet you remained faithful to your promise and gave them a son, Isaac. Help us to trust in your promises for our lives, and to live according to your will. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Kendron
Ahyoung Son, organ

Attr. to E. K. Dare

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Psalm 100

Shout with joy to God, all the earth!

Remember that God is

**the One who made us,
the One who sustains us,
the One whose Spirit lives within us.**

Let us enter God's house with thanksgiving;

and come into God's presence with praise.

For God is good,

**with unfailing love that lasts forever,
and faithfulness that extends to all generations.**

Let us praise the Lord!

*HYMN

The God of Abraham Praise

UMH 116

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord God, we know you created us all to be keepers of the earth and of all that is on the earth. We are connected, Lord, to the earth, to you, and to each other. But sometimes we forget our connectedness. We act selfishly, or do what we think is best without thinking about our neighbors. We sever the relationships that you intend for us. God, we know we are not meant to live in isolation. You promise us a beautiful land, and neighbors and family. You keep your promises, even if they may not be what we expect or when we expect them. We are all a part of your great story, God. Help us to realize and grow into our connectedness with you, creation and each other. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

By God's grace, connections are restored, promises are kept, and forgiveness makes us whole.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

“Knock-Knock!”

Pastor Heather

SONG

This Little Light of Mine

UMH 585

Afro-American spiritual, Adapt. W. F. Smith; ©1989 United Methodist Publishing House; One License Song #22794

SCRIPTURE READING

Genesis 18:1-15

Chelsea Chapman

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

SERMON

“Is Anything Too Wonderful for God?”

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

SUNG RESPONSE

God Is for Us

J. Gelineau

“Psalm 116/117 - Strong Is God's Love for Us” Music: David Clark Isele, ©1979 GIA Publications, Inc. One License Song #29365

*Lyrics: **Strong is God's love for us, Al-le-lu-ia***

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

What a Friend We Have in Jesus
Ahyoung Son, piano

C. Converse
Arr. C. Berry

*HYMN OF THANKS

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 94

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

*HYMN

God Is So Good

TFWS 2056

John Hoddinott, guitar; Ahyoung Son, piano

BENEDICTION & SUNG BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

As We Part for the Towns and Cities Words, J. Thornburg; music, J. Henry

“As We Part” Words and Music – © Choristers Guild. Contributor: Jackson W. Henry. One License Song #CGA1342

Chancel Choir

Children of all ages are welcome to remain in Worship. Coloring pages and activity bags are in the Narthex. The Nursery is open and staffed for children under age five. If you are visiting, please share your contact information, so that we may contact you about upcoming events.

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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
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OUR MINISTERS
EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION
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REV. HEATHER A. M. SINCLAIR, PASTOR
JOHN HODDINOTT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC ENGAGEMENT
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