

# Celebration of Worship

## Fifth Sunday in Lent

April 6, 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** *Amazing Grace*

### Words of Welcome & Announcements

**Reflection** Howard Thurman  
*"Don't ask what the world needs. Ask what makes you come alive and go  
do it. Because what the world needs is people who have come alive."*

### 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

Leader: God makes a way out of no way.

**People: God sees our tears and turns them into joy.**

Leader: God makes the impossible possible,

**People: and sees the desperate needs of all people.**

**All: Come close, healing Lord, and receive our worship.**

**Hymn** *How Firm a Foundation* # 361  
Verses 1,2, & 4

### Call to Confession

Leader: If we ask God to restore us to the way we have been, then we have not asked for as much as God intends to give. God is not content simply to return or restore us to former things. Instead, God seeks to give the gift of resurrection – a new and abundant life. With confidence in God's generosity, we confess our sins and seek the new life offered in Jesus Christ.

### Prayer of Confession

**All: Holy God, we don't always welcome the new life you offer us in Christ. We look back and think about the "good old days;" we wish for things to be as they were. We fail to see and less to understand the changes that you are making – the transformation that needs to happen – to reconcile your creation and to restore your kingdom order. We want to be in control – and when things seem out of control, we are fearful. We think we know what is best.**

**Forgive us, Lord. You promise you are doing a "new thing." Help us to be more trustful and less resistant to change. Help us to perceive your "new thing." Open our hearts and our minds in order that we may embrace the "new thing" you are in the process of creating. In Christ's name. Amen.**

### Moment of Silent Reflection and Confession

### Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Our claim to forgiveness rests entirely in God's claim on us. Jesus Christ restores us to life. Say it with joy!

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

**Sung Response** *We Are Forgiven* Insert

### 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: Transformation

### Prayer of Illumination

Leader: O Lord of light and salvation, let these words of Scripture live not only in our mouths, but in our hearts, that we will embody your truth and confess with our lives that Jesus is Lord.

**All: Amen.**

**Old Testament Reading** *Isaiah 43:16-21*

**Anthem** *He Took My Place* John Rasley  
Chancel Choir

Upon a life I have not lived; upon a death I did not die;  
Upon another's life and death I stake my whole eternity!

Not on the tears that I have shed; not on the sorrows I have known;  
Upon another's tears and griefs, on them I rest, on them alone.

Jesus, O Son of God I daily build what your cross has done for even me;  
There both my death and life I read: My guilt, my pardon there I see.

Lord, I believe! O deal with me as one who has your Word believed!  
I take the gift, Lord look on me as one who has your gift received.

I take your gift of love. Now look on me as one who has your blessed gift received.  
Amen.

**New Testament Reading** *Philippians 3:4b-14*

**Sermon** *"Perception vs. Perspective"* Pastor Susan Frost

*"I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?  
I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert."  
Isaiah 43:19*

### RESPONDING IN LOVE

**Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles**

**Special Music** *Were You There?*

*Kathy Barbehenn - soprano Carina Phillips - sax Kat Jolliff - piano*

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

**Invitation to the Offering**

Leader: God is a God of abundance; God provides. It is out of that provision that we share by giving our offering – of time, talent and treasures – for the work that God has prepared for us.

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

**The Sacrament of Holy Communion** insert

### MOVING IN GOD'S WAY

**Hymn** *Sing Praise to God, Who Reigns Above* # 483  
Verses 1 & 4

**Charge**

Leader: You have been reconciled to God. We are now agents of God's righteousness and ambassadors for Christ. Live boldly, for Christ welcomes sinners and makes all things new.

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

May the God of hope go with us every day,  
Filling all our lives with love and joy and peace.  
May the God of justice speed us on our way,  
Bringing light and hope to every land and race.  
Praying, let us work for peace; singing, share our joy with all;  
Working for a world that's new; faithful when we hear Christ's call.

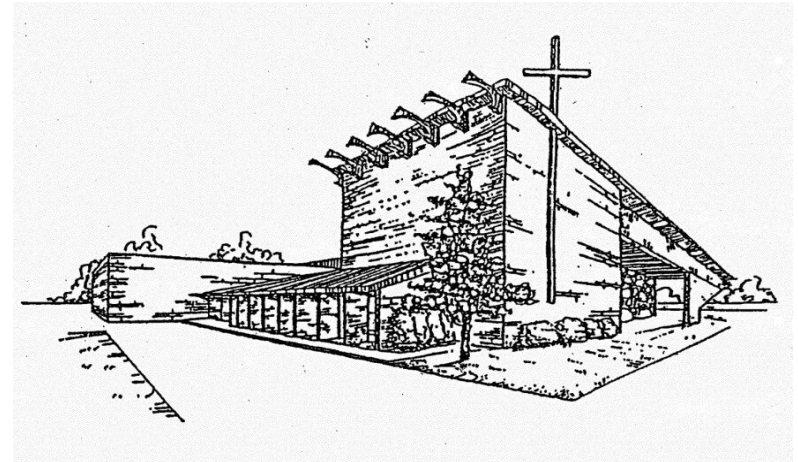
**Benediction**

Leader: Put away the past; God is about to do a new thing! God makes a way where there is no way! God carves a path through the wilderness and sends angels to guard and guide us.

**All: Amen.**

**Postlude** *Introduction in D Minor* Reger

## 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](http://www.websterpres.org)  
Stated Supply Pastor - Rev. Susan Frost

## Service of Holy Communion

### An Invitation to the Table

#### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

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

**People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

#### Prayer of Preparation

Leader: ...With the faithful of every time and place, we forever sing to the glory of your name:

**People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

#### Words of Institution

Leader: Remembering our Lord's self-giving love, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**People: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

#### 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.

Leader: The body of Christ, given for you.

**People: Amen.**

Leader: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

**People: Amen.**

#### Prayer of Gratitude

**All: Giving God, living Lord, you have fed us with your body. You have poured out your life that we might live. We thank you, for we have tasted your goodness in this meal. Fed, we are strengthened; filled, we are renewed to share the abundance of your love with a hungry world. Amen.**

#### Memory Verse

*"Peace I leave you; my peace I give to you.*

*I do not give to you as the world gives.*

*Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid."*

*John 14:27*

#### . Lectionary Passages

April 6<sup>th</sup>

Old Testament *Isaiah 43:16-21*

Psalm *Psalm 126*

New Testament *Philippians 3:4b-14*

Gospel *John 12:1-8*

Palms

April 13<sup>th</sup>

Old Testament

Psalm *Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29*

New Testament

Gospel *Luke 19:28-40*

Passion

*Isaiah 50:4-9a*

*Psalm 31:9-16*

*Philippians 2:5-11*

*Luke 22:14 – 23:56*

## 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 Room 9/10  
- Today we will discuss the chapter "You Know Everything" – *John 21:1-19* (p. 198) from the book *Into the Mess*.
3. YOUTH CHRISTIAN ED. will meet in the Youth Room at 9:45 today.
4. KING CIRCLE INVITES ALL to a program on Health and Wellness for Seniors this Thursday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. in the Social Room. Polly Sadler, a retired Physical Education teacher in the Webster School District, will be our guest speaker. Please join us and bring a friend!
5. A PALM SUNDAY BRUNCH will be held in the Social Room next Sunday following the worship service. Food and beverages will be provided along with craft activities for the children. Please sign up in the Narthex or call the church office to join us for fellowship and celebration.
6. EASTER FLOWER ORDERS will be taken today through next Sunday. A single Lily (\$18), Tulips (\$14), Hyacinths (\$14), and Azaleas (\$29.50) can be ordered in the Narthex or by calling the church office. Payment can be in cash or check made out to Presbyterian Women (PWC). Flowers will be displayed Easter morning and may be taken home afterward or donated to one of our Friends at Home.
7. THE ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING OFFERING collections extends through Easter when it will be blessed in the Worship Service. Envelopes can be found in your chair racks and fish banks are available. By supporting this special offering, you help fund the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, the Presbyterian Hunger program, and the Self-Development of People.
8. EASTER YARD SIGNS inviting the community to join us for Easter service are available to display at your home. Spread the word and invite the community to celebrate this special day with us. See Scott or Heather Hewlett after church to get your signs.
9. OUR SEMI-ANNUAL ADOPT-A-HIGHWAY clean-up of Route 250 near the church will take place on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> beginning at 9:30am and finishing by 11:30am. This is a chance to enjoy fellowship while performing a service to the neighborhood. All supplies are provided. Pickers and drivers are needed. Look for the sign-up table today or next Sunday in the Narthex or contact Clark Chippero at 585-329-1839 or [clarkchippero@gmail.com](mailto:clarkchippero@gmail.com).

## This Week's Calendar

### Sunday, April 6 - Communion

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. SHINE Program for Children in PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in Room 3  
Youth Christian Ed. in the Youth Room
- 10:45 A.M. Adult Ed. Discussion in Room 9/10  
Family Bells in the Sanctuary
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 417 in Room 9/10  
Girl Scout Troop 344 in the Social Room  
Girl Scout Troop 489 in the Memorial Room

### Monday, April 7

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

### Tuesday, April 8

- 9:00 A.M. Women's Bible Study in Room 9/10
- 12:00 P.M. Garden Club in the Memorial Room
- 5:00 P.M. TOPS in Room 9/10
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 90 in the Memorial Room
- 6:30 P.M. Girl Scout Service Team in the Social Room
- 7:00 P.M. Trustees' Meeting in Room 9/10

### Wednesday, April 9

- 6:00 A.M. Men's Breakfast/Bible Study at Golden Boys Restaurant
- 1:00 P.M. Naomi Circle in the Memorial Room
- 4:00 P.M. 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Committee on Zoom
- 5:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 715 in the Memorial Room
- 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon Meeting in Room 9/10
- 6:00 P.M. Girl Scout Troop 195 in the Memorial Room
- 7:00 P.M. Scout Troop 425 in the Social Room

### Thursday, April 10

- 7:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom
- 9:00 A.M. Glory Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 10:00 A.M. Health & Wellness Speaker in the Social Room
- 6:00 P.M. Alleluia Bells' Rehearsal in the Sanctuary
- 6:45 P.M. Boy Scout Committee in the Memorial Room

### Friday, April 11

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

### Saturday, April 12

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

### Sunday, April 13 - Palm Sunday

- 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed
- 9:45 A.M. SHINE Program for Children in PreK – 5<sup>th</sup> Grade in Room 3  
Youth Christian Ed. in the Youth Room
- 10:45 A.M. All-Church Brunch in the Social Room
- 3:00 P.M. Worship Service at Cherry Ridge