Celebration of Worship

August 25, 2024

9:30 A.M.

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

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Reflection

James Naylor, Quaker mystic

"There is a spirit that delights to do no evil, nor to avenge any wrong. Its hope is to outlive all wrath and contention, and to weary out all exaltation and cruelty."

Ringing of the Bell

Gathering Song Be Still for the Presence

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here. Come, bow before Him now with reverence and fear.

In Him no sin is found; we stand on holy ground.

Be still, for the presence of the Lord, the Holy One is here.

Call to Worship

Leader: Christ abides in us.

All: And we abide in him.

Leader: Christ has the words of eternal life:

All: We believe and trust that he is the Holy One of God.

Leader: As we hear the gospel of peace today,

- All: Let us choose again whom we will serve.
- Leader: We will serve the God of liberation and new life,
- All: The God who hears and answers when we call.
- Leader: We bring our praises and our prayer to God,
- All: Trusting God to meet us as we gather. Let us worship our God together!

Hymn

God of Grace and God of Glory # 420

Invocation

Leader: Every week, as we worship together, we have the opportunity to admit to ourselves, to each other, and to God that we do not always live as we are called. In this time of opening our hearts, let us remember that God is merciful and just, eager to offer grace and love.

Prayer of Confession

All: All-patient Lord, we are a culture that wants the quick and easy answers to all of life's problems. We want to be able to open the Bible and place our fingers on the passage that will answer all our questions and heal all our hurts. It is difficult for us to deal with the knowledge that discipleship requires patience and perseverance. Jesus' own disciples struggled with his teachings. It took a long time for them to understand fully what Jesus was saying and how they were to respond. We are no different. The words of Jesus take time for us to comprehend.

Forgive us, Lord, when we are so impatient, when we just want to "get on with it", and be where the action is. Help us to understand the commitment we make in discipleship, through the rocky times and the smooth seas alike. Push us in our ministry of help and compassion to do more than we ever thought we could do in helping others. Give to us that extra measure of faith and commitment that we may truly serve you by serving others.

Moment of Silence

How are you already engaged in the work of the Gospel of Jesus Christ? How could you be more actively engaged in that work?

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Even though you doubt and question, God's love is poured on you, in you, and through you to others. Rest assured in God's presence and love for you that will never fail or abandon you.

People: In the name of Jesus Christ, we are healed, restored and forgiven!

Gloria Patri

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.

Passing of the Peace

Children's Time

Hymn Scripture Reading O Jesus, I Have Promised Psalm 84:1-12 # 389

Scripture Reading

Ephesians 6:10-20

Sermon

Armed for Battle ? John Kubiniec

Affirmation of Faith

All: We believe there is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus; for we know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to God's purpose. We are convinced that neither death, nor life, nor angels, nor rulers, nor things present, nor things to come, nor powers, nor height, nor depth, nor anything else in all creation will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.

Sharing Joys and Concerns and Lighting of Prayer Candles

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (Debts/debtors)

Announcements

Invitation to the Offering

Please place your offering in the plates at the exit doors, mail your gifts to the church, or click the WPC website "Give" button. Thank you!

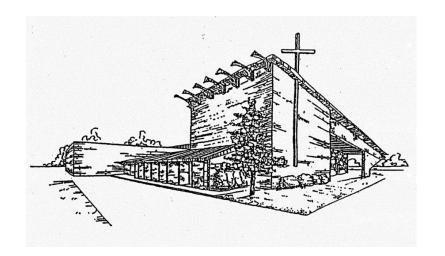
Doxology Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.

Blessing of the Offering

All: Holy God, we thank you that we have heard your words of eternal life today. As a sign of our gratitude, we offer you these gifts. Take what we have given and multiply it for the good: the good of our faith community, the good of our neighbors, and the good of the world you so love. Shape and mold us so that our whole lives become a loving response to your goodness. In the name of the one whose life gives life to the world, Jesus Christ. Amen.

Hymn Fight the Good Fight # 307 Benediction Postlude * * * * * * * Webster Presbyterian Church 550 Webster Road Webster, New York 14580 585-265-9700 www.websterpres.org Pastor Nadia Mullin

WEBSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH



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God of Grace and God of Glory

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power. Crown Thine ancient church's story; bring its bud to glorious flower. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour, For the facing of this hour.

Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn Thy Christ, assail Thy ways! From the fears that long have bound us, free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the living of these days, For the living of these days.

Cure Thy children's warring madness; bend our pride to Thy control. Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal, Lest we miss Thy kingdom's goal.

Set our feet on lofty places; gird our lives that they may be Armored with all Christ-like graces, pledged to set all captives free. Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, that we fail not them nor Thee, That we fail not them nor Thee!

Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore.

Let the gift of Thy salvation be our glory evermore.

Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving Thee whom we adore; Serving Thee whom we adore.

O Jesus, I Have Promised

O Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end.Be Thou forever near me, my Master and my friend.I shall not fear the battle if Thou art by my side,Nor wander from the pathway if Thou will be my guide.

O let me feel Thee near me! The world is ever near. I see the sights that dazzle; the tempting sounds I hear.

My foes are ever near me, around me and within, But Jesus, draw Thou nearer and shield my soul from sin.

- O let me hear Thee speaking in accents clear and still Above the storms of passion, the murmurs of self-will.
- O speak to reassure me, to hasten or control; O speak, and make me listen, Thou guardian of my soul.
- O Jesus, Thou hast promised to all who follow Thee That where Thou art in glory, there shall Thy servant be.
- And, Jesus, I have promised to serve Thee to the end. O give me grace to follow, my Master and my friend.

Fight the Good Fight

Fight the good fight with all thy might. Christ is thy strength and Christ thy right. Lay hold on life and it shall be Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race through God's good grace. Lift up thine eyes and seek Christ's face. Life with its way before us lies. Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on thy guide. God's boundless mercy will provide. Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not nor fear, God's arms are near. God changeth not, and thou art dear. Only believe, and thou shall see That Christ is all in all to thee.

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THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Sunday, August 25

9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed **Tuesday, August 27** 5:15 P.M. TOPS Meeting in Room 9/10 **Wednesday, August 28** 6:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study at Golden Boys' Restaurant 5:30 P.M. Nar-Anon Meeting in Room 9/10 **Thursday, August 29** 7:30 A.M. Men's Bible Study on Zoom **Saturday, August 31** 9:00 A.M. Prayer Time on Zoom (link below) <u>https://us06web.zoom.us/j/8020641367?pwd=VnlXcDITWjZIS2d</u> <u>0NE96dmVFeVB4dz09&omn=88328754973</u> **Sunday, September 1** 9:30 A.M. Worship Service in the Sanctuary & Live-streamed

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- 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 <u>https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzM5thYxua2HQSPF6P71wA</u>
- 2.
- 3. FOOD AND TOILETRY DONATIONS continue to be collected. Current food needs are coffee, sugar, flour, canned beets, canned pineapple, cooking oil, and condiments. Current toiletry needs are baby diapers (size 6), baby wipes, toiletries, soap, and laundry detergent. The collection barrel can be found in the upper Narthex.
- 4. FALL LITURGIST VOLUNTEERS are needed. It's an easy job, but a very important one. If you've never been a liturgist before, we encourage you to give it a try. If you have an interest in signing up or would like to know more about it, please reach out to Heather Hewlett (heather.hewlett@yahoo.com).
- 5. NEEDED: 6 8 people on this Saturday, September 7th, from 10 a.m. to Noon to help move small donated furniture items brought to Holy Trinity for their upcoming garage sale. Payment is a cool yellow shirt to wear that day and to keep forever, and the warm fuzzy you get to experience when you know you've really done something great. Little deeds bring great results and many hands make light work. Hope staff will be there, but they can't do it alone. If you can help for just two hours, please contact Bob Smith or Kathy Barbehenn, or contact the church office and we will make sure you get your shirt.

Memory Verse

He has told you, O mortal, what is good. And what does the Lord require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God. Micah 6:8 (NRSV)