

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION
Cheryl Dixon Paul, Worship Associate

PRELUDE

CHALICE LIGHTING & OPENING WORDS Worship Associate

****OPENING CAROL “The First Nowell”**

1. *The first Nowell the angel did say Was to certain poor
shepherds in fields as they lay; In fields where they lay keeping
their sheep On a cold winter’s night that was so deep.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.*

2. *They look-ed up and saw a star Shining in the east, beyond
them far; And to the earth it gave great light, And so it continued
both day and night.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.*

3. *And by the light of that same star, Three Wise men came from
country far, To seek for a king was their intent, And to follow the
star wherever it went.
Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, Nowell, born is the King of Israel.*

COVENANT

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 Chaplain will be present at the candle
boat after the service.

MEDITATION

MUSIC “Solstice Carol” The Wyrd Sisters
Joann Coviello, Linda Hudson, Jalna Jaeger

HOMILY “O Come, All Ye Faithful” Rev. Shelly Thompson

OFFERING

CLOSING SONG

*Spirit of Life, come unto me. Sing in my heart all the
stirrings of compassion. Blow in the wind, rise in the sea;
move in the hand, giving life the shape of justice.
Roots hold me close; Wings set me free;
Spirit of Life, come to me, come to me.*

BENEDICTION

Rev. Shelly Thompson

POSTLUDE “Angels We Have Heard”
Bell Choir

Trad. French

Poinsettias

Donated to the congregation by Marion Wertheim
Be well! Be merry!

****Latecomers will be seated at this time.**

Parents with babies/young toddlers please use our foyer to enjoy the service.

Listening assistive headphones are on the back wall of the Sanctuary.

WELCOME! We’re glad you’re here this morning. If this is one
of your first visits with us, please stop by the visitors’ table (below
the WELCOME sign) for information and answers to questions
you may have about this UU community. And join us after the
service for refreshments and conversation. More information
about our programs and our Event Calendar can be found at our
website www.uuwestport.org

OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

Holiday Appeal: Please consider making an end-of-year contribution to our congregation, and visit the Year Round Stewards in the lobby after the service. Look for Rev. John's letter explaining this giving opportunity.

The Board & COM present the Strategic Plan: Please stop by the COM table in the foyer to share your opinions on TUCW's infrastructure needs and wishes. Which is more important to you--repairing our roof or replacing the exterior walls? Upgrading the heating system or adding air conditioning? Reducing operating costs or concentrating on energy consumption? Your opinions are important. Let us hear from you!

Leadership Development Team (LDT) presents *Harvest the Power*: Join Rev. John for this engaging series designed to enrich the skills of both new and experienced leaders. 12 Sunday sessions will run from 12:30-2pm beginning in January. Contact ldt@uuwestport.org with questions or to apply.

Year-Round Stewardship Committee needs your help: If you are looking for an opportunity to contribute to our congregation, if you want to meet new people in our community, if you understand that the financial health of our church is important, you can be a "Visiting Steward"! Please email stewardship@uuwestport.org. Mark your calendars for a fun and interactive training session to be held on Saturday, March 2nd.

CHRISTMAS EVE SCHEDULE: Traditional Pageant @ 4PM and Candlelight Service @ 9PM. All are welcome!

Coming in January: Sight Singing and Voice Classes. See Soundings for more information.

9:00AM CONTEMPLATIVE SERVICE



The Unitarian Church in Westport

10 Lyons Plains Road, Westport, CT 06880, 203/227-7205 www.uuwestport.org

Ushers: J. Cooper; M. Webb; D. Wyse

Rev. Dr. John T. Morehouse, Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Edward Thompson, Minister of Music

Rev. Frank A. Hall, Minister Emeritus

Rev. Shelly Thompson, Assistant Minister for Faith Formation

Margalie Belizaire, Intern Minister

Sandra Clements, Acting Children's Program Coordinator

David Vita, Director of Social Justice and Director of Membership

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.*