



Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ
an Open and Affirming Congregation
5th Sunday of Epiphany
February 9, 2025

 **Prelude** – Silent reflection to prepare your hearts for worship.

Announcements
Welcome to Worship

 **Introit**

 **Call to Worship**

One: God's love is extravagant and abundant.

Many: Our hearts are open to receive love.

One: God's love cascades like a waterfall
and rolls over us like a wave.

Many: Our hearts are open to receive love.


One: God's love oozes like honey –
taking our shape and filling us with sweetness.

Many: Our hearts are open to receive love.

One: God's love has no limits, no edges, no boundaries.

Many: Our hearts are open to receive love.

One: Come, let us sink deeply into God's love.


 **Hymn** *Love, Take a Walk With Me*

Love, take a walk with me; Love, take a walk with me.
Love, take a walk with me; O Spirit, guide my feet.


Friends... Hope... Faith... Love...


 **Unison Prayer of Invocation**

Beautiful Mystery, from the very beginning you have pointed us towards love. Your greatest desire for us to love you, love our neighbors, love ourselves freely and abundantly. We are made in your image and ache for the capacity to love without limits, but find ourselves afraid. We put love into boxes controlling who receives it. We treat love like a scarcity and hide it away - even from ourselves. Help us to be bold, help us to be brave, help us to lean into the margins and trust that if we fall - we are falling further into Love.

 **Doxology** *tune Old 100th SL#7*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost! Amen.

 **Anthem** *The Gift of Love (SL #495)*

 **Reading** - *Mathnawi VI, 1967-1974 by Rumi*

 **Moment for All Ages**

Litany for Commissioning a Pastoral Search Committee

Invitation

The Word 1 Corinthians 12:4-12

Response

Leader: There are different gifts.

People: But it is the same Spirit who gives them.

Leader: Each one is given a gift by the Spirit.

People: To be used for the common good.

Address to the Committee Members

Covenant

Committee Members:

We, who are serving on the Search Committee for the Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ, promise to perform faithfully the vital task of searching for a new pastor. We pledge, with God's guidance and your prayers, to be open to the leading of the Holy Spirit in all we do, say and decide. We will endeavor:


- To establish a harmonious working relationship within our committee;
- To maintain consistent attendance at our Search Committee meetings;
- To be open and patient listeners to each other and to the congregation;
- To listen carefully to your hopes and dreams as we consult with you, the members, in the development of a description of our church community and the style of pastoral leadership we seek;
- To maintain strict confidentiality in all we read, say, and year—protecting both the privacy of each other and of potential candidates;
- To review all profiles with open minds and hearts, treating all candidates fairly and justly;

- To seek decisions not made by majority rule, but by the coming together of minds, hearts, and souls in a consensus that will build a firm foundation for the effective future mission and ministry of this church.

People

We pledge, a gathered community of faith, to be patient with you and to respect your need to be confidential in your task. We recognize that the work of our search committee is a difficult assignment and will take much effort. We pray for you and offer our support and words of encouragement throughout this time. These things we promise in the hope and belief that you will be obedient to the guidance of the Holy Spirit as you seek a new pastor to minister with us.

Closing Prayer

 **Scripture Reading p. 212** 1 Corinthians 13:1-8

 **Message** *Love Call Me Home* **Rev. Elisa Lucozzi**

 **Prayers of the People – Help/Thanks/Wow**

One: Now we come to the time where we lift up our prayers of Help, Thanks, and Wow. Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Does anyone have any prayers they would like to lift up?

After each individual prayer request...

One: Loving and beloved God

Many: Hear our prayer.

Prayer List

One: Let us read the first names of those on our prayer list.

Prayers of healing and hope for...

DANIELLE Dennett, member

JASON Pratt, brother of Danielle Dennett

PHYLLIS Widelo, sister of Mark Thornhill

NIKO Sinodinos, husband of Maria Yorgakopoulou

ELAINE Donaldson, friend of Marion, Bonnie and Patty

LAINE Gootee, sister of Darren Sallee

PATTY Cotton, friend of the community

JEAN Miemerstorf, niece of Anita Hickey
 LORRAINE Spencer, member of the congregation
 OLLIE Bishop, member of the congregation
 LAURA Vachula, friend of Lynn Cooper
 BRENDA Hodge, sister of Mark Thornhill
 BRENDA Pelc, neighbor of Jackie and Larry Didier
 KIMBERLY Start, daughter-in-law of Deb Barthelette
 KATHY Bergeron, friend of Wendy Wilcox
 DON Eddy, member of the congregation
 RUTH ANNE Bennett, friend of Kathy and Mike Robbins
 JEAN Stawarz, friend of the Scrabble Club
 DENNY Preston, cousin of Betty-Anne Gould
 TERRI Toner, friend of Mikki Nevins
 DONNA Burns, cousin of Julie Holt
 ANN O. Jones, friend of Wendy Wilcox
 DON Fox, friend of the community
 RUSSELL Johnson, cousin of Steve and Julie Holt
 CHARLIE Karns, cousin of Julie and Steve Holt
 JOE Jankowski, friend of the Robbins/Carriveau family
 TIM Hopf, brother-in-law of Maureen Dempsey

After the Prayer List is read...

One: Loving and beloved God


Many: Hear our prayer.

Silent Prayer

Pastoral Prayer *Love is the Most Ancient Law:
 a Blessing by Jan Richardson*

The Lord's Prayer - a womanist version used at Grace Cathedral at the Beyonce Mass, Author Rev. Yolanda Norton

Our Mother, who is in heaven and within us, we call upon your names. Your wisdom come. Your will be done, in all the spaces in which you dwell. Give us each day sustenance and perseverance. Remind us of our limits as we give grace to the limits of others. Separate us from the temptation of empire, and deliver us into community. For you are the dwelling place within us, the empowerment around us, and the celebration among us, now and forever. Amen.

 **Response:** Hear our prayer O Lord, hear our prayer O Lord, Incline Thine ear to us, and grant us Thy peace.

Offerings of the People – Time, Talents, Treasures, and Testimonies

Piano Offertory

Hymn of Praise SL#40 *We Praise Thee, O God*

We praise Thee, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before Thee, we kneel and adore Thee.
We bless Thy holy name; glad praises we sing.

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn NC #43 *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heaven, on earth be found.
Fix in us a humble dwelling, all your faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, you are all compassion, pure, unbonded love impart.
Visit us with your salvation, enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit into every troubled breast;
Let us all in you inherit, let us find your promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Come, almighty to deliver, let us all your life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, never-more your temples leave.
You we would be always blessing, love you as your angels love.
Pray and praise for your unfailing wounded arms outstretched above.

Finish, then, your new creation; pure and spotless may we prove;
Let us see your great salvation perfectly restored in you;
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Crowned as saints, we ever shall be lost in wonder, love, and praise.

Benediction

Passing of the Peace

Cong Response SL #785 *God Be With You*

God be with you till we meet again, by his counsels guide, uphold you;
With His sheep securely fold you; God be with you till we meet again.

Postlude

 *Indicates you are invited to stand if you are comfortable doing so.*

Welcome to the Westhampton Congregational United Church of Christ, an open and affirming church. **To join online via Zoom:** Press Ctrl and **CLICK HERE**. OR visit zoom.us, click Join a Meeting and enter Meeting ID 321 069 9076; Passcode 248423. To join by phone dial 646-558-8656, then meeting ID and Passcode.

Church Office Contact Info

Office phone - 413-527-4204

Email - westhamptonchurchucc@comcast.net



Website - westhamptonchurchucc.org

Worship Participants

Ministers - People of the church

Guest Minister - Rev. Elisa Lucozzi

Pianist - Michele Feldheim

Greeters -  Maureen Dempsey and Rick Tracy
 Louise and Mike Raymond

Lay Reader - Charlotte Wood

Zoom Tech- Bob Miller

Coffee Hour - Pat and Bob Miller

Flowers - Louise and Mike Raymond

This Week at the Church...

Wed-Fri-Sat - Food Pantry – see website for hours

Thursday 12pm - COA Luncheon/Program

Thursday 7pm - Choir

Friday 7pm - AA

Birthdays and Anniversaries...

February 9 ★ - Donna Brown, Carol Haines

February 10★ - Jill Collins

February 11★ - Sarah Lewis

February 12★ - Kelly Challet, Steven Perez

February 14★ - Julie D’Astous

Thank you to:

- our Transition Team members: Jake Antosz, Pat Miller, Mikki Nevins, Shannon Raymond, and Ruth Tracy.
- and to our Pastoral Search Committee members: Kevin O’Keefe - chair, Lynn Cooper, Sarah Madden, Ruth Tracy, and Sue Tracy Small.

