Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ
an Open and Affirming Congregation
26th Sunday after Pentecost – Reign of Christ
November 22, 2026

Reflection *"In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich." ~Dietrich Bonhoeffer, in "Letters and Papers from Prison"*

"Everyone who struggles for justice, everyone who makes just claims in unjust surroundings is working for God's reign, even though not a Christian." ~ Oscar Romero, in The Violence of Love, edited by James R. Brockman

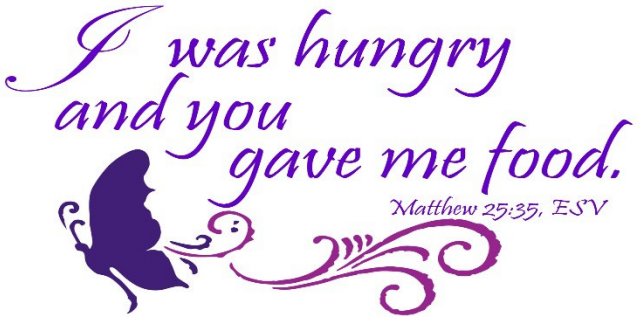
Prelude

Announcements / Welcome to Worship

Introit

Call to Worship

One: There is so much for which we give thanks.
Many: For the gifts of life, the love of family and friends, and the grace of God, we are grateful.
One: We celebrate Christ, whose kingdom is a place of welcome, justice, and compassion.
Many: We rejoice in a love that welcomes all and leaves no one behind.
One: As we give thanks, may we open our hearts to Christ among us.
Many: May the blessings we receive become blessings we share.
One: With grateful hearts, let us worship God!



Hymn NC #303 *Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing*

Rejoice, give thanks and sing; your Sovereign God adore!
For Christ has robbed death's sting and triumphs ever more.
Lift up your heart…
lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;
The Lamb who purged our stains is crowned with power above.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Christ Jesus cannot fail to rule both earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell are to the Savior given.
Lift up your heart,
Lift up your voice! Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.

Rejoice in glorious hope, for Christ the Judge shall come,
And take the faithful up to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear
A heavenly voice above the trumpet's sound, "Rejoice!"

Unison Prayer of Invocation

Gracious and loving God, we gather with grateful hearts, thankful for the blessings of our lives and the love that sustains us. As we celebrate the Reign of Christ, draw us into your presence. Open our eyes to recognize Christ among us, our hearts to receive one another with love, and our lives to share the blessings we have received. Come, Holy One, and dwell among us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Gloria SL #9

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.

Anthem *Take My Life and Let It Sing*

Moment for All Ages

Scripture Reading Matthew 25:31-46 p. 35

Message

Hymn SL #152 *Fairest Lord Jesus*

Fairest Lord Jesus! Ruler of all nature!
O thou of God and man the Son!
Thee will I cherish; Thee will I honor,
Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown!

Fair are the meadows; Fairer still the woodlands,
Robed in the blooming garb of spring.
Jesus is fairer; Jesus is purer,
Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine; Fairer still the moonlight,
And all the twinkling starry host.
Jesus shines brighter; Jesus shines purer,
Than all the angels heav'n can boast!

Beautiful Savior! Lord of all the nations!
Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, Praise, adoration,
Now and forevermore be Thine!

Prayers of the People – Help/Thanks/Wow

One: Now we come to the time where we lift up our prayers of Help, Thanks, and Wow.

Lift up your hearts.
Many: We lift them up to God.
One: Does anyone have any prayers they would like to lift up?

After each individual prayer request…
One: Loving and beloved God; **Many: Hear our prayer.**

Prayer List
One: Let us read the first names of those on our prayer list.

Prayers of healing and hope for…

WENDY Blow, member of the congregation
JILL Lester, friend of Mikki Nevins
DAVID Horn, brother of Chuck Horn
BOB, great uncle of Brice Willard
CRYSTAL, friend of Jeanie McMahon
JOHN, son of a friend of Kevin and Lorraine O'Keefe
STACEY Jenkins, member of the congregation
FLANNERY Wiemer, niece of Liz Grasty (Southampton UCC)
JACKIE LaFrance, sister of Janice Tracy
RITA Horn, wife of Chuck Horn
BUDDY Nevins, member of the congregation

Prayers of sympathy for the family and friends of…

ELLIE Scott, member of the congregation
BRIAN LaFond, brother-in-law of Lynn Willard

*****_Names remain on prayer list for 8 weeks unless extension requested_

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer using any version you wish

Response: Hear our prayer O Lord, hear our prayer O Lord,
Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.

Offerings of the People – Time, Talents, Treasures, and Testimonies

Offertory

Response SL #40 *We Praise Thee, O God*

We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee.
We bless Thy holy name; glad praises we sing.

Unison Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, we offer these gifts with thankful hearts. Bless what we give and the love with which we give it. May all that we share reflect the love of Christ and help make your reign visible among us. Amen.

Hymn NC #300 *Jesus Shall Reign*

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
God's realm shall stretch from shore to shore
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Through Christ shall endless prayer be made,
borne by the Spirit's ceaseless aid;
Like sweet perfume new hymns shall rise
with every morning sacrifice.

Blessings abound where e'er Christ reigns:
the prisoners leap to lose their chains,
The weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blessed.

Let every creature rise and bring
tributes of praise for all to sing;
Angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud amen.

Benediction / Passing of the Peace

Cong Response SL #785 *God Be With You*

God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you;
With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

Indicates you are invited to stand if you are comfortable doing so.



Welcome to the Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ, an open and affirming church. **To join online via Zoom: Press Ctrl and CLICK HERE** or visit zoom.us and click Join a Meeting, then enter Meeting ID 321 069 9076; Passcode 248423. To join by phone dial 646-558-8656, then meeting ID and Passcode.

Pastor and Church Contact Info

Rev. Carol Smith's cell phone and email:
860-798-7771; carolbsmith12@gmail.com
Office Hours – Tuesdays/Fridays 9 – 12; pastoral needs any time.
Julie Holt church secretary – church phone and email:
413-527-4204; westhamptonchurchucc@comcast.net

Worship Participants

Ministers -	People of the church
Minister -	Rev. Carol Smith
Greeters -	↑ Lynn, Billi, Brice and Grace Willard
	↓ Lynn, Billi, Brice and Grace Willard
Lay Reader -	tbd
Pianist -	Michele Feldheim
Zoom Tech-	Bob Miller
Coffee Hour -	Marcia Sullivan
Flowers -	Janice and Bill Tracy

This Week at the Church...

Monday 7pm -	Council
Tuesday 6pm -	Choir
Tuesday 7pm -	Community Thanksgiving Service
Wed/Fri/Sat -	Food Pantry - see website for hours
Thursday -	Happy Thanksgiving!
Friday 7pm -	AA
Saturday 11am -	Steve Swart Memorial Service
Next Sunday -	Advent Festival during and after worship

Birthdays and Anniversaries...

November 24 ✶- Luanne Clark
November 28 ✶- Sean Jeffords
November 23 ♥- Jeff and Rhonda Brooks