



United Methodist Church  
of Westport and Weston

December 29, 2024 – 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas Day  
Hybrid Worship – 10am

---

CENTERING PRAYER

*Glory of Israel, the coming of your beloved child, Jesus, broke open the heavens and prepared a way for all of your children to come home to you. Give us eyes to see your miraculous spirit moving in this church and in this world. Teach us to be proclaimers of your love to the nations, for the sake of the one whose name is redemption for the peoples, Jesus Christ our salvation. Amen.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Hoddinott

PRELUDE

*Prelude in C from The Well Tempered Clavier*  
Ahyoung Son, piano

J. S. Bach

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 95:6, Psalm 24:1 and Isaiah 9:2

O come let us worship and lift our hearts  
**Not because the world is good and last week was awesome,  
but because the earth is the Lord's and everything in it,  
the God of the whole Earth.**

O come let us worship and raise our hands  
**Not because our lives are all sweetness and light,  
But because even those who walk in darkness  
can see a great light, the Bright and Morning Star**

O come let us worship and bow down  
**Not because God gives us what we want,  
But because God gives us what we need –  
the holy child Jesus, God's Unspeakable Gift.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

The Peace of Christ be with you!  
**And also with you!**

\*OPENING HYMN

*I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light*

UMH 206

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 2:21-38

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

CAROL SING *Christmas Carols may be found in the UMH on pages 217 to 254.*

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](http://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 Child Is This*  
Ahyoung Son, piano

GREENSLEEVES

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

Tune: *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel*

***Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise God, all Spirit messengers below.  
Praise God, the source of all our gifts!  
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.***

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

\*CLOSING CAROL

*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

UMH 224

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*Break Forth, O Beauteous Heavenly Light*  
Ahyoung Son, organ

J. Schop,  
harm. by J. S. Bach



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

*All music is in the Public Domain, unless noted.*

*ONE LICENSE # A-735187. All rights reserved.*

*CCLI Stream Coverage License #CSPL086733; CCLI Copyright Coverage License #11173036*

*Image: Rembrandt van Rijn, Detail from "Simeon in the Temple," ca. 1631*

*Call to Worship: Leonard Sweet, [preachthestory.com](http://preachthestory.com)*



**WELCOME!** It is a blessing to welcome you today. If you are visiting, please fill out a visitor card, introduce yourself to John Hoddinott or an usher, and check out **WestportUMC.org** to find out more about the mission and ministries of this community of faith.

**BLESSINGS TO YOU AND YOURS IN THIS HOLIDAY SEASON!** May your travels be safe and your celebrations filled with joy.

**CHURCH OFFICES WILL BE CLOSED** from Tuesday, December 24 through Wednesday, January 1. If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Pastor Heather at 203-913-8148.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A CONTRIBUTION TO UMCWW** before the end of the year, please be sure we have it **TODAY – Sunday, December 29**. Thank you.

### **CHRISTMAS SEASON WORSHIP**

**EPIPHANY SUNDAY, JANUARY 5, 10AM – Communion & Covenant Service** followed by an **Epiphany Party to celebrate the New Year** and the gift of fellowship! Bring a lunch/brunch dish to share and we will test our seasonal trivia skills with games and prizes!



### **GATHERING IN JANUARY**

#### **UNITED METHODIST MEN HOST BREAKFAST FOR YOU – ALL ARE WELCOME!**

**Saturday, January 4 at 9am in Fellowship Hall**

Bob Trinka presents, *Election 2024: What Happened?* Let's discuss. State Senator Bob Duff (Norwalk and Darien) is planning to give some of his comments and insights, either in person or via Zoom. Come join the discussion. RSVP to George Hanze ([george.hanze@gmail.com](mailto:george.hanze@gmail.com))

#### **WEDNESDAY MORNING BOOK GROUP ON ZOOM**

**Please join us Wednesday January 8 at 10:00 a.m.** for wonderful fellowship and spirited discussion as we consider new reading options and select our next book. Contact Cindy Glover for more information ([ckglover@optonline.net](mailto:ckglover@optonline.net)).

**BIBLE STUDY ON THE GOSPEL OF LUKE** begins Wed., January 8 at 7:30pm on Zoom.

**GET ALL THE LATEST EVENT DETAILS IN THE WEEKLY CHURCH EMAIL.** If you would like to subscribe, please contact the church office ([office@westportumc.org](mailto:office@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](mailto:OFFICE@WESTPORTUMC.ORG) • [WESTPORTUMC.ORG](http://WESTPORTUMC.ORG)

PASTOR HEATHER: [HSINCLAIR@WESTPORTUMC.ORG](mailto:HSINCLAIR@WESTPORTUMC.ORG) • JOHN HODDINOTT: [MUSIC@WESTPORTUMC.ORG](mailto:MUSIC@WESTPORTUMC.ORG)