



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

April 28, 2024

5th Sunday of Easter

Hybrid Worship – 10:00am

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

CENTERING PRAYER

Holy God, within your church, your followers have often allowed their disagreements to get in the way of being faithful to your word. Remove any barriers our communities face that prevent us from sharing your word and building up the body of Christ. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

PRELUDE

Andante Op. 241, No. 2
John Hoddinott, guitar

Ferdinando Carulli

*CALL TO WORSHIP

“Honor Creator and Creation”

By Jeff Ramsland, Mohawk

Creator God made all that is, and proclaimed that “it is good.”

Creator, help us to discover in all You have made in Nature, the good wisdom about the interconnectedness of all things, about balance and about living in harmony.

We are not above nature, we are part of Creation; we live by the same laws as all of nature, and need to learn from what God has made.

Creator, help us discover the power that lies in the wisdom and understanding of our role in the Great Mystery, and in honoring every living thing as a teacher.

Creator God, may our spirits be in harmony with Yours as we gather to worship!

*HYMN

In Christ There Is No East or West

UMH 548

Stanza 3, Words – L. H. Stookey, ©1989 United Methodist Publishing House; One License Song #13651

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We send to you, Creator God, our dreams, visions, and prayers,
for the hearts of the people, created with your sacred fire burning within us.

We confess that we struggle to live out our great potential.

When we do harm to your Creation, your creatures, and fellow human beings,

Forgive us.

When we fail to do all the good we can, in all the places we can,

Forgive us.

When we create barriers, rather than bridges,

Forgive us.

When we turn away from your love and grace,

Forgive us.

Creator God, open our hearts to receive your mercy and forgiveness.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Hear the good news of Jesus Christ,

You are forgiven. I am forgiven. We are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

Pastor Heather

Children are welcome to come forward for the Message. Then children ages five and up are invited to Youth Education. The Nursery is open and staffed for children under age five. Coloring and activity pages are in the Narthex for children who remain in worship.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Acts 18:1-4

Skip Sinclair

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

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

SERMON

“We Belong”

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

SUNG RESPONSE

Spirit of God, Bright Wind

TFWS 2117, vv. 1 & 3

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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

For the Beauty of the Earth

J. Rutter

J. Rutter, ©1980 Oxford University Press; One License Song #102083

Chancel Choir

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

UMH 94

T. Ken, G. H. Vieira ©1989 United Methodist Publishing House; One License # A-735187. All rights reserved.

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Pastor Heather

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:
The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and for ever. Amen.**

– *The New Zealand Book of Prayer, He Karakia Mihinare o Aotearoa*

*HYMN

He Lives
A. H. Ackley, © 1933 The Rodeheaver Co.

UMH 310

BENEDICTION

SUNG BENEDICTION

Go Now In Peace
©1996 Shawnee Press; One License Song #78821
Chancel Choir

D. Besig & N. Price

POSTLUDE

St. Magnus
Ahyoung Son, organ

Harm. by W. H. Monk



*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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MENTAL HEALTH IN OUR COMMUNITY

Learn, connect and discuss how we can receive and offer support.

**“Taking a Deeper Look at Our Country’s Public Health Crisis, Which Impacts Every Community” at
UMM Breakfast, Fellowship Hall, Saturday, May 4, 9am**

Guest speakers from the *National Alliance on Mental Illness* will present the topic.

► **YOUTH EDUCATION** will be held TODAY for ages five and up.

► **MINISTRY TABLES** will be held after worship TODAY. All are welcome to join the conversation.

► **JAZZ VESPERS** will be **Next Sunday, May 5, 4pm.**

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
OF WESTPORT AND WESTON
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OUR MINISTERS
EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION
REV. HEATHER A. M. SINCLAIR, PASTOR
SUSAN GILDER, LAY LEADER
JOHN HODDINOTT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
AHYOUNG SON, ORGANIST • STEVEN MAGDA, LIVESTREAM TECHNICIAN
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