

**ORDER OF SERVICE
December 6, 2015**

PRELUDE "Will the Circle Be Unbroken" Folk Song
Once & Again Folksingers

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS Anita Pfluger
Worship Associate

CHALICE LIGHTING 11:00 Teo Boruchin

OPENING WORDS

*OPENING HYMN #221 "Light One Candle"

STATEMENT OF AFFIRMATION (see cover)

STORY told by Rev. Debra Haffner
CHILDREN & TEACHERS TO CLASSES (# 413)

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

SPOKEN & SILENT MEDITATION

MUSIC "Light These Lights" Debbie Friedman

SERMON "Homeward Communion" Rev. Dr. John Morehouse

OFFERING "Let There Be Peace" Andy Beck

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 "Welcome Table"

1. I'm gonna sit at the welcome table;
2. I'm gonna feast on milk and honey;
3. All God's children gonna sit together;
4. I'm gonna sing and never get tired.

CLOSING WORDS

POSTLUDE "Giving and Receiving" Thompson
Jenna Jacobs, Sharron Bittenbender, Berta Russel, soloists
Josh Davidoff, clarinet

*Latecomers will be seated at this time.

Parents with young children are invited to sit in the first three rows so that little ones can see and participate.

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, December 6

Jewelry Sale, East Wing after both services
Wreath Sale, Courtyard after both services
Jewell Information & Planning Meeting, Library at 10:15 am
Creating Our Own Theology, Meeting House at 12:30 pm
Immigration Social Action, Chapel at 12:30 pm
Youth Business Meeting, Youth Room at 1:00pm

Monday, December 7

NVC Practice, Fellowship Room at 7:00 pm
O&AF at 7:45 pm

Tuesday, December 8

Endowment Committee, Fellowship Room at 6:30 pm
Stewardship Committee, Fellowship Room at 7:15 pm
Membership Committee, Library at 7:15 pm

Wednesday, December 9

Domestic Violence Task Force, East Wing at 12:20 pm
Soundings Mailing, Fellowship Room at 1:00 pm
Worship Associates, Rev. John's Office at 7:00 pm

Thursday, December 10

Teen Choir at 6:00 pm
NLDC Library at 7:00 pm
Eliminating Racism, East Wing at 7:00 pm
Special Projects Choir at 7:45 pm

Friday, December 11

Pageant Rehearsal at 4:30 pm

Saturday, December 12

Special Projects Choir at 10:00 am
Pastoral Care Associates, Meeting House at 1:00 pm
Holiday Potluck (5:30 pm) & Carol Sing-along (6:30)

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 and they are happy to answer any questions you have about our church. Please join us after the service for our Fellowship Coffee Hour for refreshment and conversation. More information about this church and our programs can be found at our website www.uuwestport.org.

ANNOUNCEMENTS.

Jewelry Sale today after each service: Shop for jewelry, scarves and more. All proceeds benefit the church. Great bargains!

"Creating Our Own Theology" is an occasional series presented by Rev. John on the principles and practice of our 12:30pm. Please join us.

The **UU Non-Violent Communication Practice Group** invites you to an open Practice Group meeting on Monday, December 7, from 7-9: pm in the East Wing. You will experience first-hand how this process creates connection and helps resolve real life struggles. Q&A will follow. Please RSVP to jancy17@gmail.com or whittoninc@att.net.

Would you like to visit Mercy Learning Center? You are invited to join one of two visits to the Center: Tues, Dec. 8, 10 AM or Fri, Dec. 11, 1 PM. RSVP to Sharon Bittenbender, sharon@slpoole.com The women at Mercy appreciate our contributions that go toward grocery store cards used to buy fresh food. Stop by the Social Justice table to help.

Youth Group wreath sale today and Dec 13! Stop in the courtyard and support our TUCW Youth Group with your holiday wreath purchase.

Next Sunday is the final collection day of gifts for the children of prisoners. These gifts are distributed by CT Family ReEntry. Please be sure to bring yours. Pick up a flyer at the Social Justice table.

We need people to donate toward the purchase of our traditional holiday wreath and poinsettia sanctuary decorations. The cost is \$65. For info about contributing email jan@uuwestport.org or sign up in the foyer.

Immigration Committee meeting 12:30 in the Chapel. Guest Speaker: **Lucas Codognolla**, Lead of Connecticut Students for a Dream followed by a discussion of whether to expand our work to include refugees and an update on an Interfaith proposal to bring a refugee family to the area.

KIVA Holiday Card sale on Dec 13 & 20 after services for 2 weeks only. Support struggling entrepreneurs world-wide by sending KIVA cards!



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

*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.*

FLOWERS

*In loving memory of our mother Peggy Boldt,
a founding member of this church.
Given by Deborah and John Boldt*

The Unitarian Church in Westport

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

Ushers 9:00: B. Stuck, M.J. Cross, G. McCann, A. Stockton

Ushers 11:00: J. Glasser-Orenstein, L. Peel, B. Worden, S. Khadjavi

Rev. Dr. John T. Morehouse, Senior Minister

Rev. Edward Thompson, Minister of Music

Rev. Debra Haffner, Endorsed Community Minister

Rev. Frank Hall, Minister Emeritus

Mary Collins, Director Religious Education; Cal Wacker, Youth Programs
David Vita, Director Social Justice and Membership