



United Methodist Church
of Westport and Weston

March 16, 2025
Second Sunday in Lent

Hybrid Worship – 10:00am



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

CENTERING PRAYER

Loving God, When our anxiety hovers close, when fear clings to our bones, when our stress rises like the tide, see us. Speak to us. Call us by name. See us in the kitchen, in the classroom, in the hospital waiting room. Speak to us in the quiet, in the crowd, in the inky black of night. Call us beloved. Call us by name. Call us your child. Whatever you do, speak to us, for we cannot live on bread alone. Amen.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Heather

PRELUDE

Gigue (Part 1) from Suite 1 for Cello, BWV 1007
John Hoddinott, guitar

J. S. Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Come as you are.

**If you have deep faith
or your faith has run dry,**
if you know every scripture
or none at all,
**if you have calloused hands
and live your faith through good works,**
or if you kneel at God's feet,
with a million hungry questions,
come as you are.

This is God's house.

None are turned away.

All are welcome here.

*HYMN

Gather Us In

TFWS 2236, vv. 1, 2 & 4

M. Haugen, ©1982 GIA Publications, Inc., One License Song #00031T

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of Grace,
We long to do the "right" thing.
We long to make the "right" choice.
We long to stand on the "right" side of the dividing line.
In our earnestness, we sometimes miss the sacred right in front of us.
In our earnestness, we sometimes miss opportunities to show love.
Show us how to hold our heart's desire for perfection loosely.**

**Show us how to lead with grace and love, over anything else.
For even more than our desire to be right, we desire to be close to you.
Show us the way. Amen.**

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Faithful friends, God knows your heart.
When you mean well and lose your way, God knows.
When you try to do the right thing and miss the point, God knows.
When you long to be close to God, and doubt your worth, God knows.
You are seen. You are loved. You are forgiven.
You have been sent to serve.
This is the good news of the gospel!
**Nothing can separate you from God's love.
Thanks be to God! Amen.**

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 10:38-42

Mary Jo Kinser

"few things are needed — indeed only one" – Luke 10:42

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

SERMON

"faith & works"

Rev. Heather A. M. Sinclair

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe in a Christ who
teaches, sees, affirms, and celebrates all of who we are.
We believe in a Christ who
invites us to use our gifts for good
and celebrates every step we take in that direction.
We believe in a Christ who
understands our anxieties
and is gentle with our concerns.
And we believe in a Christ who
looks at us with undiluted love.
The world will try to rank, rate, and declare winners,
but we know love has no limit.
So with God's help,
may we nurture our faith
and do good work. Amen,**

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

Christ Beside Me

Trad. Gaelic melody

St. Patrick's Breastplate; adapt. by James Quinn, SJ, 1919-2010, © 1969, One License Song #30138781

Harry Jordan, guitar & vocals; Eva Toft, vocals;
John Hoddinott, bass; Ahyoung Son, piano

OFFERING PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

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 forever. Amen.

*HYMN

Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated

UMH 399

BENEDICTION

As you leave this place,
may you find God in every messy middle.
May you know that the world is bigger than two sides.
May you trust that you are made in the image of God,
and therefore, you contain multitudes.
So may you move through this world with an open heart,
with a curious mind, and with the confidence that you do not go alone.
God is with you in the mountains,
in the valleys, and everywhere in between.
Believe that good news, and go in peace.

SUNG BENEDICTION

Peace I Leave With You
Chancel Choir

G. Weigle

POSTLUDE

All Glory, Laud, and Honor
Ahyoung Son, organ

M. Teschner, 1615;
harm. by W. H. Monk, 1861



*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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UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF WESTPORT AND WESTON

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OUR MINISTERS

EVERY PARTICIPANT IN THE LIFE OF OUR CONGREGATION

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SUSAN GILDER, LAY LEADER

JOHN HODDINOTT, DIRECTOR OF MUSIC & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT • AHYOUNG SON, ORGANIST
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