

World Communion Sunday

October 1, 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

Moment for Mission

Reflection

Brian McLaren, *We Make the Road by Walking*

"The wilderness journey is always difficult and seems to last forever. Like kids on a car ride, we keep whining, "Aren't we there yet?" But the truth is, if we arrive before we've learned the lessons of the wilderness, we won't be able to enjoy the freedom that awaits us in the promised land beyond it."

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

Leader: God, this world can be a desert wilderness.

People: We come thirsty for your presence.

Leader: Our lives can seem like dry stones.

People: We come thirsty for your love.

Leader: Yet you strike the rock of our lives, and your grace flows freely.

People: We thank you, and we drink deeply of this mystery.

**Refresh us, that our lives may flow with your grace.
Amen.**

Hymn

At the Name of Jesus

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Prayer of Invocation

Leader: Gracious God, you who are ever present, who accompanies us in love, who surrounds us with your glory - we too often forget; we do not see. Speak to us, whose hearts are thirsty for water but sometimes feel dry as stone. Open our hearts now to your truth, to your presence, to your faithfulness. May we drink deeply of your love. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: We would want to be fountains of hope for others, God of glory, but people find only hardened hearts. We would like to be transformed people, but our stubborn pride prevents us from bending a knee to you. We long to stand with those who are in need, but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid with judgment. Forgive us, God who came down to us. Humble us, that we might be true servants to the broken and lost. Split open our frozen hearts, that compassion might flow freely to those who are hurting. Fill our minds with the presence of your Spirit, that we might learn how to follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, into that kingdom of grace and hope.

Moment of Silence

What is something you need to remember about who God is?

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: This is the good news: in Christ, God's plan for salvation was accomplished. You are forgiven; you are made new.

People: Thanks be to God!

Gloria Patri

Passing the Peace of God

Children's Time

Hymn

You Are My All in All

Insert

Scripture Reading

Philippians 2:1-13

Anthem

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing arr. Hal Hopson
Chancel Choir

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.

Scripture Reading

Exodus 17:1-7

Sermon

A New Way to Remember

Pastor Nadia Mullin

Affirmation of Faith

All: Christ Jesus, though he was in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death – even death on a cross. Therefor, God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus, every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess to the glory of God: Jesus Christ is Lord!

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayer

The Lord’s Prayer (sung)

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: Holy One, we ask that you bless these offerings so they can multiply to be a blessing for our community, our mission, and worldwide. Accept our offerings and tithes, O God, as a testimony of your goodness in our lives. Amen!

Service of Holy Communion

See insert

Hymn

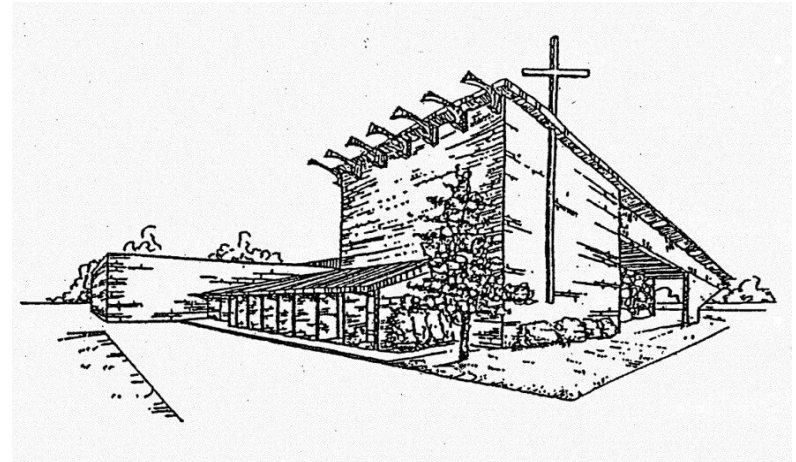
Crown Him with Many Crowns

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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: He was always the guest. In the homes of Peter and Jairus, Martha and Mary, he was always the guest. At the meal tables of the wealthy, where he pled the cause of the poor, he was always the guest. Upsetting polite company, befriending isolated people, welcoming the stranger, he was always the guest. But here, at this table, he is the host. Those who wish to serve him must first be served by him. Those who want to follow him must first be fed by him. Those who would wash his feet must first let him make them clean. For this is the table where God intends us to be nourished; this is the time when Christ can make us new. So come, you who hunger and thirst for a deeper faith, for a better life, for a fairer world. Jesus Christ, who has sat at our tables, now invites us to be guests at his.

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: It is indeed right, for you made us, and before you made the world we inhabit, you made the eternal home in which, through Christ, we have a place. All that is spectacular and all that is plain have their origin in you; all that is lovely and all who are loving point to you as their fulfillment. And grateful as we are for the world we know and the universe beyond our knowing, we particularly praise you, whom eternity cannot contain, for coming to earth and entering time in Jesus. For his life which informs our living, for his compassion which changes our hearts, for his clear speaking which contradicts our generalities, for his disturbing presence, his innocent suffering, his fearless dying, for rising to life and breathing forgiveness, who even yet, even now, confronts us with your claims and attracts us to your goodness. Therefore, we gladly join our voices to the song 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.

Empty juice cups can be placed in one of the baskets up front.

Concluding Prayer

All: Lord, this special communion reminds us of being members of a global community. We have feasted at your table. As you have nourished us, may we go into your world to bring a feast of peace and hope to others, listening with loving ears and acting with loving hearts, in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn

Crown Him with Many Crowns

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Benediction

Postlude

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.

At the Name of Jesus

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At the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow;
Every tongue confess Him King of glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure we should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning was the mighty Word.

Humbled for a season, to receive a name
From the lips of sinners, unto whom He came,
Faithfully He bore it spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious, when from death He passed.

Bore it up triumphant, with its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures to the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, to the Father's breast;
Filled it with the glory of that perfect rest.

Christians, this Lord Jesus shall return again,
With His Father's glory o'er the earth to reign;
For all wreaths of empire meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

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Crown Him with many crowns, the Lamb upon His throne;
Hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!
Awake, my soul, and sing of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown Him the Lord of love; behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of peace; whose power a scepter sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.
His reign shall know no end, and round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown Him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For Thou hast died for me.
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

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.
3. ADULT ED. at 10:45 in Room 9/10
 Today and next Sunday: Join us for a panel discussion on the book *UNClobber: Rethinking Our Misuse of the Bible on Homosexuality* by Martin Colby. Our panelists will be Anne Waasdorp, Ralph Carter and Pastor Nadia. Please join us, even if you haven't read the book. This gathering will not be recorded.
4. ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY – VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! The fall highway clean-up of Rt. 250 by the church will be conducted on Saturday, October 14th, beginning at 10:00 AM and completed before noon. Volunteers are needed, and first timers are encouraged. All supplies are provided. This is a great chance for fellowship with your “picking” partners. To participate, please contact Mark Pipal at pipalmw@yahoo.com, phone number 787-4301, or sign-up at the table in the Narthex today.
5. KENYA HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS FUND: We are currently sponsoring 6 very needy children in the Nairobi, Kenya area (graduates of the Kikuyu Thogoto elementary school where we provide lunches) to attend high school and would like to also sponsor a 7th for their next school year which starts in January. Our goal is to collect \$5000 this year and would appreciate it if you would prayerfully consider giving a generous voluntary contribution. Thank you!

Lectionary Passages

	<u>Today, October 1st</u>	<u>October 8th</u>
Old Testament	<i>Exodus 17:1-7</i>	<i>Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20</i>
Psalms	<i>Psalms 78:1-4, 12-16</i>	<i>Psalms 19</i>
New Testament	<i>Philippians 2:1-13</i>	<i>Philippians 3:4b-14</i>
Gospel	<i>Matthew 21:23-32</i>	<i>Matthew 21:33-46</i>

Memory Verse

*“For we live by faith, not by sight.”
 II Corinthians 5:7*

THIS WEEK’S CALENDAR

Today, October 1 - World Communion Sunday

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. Shine Program for Children in PreK through 5th Grade
- 10:00 A.M. Church of God by Faith in the Chapel
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. Panel Discussion in Room 9/10

Monday, October 2

- 6:30 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room
 ROC Ringers Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 7:00 P.M. Session Meeting in Room 9/10 and on Zoom

Tuesday, October 3

- 9:00 A.M. Women’s Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS Meeting in Room 9/10
- 5:30 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 90 in the Social Room
- 7:00 P.M. Emergency Planning Team in the Memorial Room

Wednesday, October 4

- 6:30 A.M. Men’s Bible Study at Golden Boys’ Restaurant
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

Thursday, October 5

- 7:30 A.M. Men’s Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Friday, October 6

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

Saturday, October 7

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Tim on Zoom

Sunday, October 8

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. Shine Program for Children in PreK through 5th Grade
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. Panel Discussion in Room 9/10

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WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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 585-265-9700 www.websterpres.org

Pastor

Rev. Nadia Mullin

