

United Methodist Church of Westport and Weston

November 3, 2024 All Saints Sunday

Hybrid Worship with Holy Communion – 10:00am

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

CENTERING PRAYER

Loving and Hope-filled God, we ask you to stay close in our lives as we move into an unknown future. Wrap us in your love, and invite us to go and do likewise—to "do unto others" in ways that build up your kin-dom on earth as it is in heaven. We pray this in the name of Jesus, our steadfast center, and in the power of your transforming Spirit. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

Prelude

Courante (Part Two) from Suite No. 1 for Cello, BWV 1007 John Hoddinott, guitar J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

We remember, O God...

The countless saints of history who have blazed a trail of courage through time,

We remember, O God...

The tender touch of loved ones, the example of heroes, the healing words of comforters, the remarkable acts of fearless ones.

We remember, O God...

The gentle strength of grandmothers, the loyalty of friends, the kindness of strangers, the joy of children, the sacrifice of parents.

We remember, O God...

The steadfast love of Jesus, the blessing of his Spirit, the reminder of his words, the sharing of his suffering, the glory of his resurrection: shown forth in the lives of his disciples, young and old, dead and living, articulate and silent, strange and familiar, brilliant and ordinary.

We remember in every time and place the saints of God who have shown us the Lord.

Since we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses... let us worship God with joy!

*HYMN

For All the Saints

UMH 711, vv. 1, 2, 4, 6

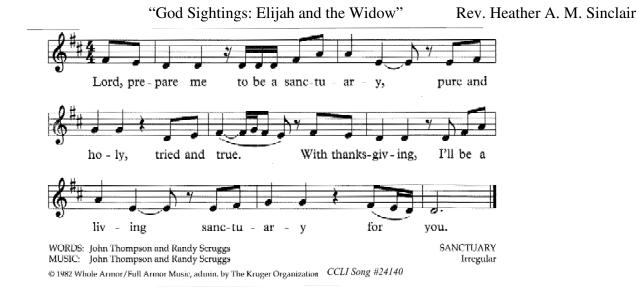
SCRIPTURE READING

Kings 17:1-24

Skip Sinclair

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

SERMON



SUNG RESPONSE Sanctuary TFWS 2164

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

Faith of Our Fathers
Ahyoung Son, piano

H. Heny, adapt. by J. Walton

*HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Praise God, above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

OFFERING PRAYER

UMH 95

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

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

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.

O God, 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:

Joan Eyster, Cindy Iorfino, Myungjin Lee, Susan Lewis, Jolie Lubin, Rev. Ruben Rivera-Martinez, Gerry Roth, Jan Vaughn, Andrew Zarras

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 war, 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 glutenfree 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, 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

arr. Jay Althouse

Words and Music - ©2012 Hope Publishing Company. One License Song #93751

Chancel Choir

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*HYMN

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

UMH 121

Charles H. Webb, Harm. @1989, United Methodist Publishing House/Abingdon Press. One License Song #29690

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

J. Hopkins, Jr.

I Sing a Song of the Saints of God - GRAND ISLE. Music - ©1940 Morehouse Publishing. One License Song #58790 Ahyoung Son, organ

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Portions of the Order of Worship are adapted from:
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Nashville, TN: The United Methodist Publishing House
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Narrative Lectionary 2024-25, WorkingPreaching.org

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UMCDiscipleship.org; WorshipDesignStudio.com

Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 2; Westminster John Knox Press, 2015

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WELCOME! It is a blessing to welcome you today. If you are visiting, please fill out a visitor card, introduce yourself to Pastor Heather or an usher, 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.

THANKS GIVING SAVER JARS If you've been collecting money in a Saver Jar, please return it to the church by November 10.

The money collected will go towards Stop & Shop food cards. The cards will be distributed with Thanksgiving turkeys to Bridgeport families through the food pantry at **Summerfield UMC.** Questions? Please contact Karol Brumit kbrumit@optonline.net.

THE COOPERATIVE PARISH CHARGE CONFERENCE -will be held on Sunday, December 8, 2:00pm, at Jesse Lee UMC in Ridgefield.



FAIRFIELD COUNTY SYMPHONY SOCIETY

of Westport & Weston presents

Conducted by Gunnar Sahlin

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10, 2024, 3PM

An afternoon of classical music from Bach, Brahms and modern day masters, John Rutter and Gwyneth Walker Walker's "Here to Stay" makes its world premier.

A Free Will Offering will be collected and shared by the Symphony and the mission and ministry of UMCWW.

49 Weston Road, Westport, CT 06880 music@westportumc.org
WestportUMC.org





UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WESTPORT AND WESTON

49 WESTON ROAD • WESTPORT, CONNECTICUT 06880

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 • MARILYN SMITH, ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT 203,227,4707 • OFFICE@WESTPORTUMC.ORG • WESTPORTUMC.ORG

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