

Celebration of Worship

November 19, 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 *Sarabande* J.S. Bach
From *French Suite in G Major*

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Reflection Ragan Sutterfield

“We begin to learn how to live into the ever-moving gifts of this beggar-God, not by learning from the patterns of the marketplace where extraction and exploitation are the norm, and scarcity and fear make those who have want to have all the more. Instead, we should look to the birds of the air and lilies of the field, those who do not reap or sow or toil, but instead, live on the daily manna of acorns and seeds and all of the abundance that flows from them.”

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: Clothe yourselves with faith and love;
People: Be confident in your salvation in Christ Jesus.
Leader: The Lord is with us!
People: Thanks be to God.

Hymn *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* # 551

Prayer of Invocation

Leader: Shine your light on your Word, O Lord; by your Spirit let us see your wonder. For your justice outruns our sense of fairness; your love overwhelms our deepest affections. Open our eyes, unstop our ears, and show us your most excellent way; for Jesus’ sake. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

All: Almighty God, you have shown us the ways of justice and nurtured us with love. Even so, we have not lived according to your will. When we are oppressed or unjustly accused, we cling to fear and forget to trust in your deliverance. When we are giddy with power and abuse the rights of others, we hold tight to our privilege and forget your laws.

Have mercy on us, Lord, for we are weak and prone to disobedience. Hear our confession and respond to us with kindness, that we might turn to you again, walk in the light, and live in equity and peace; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Moment of Silence

If we believe in the kingdom to come, we need not fear, in life or in death.
How does that change the way we live?

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Children of light, because we belong to our Lord Jesus Christ, we need not fear, for he lived for us, he died for us, he was raised for us and prays for us. Believe the promise of your baptism.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Gloria Patri

Honoring 50-year Members - Gayl Galen and Nancy Granger

Reception of New Members

Introduction of new members -
Holly Grocki, John Kubinieć, Kate Waas

Renunciations
Profession of Faith

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven; he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Welcome

Leader: Let us welcome John, Holly and Kate as they join with us in the worship and mission of the church.

People: **With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you to share with us in the ministry of Christ, for we are all one in him.**

Passing the Peace of God

Children's Time

Hymn *What Is the World Like* Insert

Scripture Reading *Psalm 123:1-4*

Anthem *It Is a Good Thing to Give Thanks* Eugene Butler

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord; sing praises to Thy Name.

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, the Most High God!

Tell of His loving kindness early in the morning and of His truth in the darkest night.

Play upon an instrument of ten strings and upon the lute.

Praise His Name upon the shofar and upon the harp!

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord; sing praises to Thy Name.

It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, the Most High God!

Thou, O Lord, has made me glad by Thy wonderful works.

I will rejoice in giving praise for Thy wonderful works.

Scripture Reading *Matthew 25:14-30*

Sermon *Good Riddle or Bad Joke?* Pastor Nadia Mullin

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

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

Blessing of the Offering

All: For all that you are and all that you do, we give you thanks, our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. We wait in hope for the coming of your realm and offer these gifts to further your kingdom on earth; in Jesus' name. Amen.

Song *We Praise You, O God* Insert

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude *Courante* J.S. Bach
From French Suite in G Major

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

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Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto God's praise to yield,
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come and shall take the harvest home.
From each field shall in that day all offenses purge away.
Give the angels charge at last in the fires the tares to cast,
But the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to Thy final harvest home.
Gather Thou Thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,
There forever purified, in Thy presence to abide.
Come, with all Thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

Gloria Patri

579

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.

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.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, November 19

- 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. - "Welcoming All" Discussion in the Sanctuary
Intergenerational Chimes in Room 4
- 12:00 P.M. Charity Pie-making in the Kitchen and Social Room
- 3:00 P.M. Worship at Cherry Ridge
- 5:45 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 489 in the Memorial Room

Monday, November 20

- 4:00 P.M. Spiritual Nurture Committee on Zoom
- 6:30 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social & Memorial Rooms
- 7:00 P.M. Mission Committee in Room 9/10 and on Zoom

Tuesday, November 21

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS Meeting in Room 9/10
- 6:30 P.M. Deacons' Meeting in Room 9/10

Wednesday, November 22 - Church office is closed.

- 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study at Golden Boys' Restaurant

Thursday, November 23 - Happy Thanksgiving !!

Saturday, November 25

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

Sunday, November 26 - Christ the King 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
- 10:45 A.M. Decorate the Church for Advent/Christmas

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Memory Verse

*"I will give thanks to you, Lord, with all my heart;
I will tell of all your wonderful deeds."
Psalm 9:1*

Lectionary Passages

	<u>Today, November 19th</u>	<u>November 26th</u>
Old Testament	<i>Judges 4:1-7</i>	<i>Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24</i>
Psalms	<i>Psalms 123</i>	<i>Psalms 100</i>
New Testament	<i>I Thessalonians 5:1-11</i>	<i>Ephesians 1:15-23</i>
Gospel	<i>Matthew 25:14-30</i>	<i>Matthew 25:31-46</i>

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1. WELCOME to Webster Presbyterian Church! We are pleased that you are worshipping with us, whether in person or by live-streaming.
You can live-stream 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. FLOWERS are given by Sarah Stein and Mary Vick in honor of 50-year members Gayl Galen and Nancy Granger, and in honor of our new members: Holly Grocki, John Kubiniec and Kate Waas.
3. ADULT ED. at 10:45 in Room 9/10
Today: The ONE in Christ Session sub-committee, in continuation of our exploration, would like your take on what an open and affirming church looks like. To that end, we will ask the question, what does "welcoming all" mean to you? We hope you will join us and share your thoughts.
Next Week: No class.
4. THE CHURCH OFFICE will be closed this Wednesday for the Thanksgiving holiday weekend.
5. PASTOR NADIA'S ADVENT SERMON SERIES will be based on the book *God Is in the Manger*. Books will be available for a suggested donation of \$10. If you would like a book, please sign up on the sheet in the Narthex, or call the church office, so the proper number of books can be ordered.
6. HEART AND HAND is currently making fleece hats and scarves for 52 disadvantaged children who live in Webster. We would appreciate help from our extra volunteers to complete this project before December 1st. Kits to sew are available in the hallway across from the church office.
7. THE ANGEL TREE to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center continues through December 10th. The tree in the Narthex and loaded with gift ideas for you to take. To shop on line, go to the Amazon wish list on the link below and place your order with a delivery time prior to December 10th, shipped to your home or to "Laura Olivers Gift Registry Address". If you have questions, contact Doreen Clark at 750-3904. All gifts need to be returned unwrapped by December 10th.
https://www.amazon.com/hz/wishlist/ls/A24YBQ17OOQX?ref=wl_share
8. The Eastern Service Workers will provide Thanksgiving food boxes for their members again this year. Volunteers are needed at the Greece Baptist Church to help on this Tuesday to pack the food boxes and to make deliveries. They would also appreciate donations of frozen turkeys. To help, call Tony Hubbard (265-1224) for more information.