

Celebration of Worship

November 24, 2024

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 & Announcements

Reflection J.R.R. Tolkien – *The “Some believe it is only great power that can hold evil in check, but that is not what I have found. It is the small everyday deeds of ordinary folk that keep the darkness at bay. Small acts of kindness and love.”*

Ringling of the Bell

Gathering Song

Be Still for the Presence

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Come, bow before Him now with reverence and fear.

In Him no sin is found; we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Call to Worship

Leader: People of God, whom do you follow?

People: We follow Christ, Ruler of us all.

Leader: People of God, what kind of Ruler is Christ?

**People: Christ reigns with love and truth, justice and mercy,
compassion and peace.**

Leader: People of God, how will you live in the reign of Christ?

**All: We will join Christ in choosing love, truth, justice, mercy,
compassion and peace, even when our world tells us not
to.**

Leader: People of God, come, let us worship God who's love reigns
over us, exemplified in Jesus Christ.

All: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God! Amen!

Hymn

We Gather Together

559

Invocation

Leader: Loving God of power and justice and peace,
in our broken world we seek a new order:
where there is courage to speak truth to power,
where there is mutual support in church and community,
where there is abundant time for healing,
where there is peace and freedom for all.

Prayer of Confession

**All: We come this morning to give You thanks for the wonderful
diversity You have placed in humanity. We thank You for
the skills and gifts entrusted to each of us: gifts of artistry
and design, of construction and manufacture, gifts of
compassion and understanding, of insight and logic. And
we thank You that in Your wisdom You have given to each
of us without prejudice or bias.**

**Yet we have not responded with the same kindness. We
have been swift to judge which gifts should be given to
some and not to others. We have been hasty to assess
another's worthiness based on the world's standards and
not on Your wisdom. We have made snap judgements from
ease rather than doing the hard work of informing and then
transforming our stance.**

**Gracious God, challenge us, bother us, and inconvenience
us so we are no longer satisfied with a society that acts out
of habit, especially when those habits habitually
disadvantage just one expression of Your glorious
creation.**

Moment of Silent Reflection

In these few moments of stillness, we bring before You any times
this week when we've been swift to judge, hasty to assess
another's worth, and have neglected to heed Your wisdom.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God of forgiveness, we thank You that we can come to You
in humility and ask for Your mercy. And in Your unlimited
love, You forgive us, but You also dare us to be more like
You every day.

**People: We are forgiven by our God who loves all. Let us live a
life that echoes the equality revealed in Your glorious
creation.**

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 of the Peace

Children's Time

Hymn

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

Insert

Scripture Reading *II Samuel 23:1-7*
Anthem *Incline My Heart* Gail Downey
 Alleluia Bells
Scripture Reading *John 18:33-37*
Sermon *How Do We Love?* John Kubinieć
Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles
Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer
Response From: *An Ode we Owe* by Amanda Gorman

All: This morn, let it be sworn
that we are one human kin,
grounded not just by the griefs we bear,
but by the good we begin.

Call 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!

Leader: May these gifts bring light to those who walk in darkness,
hope to those who live in despair, and justice to those who
are oppressed. Grant to each giver a sense of participation
in the most important opportunity of all time: to share their
love with the world. To this end, we dedicate our offerings
and ourselves. 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.

Blessing of the Offering

All: Generous God, we have nothing that did not come from
You. Nothing we own is ours; it is all a gift from You.

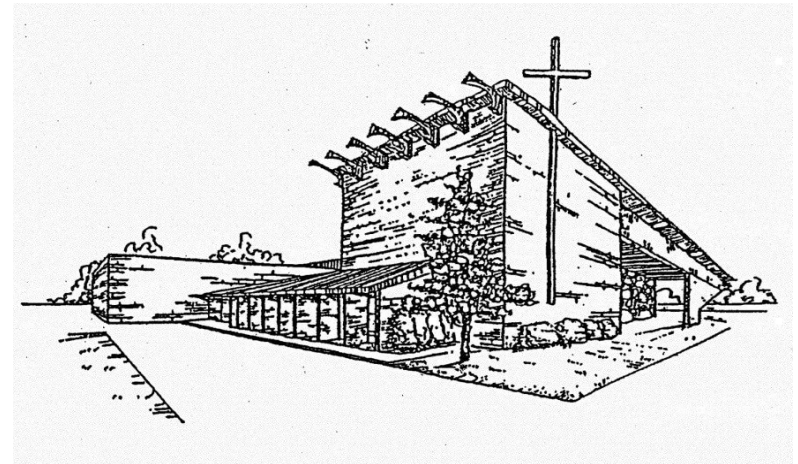
So as we offer these gifts, things You have lent us, may we
offer them humbly for Your glory to be used to serve You.
May these gifts of money before us, and gifts of direct
debits and bank transfer and other means that we cannot
see, be used to make Your presence more clear in our world
and in our community.

And let our offering not just be financial. In these brief
moments we offer our lives back to You in service through
Your church. Lord, let the best love that shapes our lives
be clear in everything we give and everything we do. In
Jesus' name, Amen.

Hymn *Crown Him with Many Crowns* # 151

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, November 24

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. Shine Program for Children in PreK - 5th Grade in Room 3
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. "Jesus and Thanksgiving" Discussion in Room 9/10
Decorate the Church for Christmas
- 11:45 A.M. Pie-makers in the Kitchen and Social Room
- 2:30 P.M. Church of God by Faith in the Chapel
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 489 in the Memorial Room

Monday, November 25

- 5:30 P.M. Rachel Circle Out to Dinner
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room

Tuesday, November 26

- 5:15 P.M. TOPS Meeting in Room 9/10
- 7:00 P.M. Stewardship & Finance Committee in Room 9/10

Wednesday, November 27

- 6:30 A.M. Breakfast & Bible Study at Golden Boys' Restaurant
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon Meeting in Room 9/10

Thursday, November 28 - Happy Thanksgiving !!

Saturday, November 30

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

Sunday, December 1 - First Sunday of Advent - Communion

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. Shine Program for Children in PreK - 5th Grade in Room 3
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. DVD series "An Unlikely Advent" in Room 9/10

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Webster Presbyterian Church

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



Lectionary Passages

November 24th

Old Testament
Psalm
New Testament
Gospel

II Samuel 23:1-7
Psalms 132:1-18
Revelation 1:4b-8
John 18:33-37

December 1st

Jeremiah 33:14-16
Psalms 25:1-10
I Thessalonians 3:9-13
Luke 21:25-36

Memory Verse

*O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.*

Psalms 118:29

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/UCzM5thYxua2HQP6P71wA>
2. FLOWERS ON THE COMMUNION TABLE are given by Sarah Stein in loving memory of Carol Gordon, Char & Len Stein and Shelly Stein.
3. ADULT Ed. –
Today we will share thoughts on thanksgiving and what Jesus had to say about giving thanks.
Next week join us for the DVD series, An Unlikely Advent, by Rachel Billups, taking a close look at some of the unlikely people we encounter in the stories about Jesus's birth.
4. WE WILL DECORATE THE CHURCH for the Christmas Season today following the worship service. All help is welcome!!
5. YOU ARE INVITED to join us on Monday, December 2nd, at 10:00 a.m. for coffee and fellowship with our missionary, Jody Colliinge, who is with the Ministry of Community Health Evangelism in Mexico, working to see communities and lives transformed by Christ. A sign-up sheet is in the Narthex to let us know you are coming.
6. PARADE OF LIGHTS - Join us Saturday, December 7 at 6:30 pm to walk down Main Street as part of Webster's annual Christmas parade. We are coordinating with other groups to show community togetherness. For questions see Alissa Mayer, Heather Hewlett, Elissa Burke, or Kathy Barbehenn.
7. ANGEL TREE GIFTS to benefit the Williamson Come-Unity Center are due back, unwrapped, by December 8th. If you have not yet picked up a gift idea and would like to participate, please do so soon. Our contributions over the last several years have been greatly appreciated.
8. \$10 GIFT CARDS for Christmas for the Men at Grace House are being collected until Sunday, December 15th. Preferred cards are for WalMart, Chick Fil A, Wendy's and McDonalds, which are within walking distance of Grace House. Donations may be placed in the shoebox on the table in the Narthex, or they can be brought or mailed to the church office.
9. WEBSTER HOPE MINISTRIES currently has 205 families receiving food and gifts for Christmas. One hundred six of these families have children. They are in need of the following: *Canned goods: peas, pineapple, mandarin oranges, beets, potatoes, pasta sauce; *General cooking needs: cooking oil, flour, sugar, pasta. *Hygiene supplies: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, bar soap, lotion, deodorant, toothpaste. Thank you all for your generous donations to help our community have a hopeful, joyful Christmas!