

Celebration of Worship

December 31, 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 *Silent Night* arr. Jim Brickman

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Reflection "Let's make one resolution this year: Chuck Swindoll
to anchor ourselves to God's grace."

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: A new day has dawned; a new year begun.

People: O Lord, call us so we may hear your voice.

Leader: The world turns to hopes and dreams of the future.

People: O Lord, keep us in your ways and on Your path.

Leader: We enter this new year with hope and excitement.

**People: O Lord, remind us that you lead us. O Lord, guide us as
we look to you and worship you. Amen.**

Hymn *Angels from the Realms of Glory* # 22

Prayer of Invocation

Leader: O Living God of past and future, we praise you for this present moment. Fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit, that our strength may be renewed to sing a new song of your glory in a world which longs for your justice and peace. All this we ask in the name of Jesus, in whom we become your new creation. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Lord Jesus, yours are the seasons and the ages. Give us a new heart and a new spirit. Lord, have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Leader: Jesus Christ, you are the beginning and the end of all that is, including our lives. Make a new beginning with all of us: Christ have mercy.

People: Christ have mercy.

Leader: Lord Jesus, you breathe your Spirit on all creation. Make our old world new again: Lord have mercy.

People: Lord, have mercy.

**All: Have mercy on us, Lord, and let your forgiveness and
love come down on us day after day. Lead us to
everlasting life. Amen.**

Moment of Silence

How has God been at work in your life this past year?

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Beloved of God, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, as a bride adorns herself with her jewels, God covers us with the robe of righteousness. Know that you are forgiven in Jesus Christ and live as God's beloved.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children's Time

Hymn *In the Bleak Midwinter* # 36

Scripture Reading *Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3*

Carol Sing *Your requests*

Scripture Reading *Psalms 148*

Testimonies *How God Has Been at Work*

John & Anita Brocker Nancy Duquette Bob Smith

Litany for the New Year

Leader: At the dawn of a new year, we come to welcome hope for a new world.

**People: Let the darkness lift to welcome a dawn of plenty with
enough for everyone and people ready to share.**

Leader: Let the day begin with new energy for the struggle to protect our children and to care for the vulnerable.

**People: Let the light shine to open a path to safety for all who are
seeking home and longing for life.**

Leader: Let the sun rise on new talks and new resolve to end the bombing and the terror and to find solutions that will last.

**People: At the dawn of a new year, we come to declare our hope
and to welcome a new world.**

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: Loving God, we give you thanks for the light of the world,
Jesus Christ, through whom we have received adoption as
your children. With Jesus our brother, we dedicate
ourselves in ministry to the world, that we may live as heirs
of your promises to the honor and glory of your name.
Amen.**

Hymn *Go, Tell It on the Mountain* # 29

Benediction

Postlude *Once in Royal David's City* arr. Carina Phillips
Carina Phillips - Saxophone

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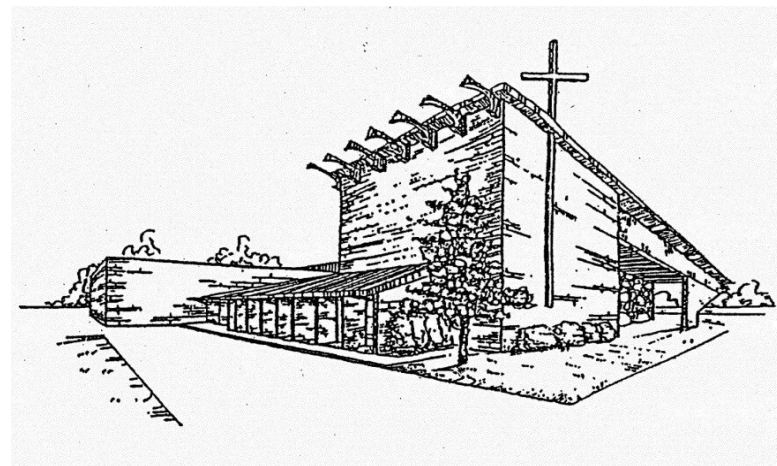
Webster Presbyterian Church

550 Webster Road
Webster, New York 14580
585-265-9700 www.websterpres.org



Pastor
Rev. Nadia Mullin

WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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through faith and action,
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Angels, from the Realms of Glory # 22

Angels from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth.
Ye, who sang creation's story now proclaim Messiah's birth:

Refrain:

Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn King!

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with us is now residing; yonder shines the infant light. Refrain:

Sages, leave your contemplations; brighter visions beam afar.
Seek the great desire of nations; Ye have seen His natal star. Refrain:

All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One. Refrain:

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.

In the Bleak Midwinter # 36

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone.
Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,
In the bleak midwinter long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign.
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed
The Lord God incarnate, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there,
Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air.
But His mother only, in her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.
If I were a wise man, I would do my part,
Yet what I can I give Him: Give my heart.

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.

Go, Tell It on the Mountain # 29

Refrain:

Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold throughout the heavens there shone a holy light. Refrain:

The shepherds feared and trembled when lo! Above the earth,
Rang out the angle chorus that hailed our Savior's birth. Refrain:

Down in a lowly manger the humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn. Refrain:

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, December 31

9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
9:45 A.M. Shine Program for Children in PreK through 5th Grade

Monday, January 1, 2024 - Happy New Year !

Tuesday, January 2

5:00 P.M. TOPS Meeting in Room 9/10

Wednesday, January 3

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

Thursday, January 4

7:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom
10:30 A.M. Glory Bells to Cherry Ridge

Friday, January 5

9:30 A.M. Flyers' Club in the Social Room
10:00 A.M. BFF Book Discussion on Zoom

Saturday, January 6

9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom

Sunday, January 7

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. Book Discussion in Room 9/10

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. ADULT ED. at 10:45 in Room 9/10
Today - No Adult Ed. program.
Next week - Join us following worship for a continuation discussion of Brian McLaren's book *We Make the Road by Walking*, chapters 19-21.
3. CHRISTMAS JOY OFFERING - Collections conclude today to benefit students of color in Presbyterian Church sponsored colleges and Presbyterian pastors with urgent financial needs. Designated envelopes can be found in the chair racks.
4. ANNUAL REPORTS from Committee Chairpersons and Treasurers are due in the church office by next Sunday, January 7th. You can submit your information by email to g Hubbard@websterpres.org as a Word or Excel file, or bring a paper copy to the church office.
5. OFFERING ENVELOPES are located on the table in the hallway outside the Sanctuary for those who have indicated they would like them. If you would like envelopes and do not see a set for you, please speak with Georgia in the church office and they will be provided.
6. A MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION has been called by Sessin for Sunday, January 14, 2024 immediately following the worship service to receive the Nominating Committee's report and elect church officers.

Lectionary Passages

	<u>Today, December 31st</u>	<u>January 7th, 2024</u>
Old Testament	<i>Isaiah 61:10 – 62:3</i>	<i>Genesis 1:1-5</i>
Psalms	<i>Psalms 148</i>	<i>Psalms 29</i>
New Testament	<i>Galatians 4:4-7</i>	<i>Acts 19:1-7</i>
Gospel	<i>Luke 2:22-40</i>	<i>Mark 1:4-11</i>

Memory Verse

*“But the angel said to them, ‘Do not be afraid.
I bring you good news that will cause great joy for all the people.
Today in the town of David a Savior has been born to you;
He is the Messiah, the Lord.’”
Luke 2:10-11*