



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

November 5, 2023
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

Hybrid Worship – 10:00am
All Saints Sunday

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

CENTERING PRAYER

*Today we fall back. Not just our clocks to usher in the darker days of winter.
But we fall back upon our memories of loved ones gone from this realm.
We fall back upon the emptiness that we still sometimes feel at their absence.
We fall back upon our gratefulness that such a cloud of witnesses paved the way for us.
We fall back upon our faith that just as the Holy walked with them, so too the Holy walks with us.
And today let us also fall back into the arms of loved ones still with us.
And remember to say how much they mean to us.
And today let us also fall back into the ever-present arms of God.
And remember to say, “thank you, thank you, thank you.”*

Dr. Marcia McFee, www.worshipdesignstudio.com

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

PRELUDE

Be the Centre

M. Frye, arr. C. Tornquist

©1999 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire) (Admin. by Integrity Music); CCLI Song #2650429

Ahyoung Son, piano

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Based on Revelation 21:1-6a

Siblings in Christ, let us rejoice in the hopeful vision of John:

“I saw a new heaven and a new earth!

The old heaven and the old earth and the sea had disappeared.”

A great voice thundered from heaven:

“See, God is making God’s home with humanity!

God will live with them. They will be God’s people.

God will wipe every tear from their eyes.

There will be no more death, or sorrow, or crying, or pain.

All of this – gone forever!”

We are the church that lives into God’s vision today.

God’s future is epic, and it’s good news.

We remember the saints of the past.

We celebrate the saints of today.

We look forward to God’s preferred future,

for this is our story!

*OPENING HYMN

For All the Saints

UMH 711, v. 1, 2, 4, & 6

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 18:17-39

Skip Sinclair

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

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

"Make the Saintly Choice"

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

Following the Message, children over age five are invited to remain in Worship. There are coloring pages in the narthex. The Nursery is open and staffed for children under age five.

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 Prayer of the People and/or added to the weekly Prayer List.

MUSIC OFFERING

Here I Am, Lord

D. Shutte, arr. A. B. Sherman

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Chancel Choir

*HYMN OF PRAISE

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

UMH 95

OFFERING PRAYER

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Merciful God, as we remember the saints this day,
we recognize that we are all saints seeking to glorify you.
And we are all sinners who fall short of that glory.
We confess that in our striving to serve you and your people,
we have not always loved you with our whole heart.
We have often failed to be an obedient church.
We have not done your will, we have broken your law,
We have not loved our neighbors,
And we have not heard the cry of the needy.
Forgive us, we pray.
Free us for joyful obedience,
so that we may freely serve you in this life,
and may faithfully rise with the saints, in the life to come,
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners;
that proves God's love toward us.

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

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GREAT THANKSGIVING AND LITURGY OF REMEMBRANCE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts and give thanks to God.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Blessed are you, O God who with your Word and Holy Spirit created all things and called them good.

We give thanks for the great cloud of witnesses, who you sent into our lives to teach, to lead, to guide, to counsel, to challenge, to bear witness, to parent, to love us with your love.

We give you thanks for all the saints, who from their labors rest. We now name the saints who have joined the church triumphant this past year:

Worth Bateman
Mary Kinser
Robert Krefting
Shirley Lewis

We give you thanks for our beloved siblings who we have named and for all of your beloved children unnamed, but known and loved by you. We light a candle today for those who have died world-wide from disease and those who have died at the hands of violence and natural disasters. You, O God, were their rock and their light in the darkness. We feebly struggle, they in glory shine.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and sing:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ. By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Holy Spirit.

On the night before Jesus gave his life for us he took bread, gave thanks to you, 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 supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to you, 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.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us.

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 for the world, redeemed by Christ’s blood.

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses, strengthen us to run with perseverance the race that is set before us, looking to Jesus, the Author and Perfector of our faith.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory and we feast at the heavenly banquet table forever.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD’S PRAYER

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

In the United Methodist Church, all who wish to receive the love and grace of Jesus are welcome at the Lord's Table. At the direction of the ushers, you will be invited forward to receive a cup of juice and piece of bread. Move down the altar rail to eat the bread and drink the juice. Leave your empty cup in the altar rail. You may pause in the chancel to light a candle in remembrance of a saint. Please return to your seat by the side aisles.

If you prefer pre-sealed communion or gluten-free bread, please notify the servers. If you are worshipping at home, the blessing of the table extends to the bread and cup which you bring to your worship space.

COMMUNION MUSIC *Let Us Break Bread Together* UMH 618
Adapt and arr. William Farley Smith, ©1989 The United Methodist Publishing House; OneLicense Song #58154

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*CLOSING HYMN *Go Forth for God* UMH 670

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Come, Let Us Join Our Friends Above* R. Vaughan Williams
Ahyoung Son, organ



Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from:
The United Methodist Hymnal, The United Methodist Book of Worship, and The Faith We Sing,
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UMCDiscipleship.org; WorshipDesignStudio.com
Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Year B, Volume 2; Westminster John Knox Press, 2015



"For all the saints, who from their labors rest..."

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OUR MINISTERS

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