

Celebration of Worship

Baptism of the Lord

January 12, 2025

9:30 A.M.

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

Prelude

Felix Mendelssohn

Organ Sonata no 5 mvmt 2: Andante con moto

Words of Welcome and Announcements

Reflection

Barbara Brown Taylor, *An Altar in the World*

Human beings may separate things into as many piles as we wish -- separating spirit from flesh, sacred from secular, church from world. But we should not be surprised when God does not recognize the distinctions we make between the two. Earth is so thick with divine possibility, that it is a wonder we can walk anywhere without cracking our shins on altars.

Ringling of the Bell

Gathering Song

How Lovely, Lord

How lovely, Lord, how lovely is your abiding place.
My soul is longing, fainting, to feast upon your grace.
The sparrow finds a shelter, a place to build her nest,
And so your temple calls us within its walls to rest.

Call to Worship

Psalms 34:8-9

Leader: "O taste and see that the Lord is good;

People: happy are those who take refuge in him.

Leader: O fear the Lord, you his holy ones,

People: for those who fear God have no want."

Leader: Let us who gather here come expectantly before God with praise and worship; let us be open to experience the goodness of the Holy One present in our midst.

Hymn

God Is Here!

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Invocation

Leader: Ever-loving God, as the days of this year begin to unfold, break into our predictions with surprising newness. Break into our lukewarm hearts with the heat of your holy fire, into our dull eyes with the light of your creative vision, and into our doubts and fears with the certainty of your powerful presence. We would see Jesus; we would be encountered by the Christ even now. Inspire in us, by the power of your Holy Spirit, a flame of love, we pray, whose glow will radiate into the world, to draw others to come, to see, and to follow Jesus the Messiah into new life and hope and joy.

Prayer of Confession

All: Holy God, in Jesus you entered our world with a love and power beyond what had ever been known. But we have not believed with our whole mind, nor trusted him with our whole heart. We confess the sinfulness of our lack of faith in the active presence of Christ in our midst and in the power of the Holy Spirit to do in and through us far more than we can ever ask or think.

We confess the poverty of our hopes, dreams, and expectations. Because we fail to expect you to comfort and heal us, we unconsciously hold onto our distress and disease. And because we fail to expect you to supply the words for witness, we pass over opportunities to share the good news of Jesus Christ with friend or stranger. We confess that, focused upon the world that is, rather than the world that will be, we limit rather than contribute to the coming in fullness of Christ's reign on earth. Please forgive us. Amen.

Moment of Silent Reflection

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: God not only assures forgiveness for all who turn from willful, self-serving ways to follow the way of the Christ, but baptizes us in the Holy Spirit, thereby purifying and creating us a new and holy people enabled to risk loving as Jesus loves.

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

Baptized in Water

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Scripture Reading

Psalms 29

Leader: Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory of his name;
worship the LORD in holy splendor.

**People: The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over mighty waters.
The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.**

Leader: The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.
The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

**People: The voice of the LORD causes the oaks to whirl,
and strips the forest bare; and in his temple all say,
"Glory!"**

Leader: The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.

**People: May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!**

Scripture Reading *Luke 3:15-17, 21-22*

Anthem *Come to the Water* John Foley
Chancel Choir

Sermon *The Voice of the Lord* Rev. Bruce Boak

Time of Remembrance

Reading of Names and Tolling of the Bell

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayers of the People and 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!

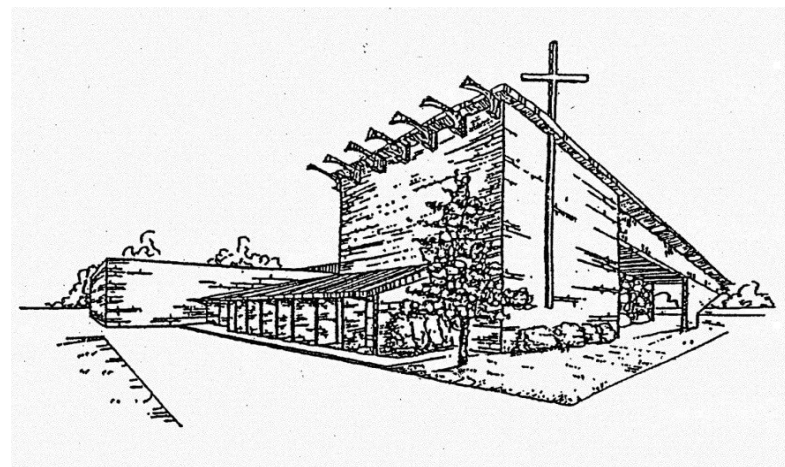
Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Blessing of the Offering

**All: Baptizing God, by the power of your divine Spirit move upon
the face of the earth to bring peace where there is discord,
healing where there is pain, freedom where there is
oppression, and sufficiency where there is want. And please
move upon us, the church of those who look for and listen
to the voice of Jesus Christ, that Spirit-filled and Spirit-
empowered we may be effective as agents of your purpose.
To this end we offer ourselves and these gifts. Amen.**

The Sacrament of Holy Communion Insert

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

Service of Holy Communion

Affirmation of Faith

from the PCUSA Brief Statement of Faith

All: The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith, sets us free to accept ourselves and to love God and neighbor, and binds us together with all believers in the one body of Christ, the Church.

In a broken and fearful world, the Spirit gives us courage to pray without ceasing, to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior, to unmask idolatries in Church and culture, to hear the voices of peoples long silenced, and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.

In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit, we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks and to live holy and joyful lives, even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth, praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"

Words of Invitation

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: Lift up your hearts to the Lord.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

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

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

Prayer of Preparation

Words of Institution

Distribution of the Elements of Communion

You will be receiving the elements in your seats today.

When you receive the bread, hold it so we can all partake together at the same time.

Please do the same with the cup after you receive it.

Gluten-free elements are available upon request to the server.

Prayer of Gratitude

Hymn *Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized* # 70

Benediction

Choral Response

Postlude

Felix Mendelssohn

Organ Sonata no 2 mvmt 3: Allegro maestoso e vivace

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>
2. ADULT ED. - Today we will meet in Room 9/10 for a session lead by John Kubiniec where we will continue to discover and experience different prayer styles.
3. BLANKET SUNDAY – next Sunday, January 19th, will be the start of our important annual Blanket Sunday Offering. Special envelopes for this offering will be in the chair racks beginning next Sunday.
4. SESSION HAS CALLED FOR THE ANNUAL MEETING of the congregation and corporation to be held on January 26th in the Social Room immediately following the worship service for the purpose of (1) Receiving and approving the annual reports of the governing bodies and organizations of the church; (2) Receiving the 2025 church budget; (3) Electing at-large members for the 2025 All-Church Nominating Committee; (4) Bringing forward any other appropriate items.
5. WEBSTER HOPE HOUSE is extremely grateful for our congregation's donations that helped serve neighbors in our own community during the holiday season! The needs continue. Please consider donating cooking oil, flour and sugar, pasta and jarred sauce, and canned goods (peas, pineapple, mandarin oranges, beets and potatoes.) The Food Barrel is located in the upper Narthex.

Lectionary Passages

	January 12 th	January 19 th
Old Testament	<i>Isaiah 43:1-7</i>	<i>Isaiah 62:1-5</i>
Psalms	<i>Psalms 29</i>	<i>Psalms 36:5-10</i>
New Testament	<i>Acts 8:14-17</i>	<i>I Corinthians 12:1-11</i>
Gospel	<i>Luke 3:15-17, 21-22</i>	<i>John 2:1-11</i>

Memory Verse

*So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation;
 everything old has passed away;
 see, everything has become new!
 II Corinthians 5:17*

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, January 12 - Baptism of the Lord - 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 Youth Christian Ed. in the Youth Room
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. Session on Prayer Styles in Room 9/10 Family Bells in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 617 in Room 9/10
 Girl Scout Troop 344 in the Social Room
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 489 in the Memorial Room

Monday, January 13

- 6:45 P.M. Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room

Tuesday, January 14

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 1:00 P.M. Garden Club in the Memorial Room
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10
- 6:30 P.M. Girl Scout Service Team in the Social Room
- 7:00 P.M. Trustees in Room 9/10

Wednesday, January 15

- 6:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast/Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon Meeting in Room 9/10
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room
- 7:30 P.M. ONE in Christ on Zoom

Thursday, January 16

- 7:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 3:00 P.M. Book Club in Room 1
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Committee in the Memorial Room
- 7:00 P.M. Stewardship and Finance in Room 9/10

Friday, January 17

- 9:00 A.M. Flying Club in the Social Room
- 10:00 A.M. Heart and Hand in Room 5
- 10:30 A.M. BFF Book Study on Zoom

Saturday, January 18

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom
 ROC Ringers' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Sunday, January 19

- 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 Youth Christian Ed. in the Youth Room
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. Book Discussion *Into the Mess* pg 164 "Salty"
 Family Bells in the Sanctuary