

WELCOME & OPPORTUNITIES FOR CONNECTION

Linda Lubin, Worship Associate

CHALICE LIGHTING & OPENING WORDS Worship Associate

**OPENING HYMN “Rivers of Grace” by Carla Gates

*1. Come into the healing rivers, rivers of grace,
Come into the healing rivers, rivers of grace,
Come into the healing rivers, rivers of grace
Flowing down, down, down to my soul.*

2. Love shines in the healing rivers ...

3. Forgiveness flows in these rivers...

4. Come bathe in the healing rivers...

5. Come into the healing rivers...

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 “The Sufi Tale of the Journeying Stream” Rev. Shelly Thompson

CANDLE LIGHTING

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

PRAYER & MEDITATION Linda Lubin

MUSIC “Have Compassion” Miller Williams/Thompson Women’s and Men’s Choir

SERMON “Strong Enough to Bend” Margalie Belizaire, Intern Minister

OFFERING “Resilience” Sean O’Deidre/Will Comer

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.
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 “Silver’s Lining” Jim Clark

*A warm welcome and thank you to our instrumentalists:
Jim Andrews, bass; Jim Clark, sax; Will Comer, piano; Eric Gribin,
percussion*

Flowers

In loving memory of Susan Brady,
who led us with kindness, intelligence, and humor over many years,
from her Small Group Ministry friends

**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

Today's Special guest, The Rev. Aaron L. Miller presents "Seeking to Understand and Warmly Welcome Transgender People within our Communities of Faith" @ 12:30PM in the East Wing. All are welcome.

Choral Chameleon: Saturday, Feb 22 @ 8PM. Featuring an a cappella trilogy written by our very own Ed Thompson. See *Soundings* and uuwestport.org for tickets and more info. Invite friends: it's their only engagement in Fairfield County this season.

Story Slam and Potluck. Our Annual Pledge Drive kicks off on Feb. 29, Leap Day, with a Story Slam and potluck. Join us 6-9 PM for fun and food! See *Soundings* for more info.

"Youth, Internet Habits and Mental Health" Sunday, March 1, 12:30-2 PM (Dr. Paul Weigle) Learn how gaming and screen habits affect children's mental health, for good and ill. Open discussion will follow. All are welcome; invite your neighbors.

TUCWomen Events: Potluck, Feb 21 @ 6:30PM at the home of Jane Sherman in Westport. **Sacred Activism: Women Vote!** Janet Luongo and Sari Bodi will lead a workshop on how to get out the vote while honoring the suffragettes. Feb 26 @ 7PM in the East Wing. **RSVP** for either event: tucwomen@uuwestport.org.

Food Ministry gives thanks! To all the folks who have contributed to the refreshments after the 11AM Services for the past three weeks. Jan 26: the Voices Café Volunteers; Feb 2 the "tailgate party theme": Sofia Dumery, Marilyn Reed & Bart Stuck; Feb 9: the Oulman/LaMastro family, Ravi Sankar, Dayle Brownstein, Jamie Forbes, Linda Lubin & Julia Wyant. We are counting on continued participation to enhance our post-service conviviality.

Please refer to *Soundings* to make sure you know all about what is happening at TUCW these days - our lives here are busy! WeekEND edition shows up in your inbox Friday mornings, WeekDAY edition, Sunday mornings. Also always available on the home page of our website, uuwestport.org.

Strong Enough to Bend

Margalie Belizaire, Intern Minister

February 16, 2020



The Unitarian Church in Westport

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

Ushers: K. Leddy; R. Sankar; J. Turmelle; P. Yonkers

Pastoral Care Chaplain: Stapley Emberling

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.*