

ORDER OF SERVICE
April 3, 2016

Children start in the lower level this morning.

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH Cheryl Dixon Paul,
Worship Associate

TESTIMONIAL 9:00 Vidal Clay; 11:00 Jenna Jacobs

INTROIT "Song of Kabir" Elizabeth Alexander
Chamber Choir

CHALICE LIGHTING

OPENING WORDS

*OPENING HYMN #38 "Morning Has Broken"

STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATION

Love is the spirit of this church, and service its law.
This is our great covenant: to dwell together in peace,
to seek the truth in love, and to help one another.

CANDLE LIGHTING A time to share a brief personal joy or sorrow.
A Pastoral Care Associate will be at the candle boat after the service.

MEDITATION

MUSIC "A Gaelic Blessing" John Rutter

SERMON "Stories of Creation" Rev. Dr. John Morehouse

OFFERING "Seize on Today" Thoreau/Hardin

AFFIRMATION OF GRATITUDE

Let us be grateful when we are able to give,
For many do not have that privilege.
Let us be grateful for all those who share their gifts,
For we are enriched by their giving.
And let us be grateful even for our needs,
So that we may learn from the generosity of others.

CLOSING HYMN "God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens"
(see insert)

CLOSING WORDS

POSTLUDE "The Word Was God" Rosephayne Powell

*Latecomers will be seated at this time.

Parents with young children are invited to use our nursery or sit in the foyer
where you can hear the service and your children can be children.
To create an atmosphere of worship we ask that you refrain from applauding
until the end of the service and turn off all cell phones and beepers.
There are listening assistive headphones on the back wall of the Sanctuary.

THIS WEEK AT CHURCH

Today, April 3

Gr. 6-8 Parents Group, East Wing at 10:15 pm
Youth Business Meeting, Meeting House at 12:00 pm
21 Days Spiritual Practices wrap-up, Youth Room 12:30 pm
Immigration Social Justice, Chapel at 12:30 pm
Camp Jewell Pot Luck, East Wing at 12:30 pm

Monday, April 4

Bell Choir, East Wing at 6:45 pm
OAF Rehearsal, Sanctuary at 7:45 pm

Tuesday, April 5

Tai Chi, East Wing at 11:00 am
Pre-K-12 Program Planning, Fellowship Room at 7:00 pm
Men's Choir, Sanctuary at 8:00 pm

Wednesday, April 6

Stewardship Note Writing, Fellowship Room at 6:00 pm
Constitution Revision Info Session, Fellow Room at 7:00 pm
Chamber Choir, Sanctuary at 7:45 pm

Thursday, April 7

Youth Choir at 5:00 pm
Teen Choir at 6:00 pm
Women's Choir at 7:45 pm

Saturday, April 9

Sight Singing at 9:00 am
Memoir Writing Workshop, Meeting House at 10:30 am
Pastoral Care Associates, Meeting House at 1:00 am

WELCOME! We're glad you're here this morning. If this is one of your first visits with us, please stop to talk with our greeters. They can be identified by the yellow ribbons on their nametags. Please join us after the service for our Fellowship Coffee Hour for refreshment and conversation. More information at www.uuwestport.org.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROWTH

We are at the half way point in [Y]Our Annual Canvass. While we are half way there in terms of timing, we are not yet half way to our funding goal (**\$700,000**), nor to our participation goal (FULL PARTICIPATION). Let's ALL fulfill our commitment to this church, our staff, ministers and to one another. Together we will get there! THANKS to all who have already given! Pledge cards and information brochures are available at the Stewardship table in the Foyer. Keep an eye on the Canvass Thermometer for our progress! Please see the Pledging link at the top of our website homepage at uuwestport.org for more information on the Canvass and how to make your pledge.

Brother Sun Returns to Voices Café, Sunday, April 10 at 4:30- A special afternoon performance. Child care provided! Brother Sun returning to Voices Café for the third time? Why? The answer is simple...because they're JUST THAT GOOD! Purchase tickets here: <http://voicescafe.org/show/brother-sun/>

The Small Group Ministry has 122 members in 15 groups that meet once a month to discuss a topic. This month's topic is "Creation." A member of the facilitation team will be available after the service. For info: Steven Rosenberg @Rosen323@aol.com.

You are invited to attend an Introductory Luncheon at Mercy Center on Friday, April 8, 11:30 - 1:00. See the Center in action, hear from the MLC President and a student. Please contact Sharon Bittenbender for info or to RSVP at sharon@slpoole.com or 203-400-3843

The Constitution Revision Task Force is holding Information Sessions for you to learn about the changes being proposed to our Constitution, ask questions, and provide input. The fifth of 9 of these programs will be Wednesday, April 6 at 7 PM in the Fellowship (coffee) Room. The full schedule is posted on the Bulletin Board in the foyer.

NLDC is putting together the slate of candidates for the June Annual Meeting for the following elected committees: Board of Trustees, Committee on Ministries, Endowment and NLDC. Please contact any NLDC member with nomination(s), including self-nominations. More information will be included in Soundings, or contact NLDC Chair, Carol Seiple at carol_seiple@yahoo.com.



OUR MISSION STATEMENT: *The Unitarian Church in Westport is a diverse and welcoming religious community, free of creed and dogma, and open to people of all backgrounds and beliefs. We **inspire** and support individual spiritual growth. We **connect** through worship, music, learning, and caring ministries. We **act** in the service of peace and justice.*

AFFIRMATION

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The Unitarian Church in Westport

10 Lyons Plains Road, Westport, CT 06880, 227-7205 www.uuwestport.org

Ushers at 9:00 M.J. Cross, B. Stuck, L. Hudson

Ushers at 11:00 L. Peel, B. Worden, S. Khadjavi, N. McKeever

Rev. Dr. John T. Morehouse, Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Edward Thompson, Minister of Music

Rev. Dr. Debra Haffner, Endorsed Community Minister

Rev. Frank Hall, Minister Emeritus

Mary Collins, Director Lifespan Faith Development; Cal Wacker, Youth Programs
David Vita, Director Social Justice and Membership