

Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ
an Open and Affirming Congregation
4th Sunday of Easter / Lay Sunday
April 21, 2024



Scripture Reading

Luke 15: 3-7 - p. 95
Psalm 23 - p. 617


Message

Charlotte Wood

Chime/Organ Prelude – Silent reflection to prepare your hearts for worship.
Announcements / Welcome / Introit

  Call to Worship SL #26 *This is the Day*


Men's Choir - This is the day
Congregation - This is the day
Men's Choir - That the Lord has made
Congregation - That the Lord has made
Men's Choir - We will rejoice
Congregation - We will rejoice
Men's Choir - And be glad in it
Congregation - And be glad in it
ALL - This is the day that the Lord has made
We will be glad and rejoice in it.
Men's Choir - This is the day
Congregation This is the day
ALL - That the Lord__ has __ made.

  Unison Prayer of Invocation

Almighty and Amazing God, we come before You in awe and wonder that you have made another day. You have made the heavens and the earth and the vast universe that surrounds us, and You have made each of us in Your image. We set aside this time and space to give YOU praise and to share together in thanksgiving and love in this time of worship. Guide our hearts and minds to follow YOU in all Your ways.

  Doxology SL #9 *Gloria*

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 *In the Garden*

 SL #134 Hymn *My Jesus, I Love Thee, all verses*

My Jesus, I love Thee; I know Thou art mine.
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign.
My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou.
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me,
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow.
If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I will love Thee in life, I will love Thee in death,
And praise Thee as long as Thou lend-est me breath,
And say when the death-dew lies cold on my brow,
"If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."


In mansions of glory and endless delight,
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright.
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow,
"If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now."

 Hymn *Little Brown Church in the Vale, vs. 1 & 3*

There's a church in the valley in the wildwood,
No lovelier pace in the vale.
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.

*Refrain – Oh come, come, come, come...
Come to the church in the wildwood,
Oh come to the church in the vale.
No spot is so dear to my childhood
As the little brown church in the vale.*

How sweet on a clear sabbath morning
To listen to the clear ringing bells
It's gongs so sweetly are calling,
"Oh come to the church in the vale." *Refrain*

 **SL #103 Hymn** *His Eye Is on the Sparrow, all verses*
Why should I feel discouraged? Why should the shadows come?
Why should my heart be lonely and long for heav'n and home
When Jesus is my portion? My constant Friend is He.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

Refrain - I sing because I'm happy; I sing because I'm free.
For His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.

“Let not your heart be troubled,” His tender words I hear;
And resting on His goodness, I lose my doubt and fear.
Tho' by the path He lead-eth but one step I may see,
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. *Refrain*

Whenever I am tempted, whenever clouds arise,
When songs give place to sighing, when hope within me dies,
I draw the closer to Him; from care He sets me free.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me.
His eye is on the sparrow, and I know He watches me. *Refrain*

 **SL #256 Hymn** *Because He Lives, all verses*

God sent His Son – they called Him Jesus;
He came to love, heal and forgive.
He lived and died to buy my pardon;
An empty grace is there to prove my Savior lives.

Refrain – Because He lives, I can face tomorrow;
Because He lives, all fear is gone.
Because I know He holds the future
And life is worth the living – just because He lives.

How sweet to hold a newborn baby
And feel the pride and joy he gives;
But greater still the calm assurance:
This child can face uncertain days because He lives. *Refrain*

And then one day I'll cross the river;
I'll fight life's final war with pain.
And then, as death gives way to victory,
I'll see the lights of glory – and I'll know He reigns. *Refrain*



Prayers of the People – Help, Thanks, and Wow

Lift up your hearts.... **We lift them up to God.**

Response after each individual prayer is lifted up...

Loving and beloved God... **Hear our prayer.**

Prayer List


Prayers of healing and hope for...

DANIELLE Dennett, member
JASON Pratt, brother of Danielle Dennett
ELLEN Gill, friend of Mikki and Buddy Nevins
PHYLLIS Widelo, sister of Mark Thornhill
NIKO Sinodinos, husband of Maria Yorgakopoulou
ELAINE Donaldson, friend of Marion, Bonnie and Patty
LAINE Gootee, sister of Darren Sallee
PATTY Cotton, friend of the community
JEAN Miemerstorf, niece of Anita Hickey
PATTY Schmidt, friend of Lorraine O'Keefe and Joanne Brooks
IRIS Worland, friend of Pastor Greg
MIKE Carriveau, husband of Jessica Carriveau
LORRAINE Spencer, member of the congregation
OLIVER Bishop, member of the congregation
LAURA Vachula, friend of Lynn Cooper
BRENDA Hodge, sister of Mark Thornhill
BRENDA Pelc, neighbor of Jackie and Larry Didier
SEASON Whitenight, cousin of Julie and Stephen Holt
MICHAEL, friend of Maria Yorgakopoulou and Niko Sinodinos
WENDY Blow, member of the congregation
ELLIE Longto, mother of Aaron Bauer
JAMISON Nevins, son of Mikki and Buddy Nevins
MANDY Partridge, friend of Mikki and Buddy Nevins
BILL Bruneau, friend of the community

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer NB#G-6 (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.

Responding with our Pledges and Offerings

🎵 Offertory

↑ 🎵 Hymn of Praise 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.

↑ Prayer of Dedication

↑ 🎵 SL #231 Hymn *Beneath the Cross of Jesus, all verses*

Beneath the cross of Jesus I fain would take my stand –
The shadow of a mighty rock within a weary land,
A home within the wilderness, a rest upon the way
From the burning of the noontide heat and the burden of the day.

There lies beneath the shadow, but on the farther side,
The darkness of an awful grave that gapes both deep and wide;
And there between us stands the cross, two arms out-stretched to save,
Like a watchman set to guard the way from that eternal grave.

Upon the cross of Jesus mine eyes at times can see
The very dying form of One Who suffered there for me.
And from my smitten heart, with tears, these wonders I confess:
The wonder of His glorious love, and my unworthiness.

I take, O cross, thy shadow for my abiding place,
I ask no other sunshine than the sunshine of His face;
Content to let the world go by, to know no gain nor loss,
My sinful self – my only shame, my glory – all the cross.

↑ 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.

↑ 🎵 Organ 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, click Join a Meeting and enter Meeting ID 321 069 9076; Passcode 248423. 646-558-8656.

Pastor Greg Briggs Office Hours & Contact Info

Pastor Greg Briggs' email and cell phone:
pastor.greg.briggs@gmail.com; 616-283-2971

**Pastor Greg away at a conference and vacation thru April 28.*

Julie Holt church secretary - church email and office phone:
westhamptonchurchucc@comcast.net; 413-527-4204

Worship Participants

Ministers -	People of the church
Interim Minister -	Pastor Greg Briggs
Organist -	Marcia Sullivan
Greeters -	↑ Sue and Richie Small ↓ Pat Miller
Lay Leader -	Charlotte Wood
Lay Reader -	Rick Tracy
Zoom Tech-	Bob Miller
Coffee Hour -	Bob and Pat Miller
Flowers -	Cheryl Fuller Malinowski & Steve Malinowski

This week at the church...

Today -	Lay Sunday
Wed-Fri-Sat -	Food Pantry – see website for hours
Thurs 6pm -	Transition Team
Thurs 7pm -	Choir
Fri 7pm -	AA

Birthdays and Anniversaries...

April 21 ★ -	Evelyn Blakesley
April 23 ★ -	Christopher Wilcox
April 24 ★ -	Bret LaFrance
April 25 ★ -	Mike Holt, Rick Tracy
April 27 ★ -	Brianna Inman Torrey

