

# Celebration of Worship

March 14, 2021

9:30 A.M.

## Prelude

## Reflection

*Martin Luther King, Jr.*

*“We must develop and maintain the capacity to forgive. He who is devoid of the power to forgive is devoid of the power to love. There is some good in the worst of us and some evil in the best of us. When we discover this, we are less prone to hate our enemies.”*

## Welcome and Announcements

## Moment for Mission

## Ringing of the Bell

## Call to Worship

Leader: God has called us to this time of worship.

**People: We open our lives to God’s grace.**

Leader: In the anguish and grief of everyday living, God is with us!

**People: Hear our cries, O Lord, and quiet our spirits!**

Leader: Come, let us open our hearts and spirits to the Lord.

**People: We come with confidence and hope in the presence of God. Amen.**

**Opening Hymn**    *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*    # 356

## Prayer of Confession

**All: O God of Comfort and God of Challenge, we come to you this morning the way the Israelites did, full of complaints and dissatisfaction. Nothing is enough; we do not recognize your blessing at work in our day to day lives. Forgive us. In our complaints, challenge us as you did the Israelites, to consider the bigger picture of oppression, injustice, and inequality around us. Forgive us when we close our eyes for fear of what you might show us. Lift up loving and compassionate leaders to open our eyes until we see what you see in our world.**

## Assurance of Blessing

Leader: You are blessed because God’s image resides deep within each of you. So return God’s blessing by the way you love others.

## Gloria Patri

## Children’s Time

**Scripture Reading**    *II Samuel 13:1-2, 5, 8-18*    The Message

<sup>1-2</sup> Absalom, David’s son, had a sister who was very attractive. Her name was Tamar. Amnon, also David’s son, was in love with her. Amnon was obsessed with his sister Tamar to the point of making himself sick over her. She was a virgin, so he couldn’t see how he could get his hands on her.

<sup>5</sup>“Here’s what you do,” said Jonadab. “Go to bed and pretend you’re sick. When your father comes to visit you, say, ‘Have my sister Tamar come and prepare some supper for me here where I can watch her and she can feed me.’”

<sup>8</sup>Tamar went to her brother Amnon’s house and cooked while he watched from his bed. But when she took the cooking pot and served him, he wouldn’t eat.

<sup>9-11</sup>Amnon said, “Clear everyone out of the house,” and they all cleared out. Then he said to Tamar, “Bring the food into my bedroom, where we can eat in privacy.” She took the nourishing dumplings she had prepared and brought them to her brother Amnon in his bedroom. But when she got ready to feed him, he grabbed her and said, “Come to bed with me, sister!”

<sup>12-13</sup>“No, Brother!” she said, “Don’t hurt me! This kind of thing isn’t done in Israel! Don’t do this terrible thing! Where could I ever show my face? And you – you’ll be out on the street in disgrace. O, please! Speak to the king – he’ll let you marry me.” <sup>14</sup>But he wouldn’t listen. Being much stronger than she, he raped her.

<sup>15</sup>No sooner had Amnon raped her than he hated her – an immense hatred. The hatred that he felt for her was greater than the love he’d had for her. “Get up,” he said, “and get out!”

<sup>16-18</sup>“Oh no, brother,” she said. “Please! This is an even worse evil than what you just did to me!” But he wouldn’t listen to her. He called for his valet. “Get rid of this woman. Get her out of my sight! And lock the door after her.” The valet threw her out and locked the door behind her.

## Special Music

*The Old Rugged Cross*  
Bell Quartet

Arr. Charles Maggs

**Scripture Reading***Psalm 55*

(Adapted Message)

Reader 1: Open your ears, God to my prayer;  
 don't pretend you don't hear me knocking.  
 Come close and whisper your answer.  
 I really need you.  
 I shudder at the mean voice,  
 quail before the evil eye,  
 As they pile on the guilt,  
 stockpile angry slander.  
 My insides are turned inside out;  
 specters of death have me down.  
 I shake with fear,  
 I shudder from head to foot.

Reader 2: "Who will give me wings," I ask –  
 "wings like a dove?"  
 Get me out of here on dove wings;  
 I want some peace and quiet.  
 I want a walk in the country,  
 I want a cabin in the woods.  
 I'm desperate for a change  
 from rage and stormy weather.

Reader 3: This isn't the neighborhood bully  
 mocking me – I could take that.  
 This isn't a foreign devil spitting  
 invective – I could tune that out.  
 It's you! We grew up together!  
 You! My best friend!  
 Those long hours of leisure as we walked  
 arm in arm, God a third party to our conversation.  
 Haul my betrayers off alive to hell – let them  
 experience the horror; let them  
 feel every desolate detail of a damned life.

Reader 1: I call to God;  
 God will help me.  
 At dusk, dawn and noon I sigh  
 deep sighs – God hears – God rescues.  
 My life is well and whole, secure  
 in the middle of danger,  
 Even while thousands  
 are lined up against me.  
 God hears it all, and from the judge's bench  
 puts them in their place.  
 But, set in their ways, they won't change;  
 they pay God no mind.

Reader 2: And this, my best friend, betrayed his best friends;  
 his life betrayed his word.  
 All my life I've been charmed by his speech,  
 never dreaming he'd turn on me.  
 His words, which were music to my ears,  
 turned to daggers in my heart.

Reader 3: Pile your troubles on God's shoulders –  
 God will carry your load – God will help you out.  
 God will never let good people  
 topple into ruin.  
 But you, God, will throw the others  
 into a muddy bog,  
 Cut the lifespan of assassins  
 and traitors in half,  
 And I trust in you. Amen.

**Sermon**

*Telling the Untellable*  
 Lynda Myers

**Prayers of the People****The Lord's Prayer** (Debts/Debtors)**Offering** Mail in your gifts or click the WPC website 'Give' button**Doxology****Blessing of the Offering****Closing Hymn***To God Be the Glory*

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**Benediction****Postlude**

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**WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

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Webster, New York 14580

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Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.



## Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing; Tune my heart to sing Thy grace.  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise.  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.  
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unchanging love!

Here I raise my Ebenezer, hither by Thy help I'm come,  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger wandering from the fold of God.  
He, to rescue me from danger, interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor daily I'm constrained to be!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to Thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love.  
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for Thy courts above.

### Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Christ, all people here below;  
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;  
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

### To God Be the Glory

To God be the glory, great things he hath done!  
So loved He the world that he gave us His Son,  
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

Refrain:

Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear His voice!  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father through Jesus the Son,  
And give Him the glory – great things He hath done!

Great things he hath taught us, great things he hath done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son.  
But purer and higher and greater will be  
Our wonder, our transport, when Jesus we see. Refrain

## THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

### Today, March 14

9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary and on Zoom  
10:30 A.M. Church of God by Faith in the Chapel

### Monday, March 15

7:00 P.M. Healing & Reconciliation Committee on Zoom  
Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social & Memorial Rooms

### Tuesday, March 16

10:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study on Zoom  
5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10  
7:00 P.M. Deacons' Meeting in Room 9/10

### Wednesday, March 17

6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant  
7:00 P.M. Learning for a Lifetime DVD Lenten Series on Zoom  
Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

### Thursday, March 18

7:30 A.M. Bible Study on Zoom  
6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

### Friday, March 19

10:30 A.M. Heart & Hand on Zoom  
Book Study on Zoom

### Saturday, March 20

9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom  
Roc Ringers Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

### MEMORY VERSE

*Be kind and compassionate to one another,  
forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.*  
*Ephesians 4:32*

### LECTIONARY PASSAGES

	<u>Today, March 14<sup>th</sup></u>	<u>Next Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup></u>
Old Testament	<i>Numbers 21:4-9</i>	<i>Jeremiah 31:31-34</i>
Psalm	<i>Psalms 107:1-3, 17-22</i>	<i>Psalms 51:1-12; 119:9-16</i>
New Testament	<i>Ephesians 2:1-10</i>	<i>Hebrews 5:5-10</i>
Gospel	<i>John 3:14-21</i>	<i>John 12:20-33</i>

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether by Zoom or in person. Those choosing to attend in person are reminded to make a reservation to attend by calling the church office and speaking to Georgia, or by emailing the church office by noon on Saturday.
2. SUNDAY SERVICES continue to be live-streamed.  
You can watch them live at 9:30 using:  
Zoom <https://zoom.us/j/200521841> The password is **worship**.  
or Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/>  
Or you can watch them later at your leisure using:  
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/>  
or YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5-thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>
3. LEARNING FOR A LIFETIME: The Lenten DVD series "Why Easter Matters" concludes this Wednesday evening at 7:00. This week we will focus on Mary Magdalene and her part in the crucifixion story.  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5123370883?pwd=amEyZBPczhQbkx4c1N5TW9uVzF1Zz09>
4. WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY continues a Lenten study this Tuesday with the "Great I Am's" from the Gospel of John. These statements let the world know who Jesus is, what he does and can do. Join us at 10:00 on Zoom as we look at Jesus, "Resurrection and Life."
5. EASTER FLOWERS: The Deacons are now taking orders for Easter flowers for display in the Sanctuary for our Easter morning worship service. After the service, flowers can be brought home or donated to be shared with our Friends at Home. When purchasing flowers, you may include a dedication that will appear in the Easter Sunday bulletin. Choose from lilies (\$14.50), pink tulips (\$12.00), and pink azaleas (\$21.50). To order, call or email the church office or Janet Chippero (585-233-9514, [chipwebs@rochester.rr.com](mailto:chipwebs@rochester.rr.com)). Please be sure to specify your flower selection, your dedication for the Easter Sunday bulletin, and if you plan to take the flowers home or donate them to our Friends at Home. Payment can be made by sending a check payable to WPC to the church office, or on our website by clicking the "Give" button and selecting "Easter Flowers." Please submit your order by Thursday, March 25<sup>th</sup>.
6. THE APRIL *PATHWAY* DEADLINE is next Sunday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. Articles can be submitted to the church office by email at [office@websterpres.org](mailto:office@websterpres.org).
7. ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING - The Mission Committee brings us this special offering opportunity each year during Lent. Since 1949 Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians to share God's love with neighbors in need around the world. The three programs supported by One Great Hour of Sharing all work in different ways to serve individuals and communities in need.  
Presbyterian Disaster Assistance  
Presbyterian Hunger Program and  
Self Development of People  
To find more information about this special offering, visit this website- <https://specialofferings.pcusa.org/offering/oghs/>  
Donations will be accepted by our church through April 4<sup>th</sup>. To contribute, send a check written out to WPC with OGHS written in the memo, or go to the church website and choose "Give" on the top right, and then under "fund" choose OGHS.
8. ALL ARE INVITED to join a Prayer Group which meets each Saturday morning at 9:00 via Zoom. We share concerns, read the scripture reading for Sunday's service, and then pray for those who have been mentioned. If you have questions, call Barb Hach (872-7418) or Tony Hubbard (265-1224) for more information or join us this Saturday with the Zoom link below.  
<https://zoom.us/j/8020641367?pwd=VnlXcDITWjZIS2d0NE96dmVFeVB4dz09> The password, if needed, is **worship**.
9. MEALS ON WHEELS has long delivered nutritious meals to residents throughout Monroe and surrounding counties and is one of the ongoing initiatives of the New Beginnings here at WPC. They also provide pet food made available through volunteer donations. If you would like to help with this effort, there is a new container in the Narthex labeled "pet food". Donations will be delivered to those in need in Webster and surrounding areas. Thank you for helping those smallest of God's creatures.