

APRIL 7, 2024 | THE SECOND SUNDAY OF EASTERTIDE



WORSHIP AT WESTFIELD

SERVICE OF WORD

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please take a moment to complete the care pad in your pew.

Peace be with you. And also with you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

We gather as people on a journey.

**We believe & we have doubts,
we do good & we sin.**

**We are imperfect humans,
and still beloved by God.**

Love and grace. Hope and faith.

These are the essence of the one we call God.

**We seek forgiveness & grace from
the One and from those we've harmed.**

Assured of that grace, we are ready to grow again.

**We yearn for a new way,
a new perspective,
and a clear path.**

Though we are full of trust
and full of doubt, we are here.

Speak to us, God! Continue creating us!

Inspire our hearts. Enlighten our minds.

Guide our actions. Amen.

PRELUDE

INVOCATION

Too often, too easily,
our eyes are drawn down, God,
to the suffering of victims
and the pain of perpetrators,
to the wounds we inflict on others
and the wounds we inflict on ourselves.
We need to see these things and pray,

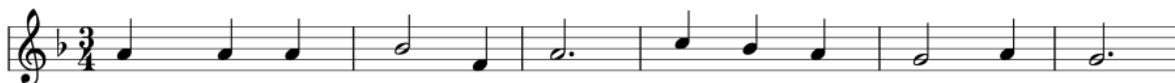
But, we also need our eyes to be lifted, God,
to the signs of your life among us,
to the touch of your healing on our souls,
to the cross that casts its liberating shadow
across all human affairs.

We need our eyes to be lifted, God,
so our hearts may be filled with faith
and hope
and love

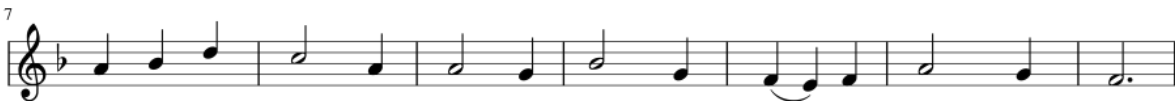
Amen.

*BREATHE ON ME, BREATH OF GOD

TRENTHAM



1. Breathe on me, breath of God, Fill me with life a - new,
 2. **Breathe on me, breath of God, Un - til my heart is pure,**
 3. Breathe on me, breath of God, Blend all my soul with Thine,
 4. **Breathe on me, breath of God, So shall I ne - ver die,**



That I may love what Thou dost love, And do what Thou wouldst do.
Un - til with Thee I will one will, To do and to en - dure.
 Un - til this earth - ly part of me Glows with Thy fire di - vine.
But live with Thee the per - fect life Of Thine e - ter - ni - ty.

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS US IN UNITY
ON THE FIRST DAY OF THE WEEK,
THE DAY OF CHRIST'S RESURRECTION.

GATHER

*PLEASE RISE
IN BODY OR SPIRIT

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*CALL TO CONFESSION

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Creator God,
we confess that at times we are skeptics.
At times we doubt that You exist
because of the evil we have seen in the world.
Oppression, marginalization, and plain hate still plague our world,
and it is hard to see Your love and light.
Sometimes, even those who bear Your name
do not walk in Your ways.

Help us to see Your goodness in this world.
Help us to know Your love.
Fill us with Your love and goodness,
so that we might love one another,
and lift up one another in faith.

silence

*ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

The psalmist says,
"I am sure I shall see the goodness of our God
in the land of the living.
Wait for the Lord;
be strong,
and let your heart take courage;
wait for the Lord!"

Know that you do not wait alone.
God has given us one another for this journey of faith,
to help one another.
Know that you do not wait alone;
Christ is with us.
Be encouraged, and encourage one another.
Go and share the Good News. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

GLORY TO GOD WHOSE GOODNESS SHINES ON ME

The musical notation is written on a single treble clef staff in 12/8 time, with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes, with some rests. The lyrics are written below the staff, aligned with the notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

Glo - ry to God, whose good - ness shines on me,
and to the Son, whose grace has par - doned me,
and to the Spir - it, whose love has set me free!
As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be. A - men.

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GATHER

*PLEASE RISE
IN BODY OR SPIRIT

*PASSING OF THE PEACE Family of God

You're invited to offer signs of welcome during the interlude.

I'm so glad I'm a part of the fam - 'ly of God

5 I've been washed in the foun - tain, wrapped in God's love!

10 Joint heirs with Je - sus as we trav - el this sod;

14 For I'm part of the fam - 'ly, the fam - 'ly of God.

CHILDREN'S TIME

All are invited to sing as the children come join the pastor in the front of the sanctuary.

Jesus Loves Me

Je - sus loves me this I know. For the Bi - ble tells me so.

5 Li - ttle ones to him be - long. They are weak, but he is strong.

9 Yes, Je - sus loves me! Yes, Je - sus loves me!

13 Yes, Je - sus loves me! The Bi - ble tells me so!

Children under 6th grade wishing to take part in Sunday School
may leave at this time.

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

THE MESSAGE

Later on that day, the disciples had gathered together, but, fearful of the Jews, had locked all the doors in the house. Jesus entered, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you." Then he showed them his hands and side.

The disciples, seeing the Master with their own eyes, were awestruck. Jesus repeated his greeting: "Peace to you. Just as the Father sent me, I send you."

Then he took a deep breath and breathed into them. "Receive the Holy Spirit," he said. "If you forgive someone's sins, they're gone for good. If you don't forgive sins, what are you going to do with them?"

But Thomas, sometimes called the Twin, one of the Twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, "We saw the Master."

But he said, "Unless I see the nail holes in his hands, put my finger in the nail holes, and stick my hand in his side, I won't believe it."

Eight days later, his disciples were again in the room. This time Thomas was with them. Jesus came through the locked doors, stood among them, and said, "Peace to you."

Then he focused his attention on Thomas. "Take your finger and examine my hands. Take your hand and stick it in my side. Don't be unbelieving. Believe."

Thomas said, "My Master! My God!"

Jesus said, "So, you believe because you've seen with your own eyes. Even better blessings are in store for those who believe without seeing."

Jesus provided far more God-revealing signs than are written down in this book. These are written down so you will believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and in the act of believing, have real and eternal life in the way he personally revealed it.

RESPONSE TO READING

Through this scripture, God is still speaking.
And we are listening.

**SERMON
MR. KEVIN WILLIAMS**

HEAR
GOD SPEAKS TO US IN
SCRIPTURE, PREACHING,
AND SONG

***PLEASE RISE
IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

WE BEGIN OUR LIFE OF
RESPONDING TO THE
GOSPEL THROUGH
PRAYER AND OFFERING.

RESPOND

SHARING OF CONCERNS

For all these persons
and all who are in need.
Hold your people near, O God.

SHARING OF JOYS

We give thanks to God
for these blessings.
Thanks be to God.

CALL TO PRAYER FIX ME, JESUS

Oh, fix me, oh, fix me, oh, fix me; fix me, Je-sus, fix me.

INVITATION TO GIVE

When Jesus calls his disciples,
he promises to transform the gifts they already possess
to be used for the glory and kingdom of God.
Let us offer our resources
in following Jesus.
We will now begin our morning offering.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY EASTER DOXOLOGY

Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
And sing to-day with one accord.
The life laid down, the life re-stored;
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! A-men.

COMMUNION RESPONSE ALLELUIA! LOVE IS ALIVE!

Al-le-lu-ia! Love is a-live;
con-querred the grave and de-feat-ed the night.
Al-le-lu-ia! Love is a-live!
The Son has a-ris-en for all. Your peo-ple sing al-le-lu-ia!

*PLEASE RISE
IN BODY OR SPIRIT

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

...praise your name
and join their unending hymn:
**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest!**

..as we proclaim the mystery of faith:
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

...now and forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father,
who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever.
Amen.

THE FRACTION

THE INVITATION

SHARING THE FEAST

*You'll be invited forward, from the outside aisles, front to back, then the inside aisle from back to front.
Take a piece of bread from Rev. Jonathan (Gluten-free available) then a cup of juice from the corner
closest to your seat. Drop your empty cup in the baskets staged at the corner columns.*

PRAYER AFTER RECEIVING

**We praise you loving and eternal God
for your love of all people
expressed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.
We praise you for his commitment to justice,
his zeal for true worship of you
and his willingness to replace all other sacrifices
with the sacrifice of his own life.
In his name we offer you our worship. Amen.**

**WE SHARE THE BREAD & CUP
AND ARE REMINDED OF THE
FEAST WE SHARE AT THE
HEAVENLY BANQUET**

FEAST

***PLEASE RISE
IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

***JUST A CLOSER WALK WITH THEE**

1. I am weak but Thou art strong
 2. Thro' this world of toil and snares,
 3. When my fee - ble life is o'er,

5
 Je - sus keep me from all wrong
 If I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
 Time for me will be no more.

9
 I'll be sat - is - fied as long
 Who with me my bur - den shares?
 Guide me gen - tly, safe - ly o'er

13
 As I walk, let me walk, close to Thee
 None but Thee, dear Lord, none but Thee.
 to Thy king - dom shore, to Thy Shore.

18
 Just a clos - er walk with Thee

22
 Je - sus grant my hum - ble plea!

26
 Dai - ly walk - ing close to Thee

30
 Let it be. Dear Lord. let it be.

GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US FORTH IN MISSION FOR THE WORLD.
SEND

***PLEASE RISE IN BODY OR SPIRIT**

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

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FIESTA FIRST
MEXICAN GRILL, DAYVILLE
TODAY FOLLOWING WORSHIP

FAMILY
GAME NIGHT

APRIL 18 AT 5:30PM

DAFFODIL
BAZAAR & VENDOR FAIR
MAY 11, 8A-1P
DAVIS' PARK

LEARN MORE AT [WESTFIELDUCC.ORG/SPRING](https://westfielducc.org/spring)

**THE ONE LINK
THAT RULES
THEM ALL!**



[LINKTR.EE/WESTFIELDUCC](https://linktr.ee/westfielducc)

TAKE NOTE

WESTFIELD TO-GO

JOT DOWN WHAT
MOVED YOU TODAY
& TAKE IT WITH YOU.

WHAT WORDS, PHRASES OR IMAGES
STICK WITH YOU FROM TODAY'S READING?

WORDS FROM
SCRIPTURE

INCLUDE A FEW THOUGHTS FROM THE SERMON YOU'D LIKE TO
CARRY WITH YOU THIS WEEK.

I WANT TO
REMEMBER...

1

2

3

THIS WEEK, I WILL PRAY FOR...

PRAYER REQUESTS FROM TODAY YOU'LL INCLUDE IN MY PRAYERS THIS WEEK.

HELP

THANKS

WOW

CHILDREN AND FAMILIES:

We LOVE kids at Westfield. Children are welcome to stay through the whole service. If your child is more active, relax! We believe God put the wiggles and giggles in children. Don't feel you have to suppress it in God's house. All are welcome!

Sit toward the front where it is easier for your little ones to see and hear what's going on at the altar. They tire of seeing the backs of others' heads.

Quietly explain the parts of worship. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses. Children learn liturgical behavior by copying you.

If you have to leave the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. As Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

Remember that the way we welcome children in church directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another. Let them know that they are at home in this house of worship.

THE REV. DR. JONATHAN CHAPMAN



The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Chapman graduated from Candler School of Theology, Emory University, in May 2019 with his Doctor of Ministry in Biblical Witness and Proclamation. His capstone work, *The Year of Mark*, received the People's Choice Award among his cohort. While at Candler for his Master of Divinity (May, 2010), he was active with the Office of Worship, and was awarded the Hoyt Hickman Award for Outstanding Liturgical Scholarship. Jonathan is a 2007 Congregational Fellow and 2006 Undergraduate Fellow with The Fund for Theological Education. He graduated from Elon University in 2007 with a degree in Religious Studies. At Elon, he was selected as a Leadership Fellow and was awarded the W. L. Monroe Christian Education and Personality Award in the 2007. While at Elon he joined Elon Community Church, United Church of Christ, the congregation in which he was ordained.

Jonathan joined Westfield in October of 2012 and was officially installed as Pastor and Teacher in May of 2013, presiding over its revitalization. In October of 2022, he celebrated a decade with Westfield.

He was selected to be a part of the Next Generation Leadership Initiative, a program sponsored by the Pension Boards of the United Church of Christ that works with young clergy committed to parish ministry through a decade-long relationship. Dr. Chapman consults with congregations on a variety of topics ranging from revitalization to worship to marketing their churches. He married his husband, Greg (pastor of Enfield Congregational Church, United Church of Christ in Enfield, CT), in December of 2014 at Westfield. Jonathan is an award-winning stained glass artist.

Rev. Jonathan's Onsite Hours are Tuesday-Thursday, 9am-12pm. His additional work days are Sunday and Monday, when he is available by appointment. His days off are Friday and Saturday.

Find time with Rev. Jon by scanning the QR code or going to calendly.com/revjonchapman

Contact info for Rev. Jonathan:
(o) 860-774-8438
(m) 770-265-2171 (text ok)
(e) jon@westfielducc.org



Ministers
Pastor
Director of Welcome
Director of Music
Director of Children
Church Administrator
Facilities Caretaker

All of the Congregation
The Rev. Dr. Jonathan Chapman
Kevin Williams
Sue Theroux
Donna Bartholomew
Jessica Payette
Michelle Plasse