




Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ
an Open and Affirming Congregation
6th Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day, Blanket Sunday - May 10, 2026

 **Reflection** – *Our Savior is our true Mother in whom we are endlessly born and out of whom we shall never come.*
~ Julian of Norwich (1342-1416)

 **Prelude**
 **Announcements / Lighting the Candle / Welcome to Worship**
 **Introit**

 **Call to Worship**
One: Drawn by God's presence,
Many: we gather.
One: Inspired by God's spirit,
Many: we worship.
One: Empowered by God's grace,
Many: we live.
One: Opened by God's love,
Many: we share.
All: We come to hear the stories of the One who loves us,
and to tell of the joy and love, peace and hope,
which is ours.

 **Hymn SL #117** *Praise Him! Praise Him!*

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Sing, O earth – His wonderful love proclaim!
Hail Him! Hail Him! highest archangels in glory!
Strength and honor give to His holy name.
Like a shepherd, Jesus will guard His children;
In His arms He carries the all day long.

Refrain: Praise Him! Praise Him! Tell of his excellent greatness.
Praise Him! Praise Him ever in joyful song!

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
For our sins He suffered, and bled and died.
He, our Rock, our Hope of eternal salvation –
Hail Him! Hail Him! Jesus, the Crucified!
Sound His praises! Jesus, who bore of sorrows!
Love unbounded, wonderful, deep and strong! *Refrain*

Praise Him! Praise Him! Jesus, our blessed Redeemer!
Heav'nly portals loud with hosannas ring!
Jesus, Savir, reigneth forever and ever.
Crown Him! Crown Him! Prophet, and Priest and King!
Christ is coning, over the world victorious;
Pow'r and glory unto the Lord belong! *Refrain*

 **Unison Prayer of Invocation**


Creator God, Breath and Spirit of all that is, you are the center that holds us and the way that leads us home. Your love has formed us and carried us, like a mother who nurtures, teaches, and never lets go. We gather in gratitude for that love, and for all who have shared it with us. As we enter this time of worship, be present among us. Open our hearts and minds, and make us one in your Spirit, so that we may live your love with wonder, courage, and compassion. 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** *A Christian Home (SL #727)*

 **Moment for All Ages**

 **Scripture Readings** 1 Peter 3:13-22 p. 284
John 14:15-21 p. 133

 **Message**

 **Hymn NC #426** *O God, Whose Steadfast Love*

O God, whose steadfast love true motherhood has blessed;
Who shields the infant small upon its mother's breast;
Embrace us too, O God our God,
And hold us in your loving arms, and hold us in your loving arms.
Your promises O God, so sure throughout the years,
Have lived in mothers' hearts, have bloomed from mothers' tears.
So Sarah laughed, and Hannah wept,
And singing Mary secrets kept, and singing Mary secrets kept.

In your great love, O God, full parenthood is known;
A father mourns his child, a mother's strength is shown.
Let parents' faithful loves unbind
Your love that thru them we might find, Christ's deeper love for humankind.

May your household of faith one family become,
That love may be increased and none may be alone;
That mother's love and father's care
And children's joy we all may share, and children's joy we all may share.



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...

AMANDA & SKYLAR Ghali, niece & grandnephew of Kevin O'Keefe

LAURA Vachula, friend of Lynn Cooper

FRANCES, cousin of Jeanie McMahan

JANNINE Haggerty, friend of Erika Subocz

JEAN Webster, member of the congregation

JOSEPH Strzegowski, brother of Dolores Thornhill

CHARLIE Burgess, husband of Marylou Burgess

CHUCK Horn, member of the congregation

WENDY Blow, member of the congregation

ROBERT Wagner, brother of Michele Wagner

JEAN Young, wife of former pastor Rev Bob Young

BETSY, sister of Gene Callahan

**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.

A Litany for Mother's Day - by Peggy Emerson, adapted

One: Mothers come in many different forms,
and today we celebrate them all!

All: Thank God for mothers!

One: Everyone here has been mothered by someone.

All: Thank God for the one who mothered us!

One: For those women and mothering ones who have joined
God in Heaven and whom we miss dearly here on earth.

All: Thank God for the mothers of the past.

One: For every woman who is working day and night
to raise her children right now.

All: Thank God for the mothers of today.

One: For all the women who are expecting
but aren't quite mothers yet!

All: Thank God for the soon-to-be-mothers.

One: For the women who took in others' children
through adoption and foster care.

All: Thank God for the mothers with hearts so big.

One: For the women who have lost a child to death
and must carry on.

All: Thank God for the mothers who are so strong.

One: For all the women who have desperately wanted to have
children of their own, but instead mother everyone else.

All: Thank God for the mothers in spirit.

One: For the women and men and all
who have lovingly mothered others.

All: Thank God for the wide variety of mothers.

**All: We thank you, Lord, for the mothering people
who have influenced our lives in so many ways.
We pray that we will honor them in everything we do.**

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



Piano 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

Loving God, you call us not only to speak of love, but to live it, to embody it in all we do and all we give. In a world that does not always understand, you invite us to bear witness with gentleness, courage, and hope. Receive these gifts we offer today, and through your abiding Spirit, use them to bring comfort, justice, and peace. May they be signs of your presence at work among us and beyond us. Amen.



Hymn SL #696 *I Love to Tell the Story*

I love to tell the story of unseen things above,
Of Jesus and His glory, of Jesus and His love.
I love to tell the story because I know 'tis true.
It satisfied my longings as nothing else can do.

*Refrain: I love to tell the story! 'Twill be my theme in glory
To tell the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*

I love to tell the story; more wonderful it seems
Than all the golden fancies of all our golden dreams.
I love to tell the story; it did so much for me,
And that is just the reason I tell it now to you. *Refrain*

I love to tell the story; 'tis pleasant to repeat
What seems each time I tell it more wonderfully sweet.
I love to tell the story, for some have never heard
The message of salvation from God's own holy Word. *Refrain*

I love to tell the story, for those who know it best
Seem hungering and thirsting to hear it like the rest.
And when in scenes of glory I sing the new, new song,
'Twill be the old, old story that I have loved so long. **Refrain**



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.

Mother's Day Blanket Dedications

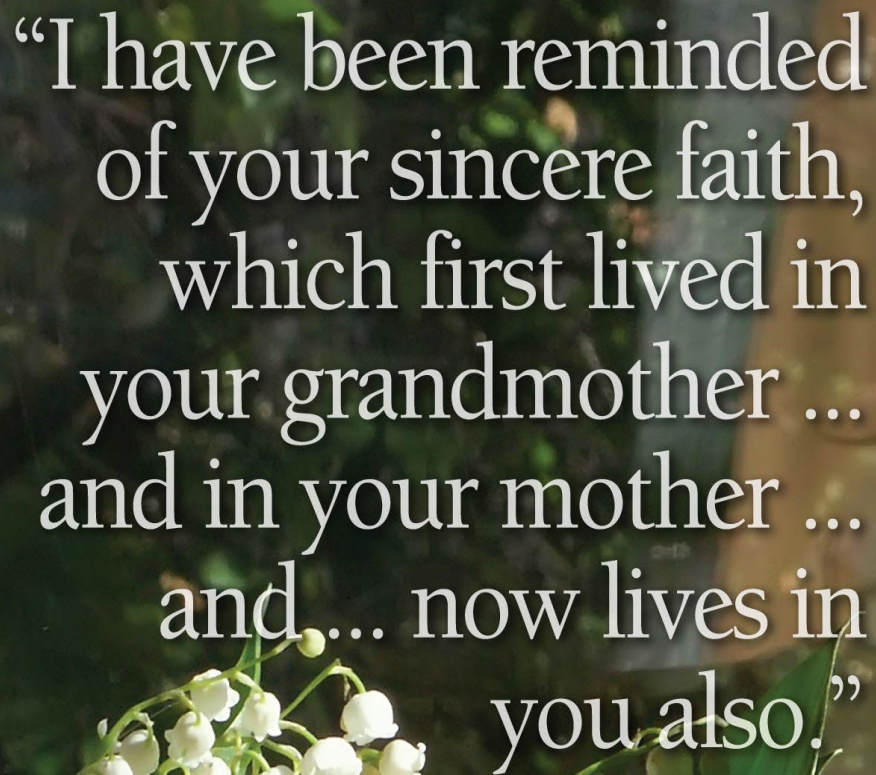
Given in memory of...

Our mothers by Walter and Karin Mitchell
Mary Lavoie by Debra Smith
Evelyn Payson by Marion Miller
Kristin Buckwalter by Sarah Madden
Eleanor Miller by Bob and Pat Miller
Evelyn Tracy by Pat and Bob Miller
Freda Karshner by Ilene Lorow
Evelyn Payson by Charlotte Wood
Margaret Wood by Charlotte Wood
My mother by Erika Subocz
Lucy Inman by Sue and Richie
Evelyn Tracy by Sue and Richie
Bert Lyman by Shirley Raymond
Alma Sallee by Darren and Lynne Sallee
Barbara Antosz by Dave and Audrey Antosz
Ella Clapp by Joanne and Ted Brooks
Blanche Brooks by Joanne and Ted Brooks
Marilyn Mascho Fuller by Robert and Deborah Fuller
Marion Mscho by Robert and Deborah Fuller
My mother Audrey Lindblom Kleissler by Lynn Cooper
Martha Nevins and Dorothy Veivia by Buddy and Mikki
May Bigelow and Ella Clapp by Kevin and Lorraine O'Keefe
Our moms by Regina DeFalco Lippert and Alex Lippert



Given in honor of...

Isabelle Chan by Debra Smith
Pat Miller by Colleen Basile
Janice Tracy by Sue and Richie
Roberta Small by Sue and Richie
Jean Webster by Linda and Sean
Ilene Lorow by Julie Holt
Stephanie and Tiffany Holt by Julie Holt
Roberta Small by Dave and Audrey Antosz
Bonnie Paton and Patty Greene by Marion Miller
My sisters Mary and Marion by Charlotte Wood
My daughters Correne and Charlene by Charlotte Wood
Julie Nevins, Kris Nevins and Mandy Partridge by Buddy and Mikki



“I have been reminded
of your sincere faith,
which first lived in
your grandmother ...
and in your mother ...
and ... now lives in
you also.”

2 Timothy 1:5, NIV

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 anytime.

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 -	↑ Marion Miller and Charlotte Wood ↓ Pat Miller
Lay Reader -	Charlotte Wood
Pianist -	Michele Feldheim
Zoom Tech-	Bob Miller
Coffee Hour -	Ilene Lorow
Flowers -	Mary and Peter Montague

This Week at the Church...

Today -	Blanket Sunday
Today -	Big Y Gift Card orders due
Wed/Fri/Sat -	Food Pantry - see website for hours
Thurs 12pm -	COA luncheon/program
Thurs 7pm -	Choir
Fri 2:30pm -	Good Works Teens
Fri 7pm -	AA
Next Sun 6:30pm -	Peace Gathering

Birthdays and Anniversaries...

May 12 ★ -	Jon Couture, Nicholas Wermer
May 13 ★ -	Peter Gilbert
May 15 ★ -	Edward Quinn
May 16 ★ -	Noah Couture
May 10 ♥ -	Cynthia and Al Hinckley
May 16 ♥ -	Audrey and Dave Antosz
May 16 ♥ -	John and Mary Barber