

*The First Congregational Church of West Brookfield*

*United Church of Christ*

ACTS 10:15-16

*But the voice spoke again:  
"Do not call something unclean  
if God has made it clean."  
The same vision was repeated  
three times. Then the sheet  
was suddenly pulled up to heaven.*

**February 1, 2026; 10 a.m.**

**REFLECT**

*"Holy God, in your creation you declared all, each and every one, each and everything, to be good. May I listen well and attend to what you declare to be good this day, at this time. In this world of so many names, faces, places, spaces, may I remember that there is room enough, there is love enough, for all, each and every one, each and everything. Amen." --*

Lesley Brogan—

**FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER THE EPIPHANY  
ORDER OF WORSHIP**

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

 *Please stand as you are able.*

**Congregational Announcements**

**Pastoral Greeting**

**Prelude and Candle Lighting**

Stephen Page

 **A Call to Worship**

Nancy Zurawka

Pastor: We are the body of Christ!

Leader: The hand clapping, toe tapping, heart pumping, mouth tasting, arms embracing,

**All: Justice seeking, hymn singing, love making, bread-breaking, risk taking, body of Christ!**

Pastor: Baptized by one Spirit, we are members of one body,

**All: Many and varied in gender, color, sexuality, age, class, and ability, we are members of Christ's beautiful body.**

Leader: None of us can say to another, "I have no need of you."

**All: For only together can we find wholeness.**

Pastor: None of us can say to another, "I will not care for you."

**All: For we are connected like muscle and bone. If one suffers, we all suffer. If one rejoices, we all rejoice!**

Leader: Thanks be to God who in Christ has made us one.

**All: Let us worship God together!**

 **Hymn**

"They'll Know We Are Christians"

#595

**A Responsive Community Prayer**

Leader: O God whose love sustains us, restores us, abides in us,

**All: Send your mischievous Spirit whirling through our midst  
in the many different spaces from which we gather.**

Leader: Let Her galvanize our hearts

**All: so that our worship will empower us for the work  
into which you invite us:**

Leader: For you do not call us servants,

nor does your power rely on dominance;

**All: But instead you call us friends, co-laborers whose joys and sorrows you know as  
deeply as if they were your own.**

Leader: Loving God, Living God,

**All: you guide us into true love, into true life  
that consists of enough for all humans, all creatures,  
and that will restore all relationships between neighbors, enemies, strangers and with you,  
our Friend. Amen.**

**A Reading from the New Testament**

**Acts 10:1-48**

Reader: May God bless our hearing and understanding of this reading from our sacred texts.

**All: Word of God, Word of Life, Thanks be to God**

**Prayer Hymn** (please remain seated)

“The Bond of Love”

**#395**

**Prayers of the People** Sharing Concerns, Joys ~ Pastoral Prayer

~ 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.***

**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)*

 **A Doxology**

**Tune: # 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.**

**Youth Message**

**Special Music**

Stephen Page

**Sermon**

“No One Called Profane or Unclean”

Rev. Doug Williamson

 **An Affirmation of Faith**

Pastor: Even while celebrating our diversity of thought and making room for questions and new interpretations, there are some beliefs that we who join ourselves to the church have committed ourselves to holding in common. As one, let us affirm that shared faith:

**All: We believe in the God from whom all life flows, who created all that is — seen and unseen, physical and spiritual — and declared all of it Good. God’s blessing comes before and follows after any curse — for every instant that our existence is sustained attests to God’s unfailing love in which we move, and live, and have our being.**

Pastor: We believe in the irresistible Spirit

**All: who pervades the world and abides with whomever Holy Wisdom chooses with no regard for the boxes and boundaries that humankind constructs. To the dismay of worldly powers, this Spirit bestows special care upon the most reviled and despised, those deemed weak and worthless in human eyes.**

Pastor: We believe in the Word Made Flesh

**All: whose love for all whom this world “Others” is so strong that, upon entering embodied life, Jesus identified himself as one of them. In Jesus, God knows intimately what it is to be marginalized, misunderstood, and subjected to bodily mistreatment.**

Pastor: We believe that, after his life among us and his rising from death on a Roman cross,

**All: Jesus restored us into right relationship with the One who made us, sustains us, and whose Spirit guides us still in the work of ushering in God’s Kin-dom. Amen.**

 Hymn

“Will You Let Me Be Your Servant”

#391

 Benediction (please be seated)

Postlude



**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, 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.

**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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