

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

Judy Eckert, Worship Associate

INTROIT “Be a Candle”
Once & Again Singers

Becki Mayo

CHALICE LIGHTING

Esa O’Reilly

OPENING WORDS

Worship Associate

****OPENING HYMN “It Came Upon the Midnight Clear” Sears/Willis**

*1. It came upon the midnight clear, that glorious song of old,
From angels bending near the earth, to touch their harps of gold,
“Peace on the earth, good will to all from heav’n’s all gracious king.”
The world in solemn stillness lay, to hear the angels sing.*

*2. Still through the cloven skies they come, with peaceful wings unfurl’d,
And still their heav’nly music floats o’er all the weary world.
Above the sand and lowly plains they bend on hov’ring wing.
And ever o’er its Babel sounds the blessed angels sing.*

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.

STORY

Nate Pawelek

EXIT SONG

*Go now in peace; go now in peace; may the love of God surround
you everywhere, everywhere you may go.*

CANDLELIGHTING

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

PRAYER & MEDITATION

Rev. Morehouse

MUSIC “Angel”

Jenna McPartland, soloist

Sarah McLaughlan

SERMON “In the Arms of the Angels” Rev. Dr. John Morehouse

SHARE THE PLATE

“Look for the Light”

Thompson

DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

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 #323 “Break Not the Circle”

CLOSING WORDS

POSTLUDE “There Is a Lightseed”

Rumi/Thompson

*There is a lightseed grain in side of your soul,
a lightseed grain inside; you must fill it with
yourself again and again or else it dies.*

****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

KIVA Card Sale: Visit the KIVA table in the foyer today to buy a \$25 holiday card & give the gift of a microfinance loan to help struggling entrepreneurs around the world. Purchases over the years have enabled us to make 4,218 loans to people in 76 countries totaling \$119,675. Each loan helps build a better future for the recipient and their families. Your holiday card purchase can change a life!

Holiday Boutique: In the East Wing TODAY and again on Dec.15 after both services. Shop for special gifts and a treasure or two for yourself. You won't want to miss this fun annual event.

Soup Sales to support the Music Ministry: The Music Committee is selling soups made by Chef Julyen Norman after both services TODAY.

Music CD *Tune My Heart* on sale TODAY: This wonderful gift idea can be purchased in the foyer after both services.

TUCWomen News: *Women, Spirit and Imagination* continues the "Sacred Circle with Grandmother Nancy Andry" on Tue. Dec. 10 in the Meeting House. All women invited. RSVP: tucwomen@uuwestport.org. See uuwestport.org/tucwomen-events for more info.

Join the Christmas Eve Choir! Please contact Ed Thompson 203/227-7205 x18 or ed@uuwestport.org for details.

Pageant Plea: Parents with children ages 7-13, the annual Pageant is happening in less than a month and several spots in the cast are open with room for everyone. For more information, please see *Soundings* or contact Ed Thompson: ed@uuwestport.org; 203/227-7205 x18.

Annual gingerbread, potluck and carol-sing: Saturday, Dec.14. Gingerbread house construction @ 4:30PM; 6PM potluck dinner; 7PM carol sing. All are welcome! Please see *Soundings* for more details. You may sign up on the sheet in the foyer or by going to <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0844a5af23a6f94-annual>.

UU Movie Discussion Group: Friday, Dec. 27 @ 7:30pm in the Meeting House. Featured movies: **Ford v. Ferrari**, **Dark Waters**, and **A Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood**. For more information email dorothyjeanrich@gmail.com.

Refer to Soundings *Soundings: Weekend Edition* comes to your inbox Friday AM, *Soundings: Weekdays Edition* arrives Sunday by noon. Need to get back on our mailing list? Contact david@uuwestport.org.

In the Arms of the Angels

Rev. Dr. John Morehouse

December 8, 2019



The Unitarian Church in Westport

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

Ushers: T. Croarkin; D. Jones; S. Kadison; J. Glasser-Orenstein

Pastoral Care Chaplain: Julia Wyant

Rev. Dr. John T. Morehouse, Senior Minister

Rev. Dr. Edward Thompson, Minister of Music

Rev. Shelly Thompson, Assistant Minister for Faith Formation

Rev. Frank A. Hall, Minister Emeritus

Margalie Belizaire, Intern Minister

Rev. Jim Francek, Community Minister - Pastoral Care

Nate Pawelek, Family Faith Formation Sunday 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.*