

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*(Please hold the bread and cup after served.*

*The Pastor offers “blessing” words so we may eat and drink together.*

*Our elements are gluten-free bread and grape juice.)*

Meditative Interlude

The Prayer of Thanksgiving *(in unison)*

**Because we have shared in one common loaf and shared from the one cup of Christ’s new covenant of unity, we lift up our prayers with one voice to you, the one great God, who embraces our differences and accepts us as one body in Christ. Amen.**

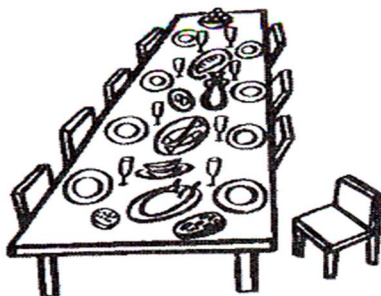
☒ Hymn “As We Gather at Your Table”

#695

Benediction

*(please be seated)*

Postlude



*The First Congregational  
Church of West Brookfield  
United Church of Christ*

*April 6, 2025*

*10 a.m.*



*Fifth*  
SUNDAY  
IN  
LENT

**The Fifth Sunday in Lent  
Order of Worship**

Congregational Announcements

*Karen Murphy*

Pastoral Greeting

Prelude and Candle Lighting

*Words in **bold** are to be spoken in unison.*

✠ *Please stand as you are able.*

Call to Worship

*Deanna Randall*

This is what the Lord says--who made a way through the sea,  
a path through the mighty waters:

**"Forget the former things; do not dwell on the past.**

**See, I am doing a new thing!**

Now it springs up; do you not perceive it?

**I am making a way in the desert  
and streams in the wasteland.**

I provide water in the desert and streams in the wasteland,  
**to give drink to my people, my chosen, the people I formed  
for myself that they may proclaim my praise."** *from Isaiah 43*

Prayer for Transformation and New Life

*Deanna Randall*

**God of mercy, God of forgiveness, forgive us for our insistence  
that working hard and being successful is more important than  
doing lovely deeds. God of Hope, God of Love, plant your  
eternal hope and invincible love in our hearts so that we might  
be bold enough to give up our ways when they become a dead  
weight rather than a crucible in which the gospel can burn  
bright and strong. Amen.**

✠ Hymn

"Be Thou My Vision"

**#502**

Call to Offering and Offertory Music

*(Offering plates are in the front and rear of the sanctuary for your gifts;  
you may place them in the plates during the music)*

✠ Doxology

**# 34** *(Old 100th)*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;**

**Praise Christ, all creatures here below;**

**Praise Holy Spirit evermore;**

**One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.**

Blessing of Offering

Youth Message

Scripture Readings

Isaiah 43:16-21

*Deanna Randall*

John 12:1-8

Response: **Word of God, Word of Life. Thanks be to God.**

Special Music

*Stephen Page*

Sermon

**"Life on the Wild Side"**

The Rev. Dennis TeBeest

✠ Hymn

"Holy, Holy, Holy"  
*(repeat 3 times)*

**#737**

Prayers of the People

Pastoral Prayer

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 debts, as we  
forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver  
us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the  
glory, forever. Amen.**

The Invitation to Christ's Table

The Communion Prayer

*(Leader's spoken prayer, leading to:)*

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty,  
the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.  
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God!  
Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**

*(The leader continues.)*



### **Our Mission and Vision Statement:**

***We are a church where all are welcome to worship together, to share in fellowship and to grow spiritually in our journey with Christ. We value justice, diversity, and freedom of expression. We strive to serve our community and all God's creation and to spread the love of God to all people.***

**Welcome members, friends, and visitors to our service this morning!** If you are a guest with us in worship, we invite you to sign our guest register and/or fill out a visitor card. Activity bags are available in the back of the sanctuary for children who are with us in worship. Sunday school is held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month.

### **Prayer Requests**

Would you like to ask for prayers for someone? You may write your request in the red prayer book on the table located in the back of the sanctuary. A deacon will share them with the pastor. Please see a deacon with any questions.

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***dtebeest109@gmail.com***



***Please join in these Holy Week opportunities*** for worship, journeying from praise, through trial and denial, to resurrection joy.

### **Palm Sunday**

Our Sunday worship begins with a holy parade of pilgrims from Fellowship Hall into the sanctuary, with our hosannas, praise and palms leading into Jesus's passion.

### **Maundy Thursday Communion and Tenebrae**

At 7 pm, join in a reflective service, hearing Jesus's mandate to love one another, sharing communion, and readings of the deepening shadows of our denials, along with hymns and songs of Holy Week.

### **Good Friday Journey of the Cross**

We join George Whitfield United Methodist Church at **noon** at our sanctuary entrance for a journey of readings and song through the stations of the cross around the Common.

### **Easter Worship**

Christ is risen! Our 10 am worship is filled with the story of Christ's resurrection and the promise of ours. Scripture and song and floral signs of new life!