

Celebration of Worship

First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

9:30 A.M.

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

GATHERING AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Announcements

Reflecting on 200 Years

Reflection

Henri J.M. Nouwen

"While optimism makes us live as if someday soon things will soon go better for us, hope frees us from the need to predict the future and allows us to live in the present, with the deep trust that God will never leave us alone, but will fulfill the deepest desires of our heart...Joy in this perspective is the fruit of hope."

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

One: The season of Lent sets us on a journey.

Many: The journey begins in the wilderness.

One: We follow the way of Jesus, who faced trials, trouble, temptation and testing.

**Many: Like Jesus, we are not alone. The Holy Spirit is with us.
God's Word is on our lips.**

One: Our call is to trust God alone, to do God's will in all things.

**Many: For God leads us not only into the wilderness, but also
through the wilderness.**

Hymn

On Eagle's Wings

Insert

Call to Confession:

Leader: The journey of life inevitably leads to wilderness, times marked by guilt, frustration and the sense that we are not in the right place. But even in the wilderness, God is with us. Even in the wilderness, God's mercy is sure.

Prayer of Confession

All: God of grace and mercy, you create a new order for our lives: service before success, faith before knowledge, partnership over independence, the cross over the crown. Forgive us when we fall into the patterns of this world, rejecting your call through our action or inaction. Forgive us, God, and move us to see the world in the light of your great love. Forgive us, God, and grant us peace.

Moment of Silent Reflection and Confession

Assurance of Pardon

One: Walking this earth, facing temptation, defeating sin, Jesus has done for us what we could never do for ourselves. This is good news!

Many: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

Sung Response

We Are Forgiven

We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

Passing of the Peace

One: With thanksgiving, we rejoice in the reconciliation found in the forgiveness and love of Jesus Christ. Let us therefore be reconciled with our neighbors and share signs of Christ's peace. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

Many: And also with you.

THE WORD

Children's Time

Stu's Corner: Trusting God

Prayer of Illumination:

Leader: Gracious God, our way in the wilderness, guide us by your Word through these forty days and minister to us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may be reformed, restored and renewed, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

Old Testament Reading

Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16

Anthem

Lenten Meditation

Jay Althouse

Chancel Choir

Second Reading

Luke 4:1-13

Sermon

"Radical Trust"

Pastor Susan Frost

"I will say to the Lord, 'My refuge and my fortress; my God, in whom I trust'."

Psalms 91:2

RESPONDING IN LOVE

Hymn *Our Lord, You Were Sent* Insert

Affirmation of Faith (Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.15)

All: God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love.

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to the Offering

Leader: Because we believe that in Jesus Christ, God's time is fulfilled and the kingdom of God has come near, we respond in tangible ways. By doing acts of justice and compassion and by sharing our resources, we bear witness to the good news of the gospel. The offering is received in gratitude to God.

Doxology # 592

Blessing of the Offering

All: God of steadfast love and faithfulness, we are humbled as we try to do what is right and to walk in your ways. Receive, we ask, these offerings and use them for your own good purposes in the church and in all creation. We pray in Jesus Christ. Amen.

MOVING IN GOD'S WAY

Hymn *What Wondrous Love Is This* # 85

Charge

Leader: These Lenten days will take us to the cross of Christ. God forward, knowing that you do not go this way alone. Nor do we have to be afraid, for the Word of God strengthens us and the Holy Spirit sustains us.

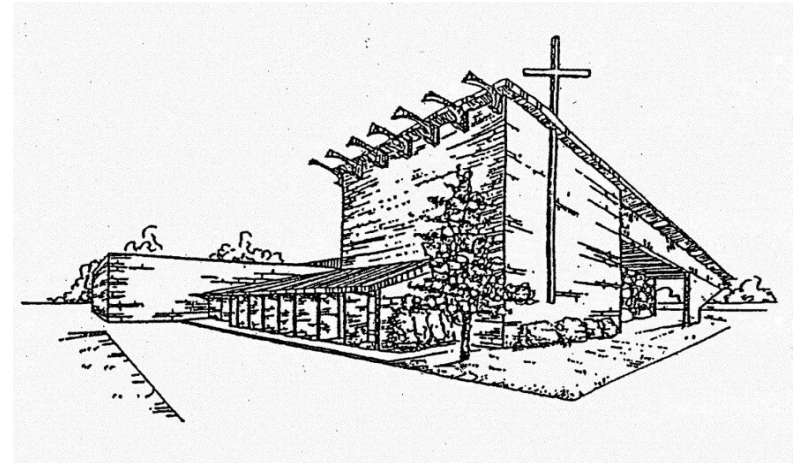
Sung Response *May the God of Hope Go with Us* Insert

Benediction

Leader: May the God of covenant faithfulness enfold you, the beloved Son encourage you, and the Holy Spirit descend upon you in blessing, this day and forever. **Amen.**

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

Stated Supply Pastor - Rev. Susan Frost

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. - Following the worship service in the Sanctuary
 - We will spend the month using the book *Into the Mess*, looking at:
 This week: "My Broken Hosanna," *John 12:12* (p. 171) and "Do You Know?", *John 13:3-15* (p. 174).
 Next week: "A Crucified God", *Matthew 27*
3. WPC POTLUCK DINNER AND TALENT SHOW - All are welcome to join us on March 22nd at 4:30 pm. Let your light shine and come perform in the talent show! Sign-ups for both will be in the Narthex until March 9th. If you have any questions, see Laura Oliver or Beth Algase. (email Laura at loliver421@gmail.com).
4. "LIVING WATER IN THE GOSPEL OF JOHN" will be the Women's Bible Study focus for the season of Lent. All women are welcome to join us on Tuesday mornings at 9:00 am in Room 9/10.
5. A \$500 DONATION to assist the victims of the California fires is being sent from the church. If you would like to add to that total, please make a donation to WPC and it will be added to this effort.
6. PLEASE USE LIDS on your cups when bringing coffee or cocoa into the Sanctuary to avoid stains on the carpet from spills. Thank you.

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Lectionary Passages

	March 9 th	March 16 th
Old Testament	<i>Deuteronomy 26:1-11</i>	<i>Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18</i>
Psalm	<i>Psalms 91:1-2, 9-16</i>	<i>Psalms 27</i>
New Testament	<i>Romans 10:8b-13</i>	<i>Philippians 3:17 – 4:1</i>
Gospel	<i>Luke 4:1-13</i>	<i>Luke 13:31-35</i>

Memory Verse

Again Jesus spoke to them saying, "I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."

.John 8:12

This Week's Calendar

Sunday, March 9

- 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. Discussion in Room 9/10
Family Bell Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 617 in Room 9/10

Monday, March 10

- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 752 in the Memorial Room
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Troop 262 in the Social Room
- 7:00 P.M. PNC in Room 9/10

Tuesday, March 11

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 1:00 P.M. Garden Club in the Memorial Room
- 4:30 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 220 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' Meeting in Room 9/10

Wednesday, March 12

- 6:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast/Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant
- 12:00 P.M. Naomi Circle Lunch at Flaherty's Restaurant
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troops 715 & 195 in the Memorial Room
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon Meeting in Room 9/10
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Youth Room

Thursday, March 13

- 7:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:00 A.M. King Circle in Room 5
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Event in the Social Room
Alleluia Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Friday, March 14

- 9:00 A.M. Flying Club in the Social Room
- 10:30 A.M. BFF Book Study on Zoom
- 6:45 P.M. Cub Pack 262 in the Social Room & Sanctuary

Saturday, March 15

- 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom
ROC Ringers' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
Girl Scout Troop 220 in the Memorial Room

Sunday, March 16

- 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. Discussion in Room 9/10
Family Bell Choir Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 3:00 P.M. Worship at Cherry Ridge
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 344 in the Memorial Room