

Celebration of Worship

September 3, 2023

9:30 A.M.

*We are followers of Jesus Christ, living and sharing
the love of God through faith and action, welcoming all.*

Prelude

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Reflection

Brian McLaren, *We Make the Road by Walking*

“That’s why followers of Jesus continue to gather around a simple meal of bread and wine today. By participating in that meal, we are making the same choice Moses made – and the same choice Jesus made: to join God in the ongoing struggle to be free and to set others free.”

Ringling of the Bell

Song *Surely the Presence of the Lord Is in This Place*

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angel’s wings; I see glory on each face.
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

Call to Worship

Psalm 105

Leader: O give thanks to the Lord, call on God’s name, make known God’s deeds among the peoples.

People: Sing to him, sing praises to him; tell of all God’s wonderful works.

Leader: Glory in God’s holy name; let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.

People: Seek the Lord and God’s strength; seek God’s presence continually.

Hymn

When Israel Was in Egypt’s Land

334

When Israel was in Egypt’s land; Let my people go!
Oppressed so hard they could not stand; Let my people go!

Refrain:

Go down, Moses, way down in Egypt’s land.
Tell old Pharaoh, Let my people go!

“Thus saith the Lord,” bold Moses said: Let my people go!

“If not, I’ll smite your firstborn dead;” Let my people go! Refrain:

“No more shall they in bondage toil;” Let my people go!

“Let them come out with Egypt’s spoil;” Let my people go! Refrain:

Prayer of Invocation

Leader: From our life’s pathways, you have called us to this place, O Lord. Be with us as we listen for your word and seek your ways. Guide our steps and guard our lives that we may serve you more effectively in this broken world. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgment. Set us free from a past that we cannot change, open us to a future in which we can be changed, and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

Moment of Silence

What is one word to describe how
God has been active in your life this past week?

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God the Creator brings you new life, forgives and redeems you. Take hold of this forgiveness and live your life in the Spirit of Jesus.

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.

Passing the Peace of God

Children’s Time

Hymn

Bless the Lord

*Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God’s holy name.
Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.*

Scripture Reading

Romans 12:9-21

Special Music

It Can Happen in a Moment

Joe Parks

Rose Fombe

Scripture Reading

Exodus 3:1-15

Sermon

A New Way Home

Pastor Nadia Mullin

Affirmation of Faith

All: We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Debts/Debtors)

Invitation to the Offering

Please place your offering in the plates at the exit doors, mail your gifts to the church, or click the WPC website "Give" button. Thank you!

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.

Blessing of the Offering

All: Lord of all mercy and compassion, bless these gifts lovingly offered and all the people here. Help us to use these gifts for ministries of hope through our church and into our community, nation and world. Amen.

Service of Holy Communion

See Insert

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

525

I, the Lord of sea and sky. I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.

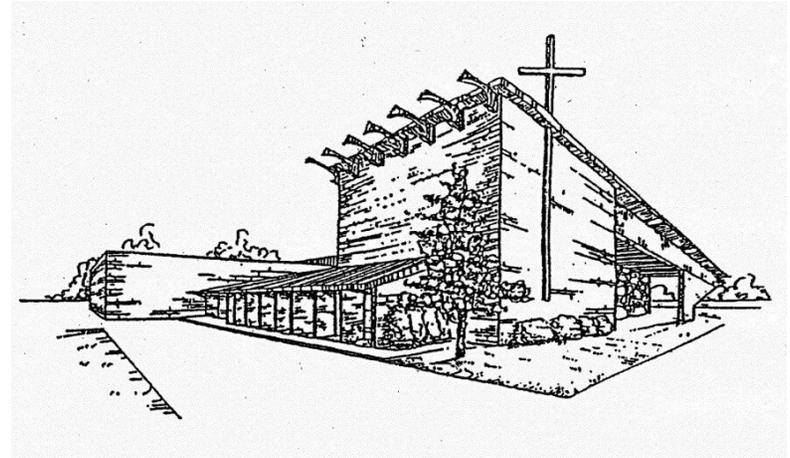
I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send? Refrain:

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send? Refrain:

Benediction

Postlude

WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



*We are followers of Jesus Christ,
living and sharing the love of God
through faith and action,
welcoming all.*

Webster Presbyterian Church
550 Webster Road
Webster, NY 14580
585-265-9700 www.websterpres.org
Pastor Nadia Mullin

Service of Holy Communion

Invitation

Pastor: This is the table, not of the church, but of the Lord. It is to be made ready for those who love him and who want to love him more. So come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, not because it is I who invites you: it is our Lord. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.

Pastor: The Lord be with you,

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

Pastor: Gratitude, praise, hearts lifted high, voices full and joyful...these you deserve. For when we were nothing you made us something. When we had no name and no faith and no future, you called us your children. When we lost our way or turned away, you did not abandon us. When we came back to you, your arms opened wide in welcome. And look, you prepare a table for us offering not just bread, not just wine, but your very self so that we may be filled, forgiven, healed, blessed and made new again. You are worth all our pain and all our praise. So now, in gratitude we join our voices to those of the Church on earth and in heaven:

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.

Pastor: And now, lest we believe that our praise alone fulfills your purpose, we fall silent and remember him who came because words weren't enough. Setting our wisdom, our will, our words aside, emptying our hearts and bringing nothing in our hands, we yearn for the healing, the holding, the accepting, the forgiving which Christ alone can offer. Merciful God, send now, in kindness, your Holy Spirit to settle on this bread and cup and fill them with the fullness of Jesus. And that same Spirit rest on us, converting us from the patterns of this passing world, until we conform to the shape of him whose food we now share.

Words of Institution

Pastor: Among friends, gathered around a table, Jesus took bread, and broke it, and said, "This is my body – broken for you." Later he took a cup of wine and said, "This is the new relationship with God made possible because of my death. Take it, all of you, to remember me."

People: Amen, Amen, and Amen.

Pastor: He whom the universe could not contain is present to us in this bread. He who redeemed us and called us by name now meets us in this cup. So take this bread and this cup. In them God comes to us so that we may come to God. All is prepared. Come to the table!

Sharing of the Bread and the Wine

Please come forward to receive the bread and the juice as directed by the ushers.

A gluten-free option is available upon request to the server.

Please eat the bread and drink the juice right after you receive them.

Concluding Prayer

All: Most loving God, you have given us a share in the one bread and the one cup, and made us one with Christ. Help us to bring your salvation and joy to all the world. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn

Here I Am, Lord

525

Benediction

Postlude

Lectionary Passages

	<u>Today, September 3rd</u>	<u>September 10th</u>
Old Testament	<i>Exodus 3:1-15</i>	<i>Exodus 12:1-14</i>
Psalms	<i>Psalms 105:1-6, 23-26</i>	<i>Psalms 149</i>
New Testament	<i>Romans 12:9-21</i>	<i>Romans 13:8-14</i>
Gospel	<i>Matthew 16:21-28</i>	<i>Matthew 18:15-20</i>

Memory Verse

"And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose."

Romans 8:28

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether in person or by live-streaming. Sunday services continue to be live-streamed.
You can watch them live at 9:30 or later at your leisure using:
Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Websterpres/> or
YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA>
THIS SERVICE IS LIVESTREAMED on YouTube and Facebook. Participation in and/or observation of the service implies acknowledgement that your image may be seen on the stream at the time of the service and in the future.
2. A GIFT TO THE ENDOWMENT FUND has been given by Stu & Carol Cooper in loving memory of Carol's parents, Stan & Marge Wells.
3. PASTOR NADIA MULLIN has begun her ministry with us. She is looking forward to learning our names and getting to know all of us. Please help her in this effort by wearing your nametags, located in the upper Narthex.
4. THE MISSION COMMITTEE will be sending \$500 to the American Red Cross in September to aid toward the fire disaster in Hawaii. If you would like to add to that effort, checks can be made out to WPC with "Hawaiian Aid" written in the memo line.
5. AN INCREASE IN FOOD INSECURITY is rising in our community of Webster. Help is much appreciated to aid in keeping up with the demand. Items needed include peanut butter, cereals, crackers, pasta, sauce, albacore tuna, chunky canned soups, canned veggies and fruits as well as personal items such as shampoo & conditioner, facial tissue, feminine products, bar soap & body wash, and mouthwash.
6. KENYA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FUND: This is a heads up that we will soon be collecting voluntary donations for this fund to keep our 6 students sponsored for the 2024 school year and to hopefully add another student. More details will be available next Sunday and in a September Pathway article.
7. REGULAR OFFICE HOURS resume this week. The church office will be open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 9 am to 3 pm.
8. SUMMER BOOK READING SUGGESTIONS
 - *"We Make the Road by Walking"* is written by Brian McLaren, author, speaker, activist and theologian.
 - *"Unclobber, Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality"* by Colby Martin.Both books will be discussed in the fall during the Adult Ed. offering time.