

Celebration of Worship

May 2, 2021

9:30 A.M.

Prelude

Reflection

Crossways Magazine

Christian ethics asks what the whole Bible teaches us about which acts, attitudes, and personal character traits receive God's approval and which ones do not. This means that Christian ethics teaches us how to live. It is important to study Christian ethics so that we can better know God's will, and so that each day we can "walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him." The ultimate basis for Christian ethics is the moral character of God.

Welcome and Announcements

Ring of the Bell

Song *There's a Sweet, Sweet Spirit* # 398

Call to Worship

Leader: As we gather, may we open our hearts to receive newness of life.

All: We come with hope for renewal.

Leader: In our time of worship, may we be inspired by God's wisdom.

All: We come seeking to learn and to draw closer to God.

Leader: Come, let us worship as the beloved children of God.

Invocation

Leader: Cultivating God, we come as your children to grow and learn, because you are our divine vine-grower. God, we desire for you to abide within us and for your grace to be revealed anew daily. As your branches, we ask you to nourish us for continued growth. May you transform our hearts and minds as we hear your Word, sing your praises, and engage in holy dialogue through prayer.

All: May you help us to bear good fruit through the vine of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Opening Hymn *Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether* # 504

Prayer of Confession

Leader: O God, giver of life, we confess the times when we fail to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. God, forgive us when we ignore or we fail to see our neighbors in need. Abiding God, also forgive us when we reject love from others and shut down completely. As we confess the times when we did not tend to our needs and denied ourselves of your forgiveness and grace. In our failures, we have refused your invitation to grow closer to you.

All: In our confession, O God, we pray your abiding love be shown through the ways we love more fully. Amen.

Moment of Silence

Assurance of Pardon

All: O God, hear your beloved community as we repent and pray for your forgiveness. Give to us your grace and restore to us your love that is forgiven and fearless. God, we desire for your loving Spirit to renew and strengthen us daily. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

Children's Time

Scripture Readings *John 15:1-8*
I John 4:7-21

Special Music *As Pants the Hart for Cooling Streams* K. Lee Scott
Vocal Ensemble; Sally Turner - flute

Scripture Reading *Acts 8:26-40*

Sermon *By the Spirit* Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

Offering Mail in your gifts or click the WPC website 'Give' button

Doxology and Blessing of the Offering

Service of Holy Communion

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, brought us to a land flowing with milk and honey, and set before us the way of life.

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Words of the Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Wine

Pastor: Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord. Now all the people say:

People: Hallelujah, Amen. Hallelujah, Amen. Hallelujah, Amen.

Closing Hymn *Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song* # 314

Benediction

Postlude

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LECTIONARY PASSAGES

	<u>Today, May 2nd</u>	<u>Next Sunday, May 9th</u>
Psalm	<i>Psalm 22:25-31</i>	<i>Psalm 98</i>
New Testament	<i>Acts 8:26-40</i>	<i>Acts 10:44-48</i>
	<i>I John 4:7-21</i>	<i>I John 5:1-6</i>
Gospel	<i>John 15:1-8</i>	<i>John 15:9-17</i>

MEMORY VERSE

O my soul, bless God.

From head to toe, I'll bless his Holy Name.

Psalm 103:1

Sweet, Sweet Spirit

There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place,
and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord.

There's a sweet expression on each face,
and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.

Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,
stay right here with us, filling us with Your love.

And for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise:
Without a doubt we'll know that we have been revived
when we shall leave this place.

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

Draw us in the Spirit's tether, for when humbly in Your name
two or three are met together, You are in the midst of them:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Touch we now Your garment's hem.

As disciples used to gather in the name of Christ to sup,
then with thanks to God the Father break the bread and bless the cup.
Alleluia! Alleluia! So now bind our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living make as sacraments of You,
that by caring, helping, giving we may be disciples true.
Alleluia! Alleluia! We will serve with faith anew.

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.

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Like the murmur of the dove's song, like the challenge of her flight,
Like the vigor of the wind's rush, like the new flame's eager might:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's body, to the branches of the Vine,
To the church in faith assembled, to her midst as gift and sign:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division, with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
With the power to love and witness, with the peace beyond compare:
Come, Holy Spirit, come.

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 for the first time are asked to make a reservation to attend by calling or 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. THE SUNDAY WORSHIP TEAM needs additional friends to help out with the virtual Sunday services. Training is easy and available. Please see Alissa Mayer or Todd Fargo if you are willing to be part of the effort to keep the Zoom worship services continuing.
4. WEDNESDAY NIGHT'S LEARNING FOR A LIFETIME, led by Rev. Dr. Janice Lee Fitzgerald, is the first in a four-part series on Healthy Boundaries Training, an offering she has custom adapted from a program for leaders of congregations. This should be both enlightening and informative. Join us at 7:00 on Zoom.
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/5123370883?pwd=amEybzBPczhQbkx4c1N5TW9uVzF1Zz09>
5. YELLOW ROSE SUNDAY is coming up on May 16th. This is when gifts made in honor or remembrance of someone who has helped us in our Christian walk will be dedicated. These gifts to the WPC Endowment Fund may be made from now through May 10th using envelopes in the chair racks, sending the contribution to the church office noting who it is in honor of, or pressing the 'Give' button on the church's website.
6. HEART & HAND is currently sewing pillowcases for The Open Door Mission's Coldwater House, which provides temporary shelter for homeless women and children. If you are interested in helping, you may pick up as many kits as you would like to sew from the baskets in the hallway outside the Sanctuary. Thank you.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Today, May 2 - Communion

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary and on Zoom
- 10:30 A.M. Church of God by Faith in the Chapel
- 4:00 P.M. Youth "Escape" Challenge in the Social Room

Monday, May 3

- 7:00 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social & Memorial Rooms
Session Meeting on Zoom

Tuesday, May 4

- 10:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study on Zoom
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 454 in the Social Room

Wednesday, May 5

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant
- 7:00 P.M. Adult Ed. Healthy Boundaries Training on Zoom
Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

Thursday, May 6

- 7:30 A.M. Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:15 A.M. Glory Bells Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:30 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 366 in the Social Room

Friday, May 7

- 10:30 A.M. Book Study on Zoom

Saturday, May 8

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

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WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Rev. Phil Davis, Sr.

