

*Please rise in body or in spirit

Prelude - "Sabbath Song"

Eliot

Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made.

Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Hymn – "God the Sculptor of the Mountains"

Call to Worship

Did you hear the whisper of God calling us to worship?

God, help us listen as you call.

Do you sense the beautiful people God is creating us to become?

God, help us to see your image within.

Are we ready to listen, learn, and grow?

God, open our hearts and minds to your loving and challenging guidance.

Choral Introit – "Broken for Me"

Lunt/arr. Maries

Prayer of Confession

O God, you know us when we are at our very best and you know us when we are at our very worst. So, here we are ready to worship.

We are a confusing mixture of our best and worst parts. Thank you for inviting us here. Thank you for always welcoming us home.

We welcome you, Holy Spirit. Breathe in our lives, as we worship you this day. Be with us, now and always. Amen.

Words of Assurance

Listen to the good news.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven

Thanks be to God.

Passing of Peace

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Call to Prayer

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Offertory Reflection

Offertory - "Bread of the World, In Mercy Broken"

arr. Young

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication

Gracious God, you have blessed us beyond measure; you have entrusted us as partners to care for your world. Bless these gifts and our very lives. Transform everything we are in this life into offerings that bring your love to the world. Amen.

Old Testament Reading – Jeremiah 18:1-11**

Sermon – "Not Finished Yet"

The Great Thanksgiving and The Lord's Supper (see last page)

Sanctus

Memorial Acclamation

Great Amen

Communion Hymn - "Here Is Bread, Here Is Wine

(Please join the choir in singing)

Closing Hymn - "Have Thine Own Way, Lord"

Announcements

Benediction

And God's people say:

Amen.

Benediction Response - "Broken for Me"

Lunt/arr. Maries

Postlude - "Holy, Holy, Holy"

arr. Smith

**After the scripture readings, please respond, "Thanks be to God."

We extend a warm greeting to all who are attending our worship service this morning in person or on Zoom or watching later via a video link.

The Flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by Stephen and Kristen Kirby in memory of Stephen's father, John Kirby.

Today

Acolyte – Emily Weirich

Lay Reader – David Grudinski

Communion Ministers – Emily Weirich, David Grudinski, Roberta

Stratton

Minister of Music – Karen Leonard

Pastor – Rev. Geisa Matos

THIS WEEK AT WEST CHELMSFORD UMC

Sunday, September 7th, 13th Sunday after Pentecost, Communion

9:30 AM, Worship Service In-person and via Zoom

9:30 AM, Sunday School in the Education Wing

10:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Vestry

Monday – 7:30 PM, Jubilee Ringers rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Tuesday – 7:30 PM, Finance Committee meeting via Zoom

Wednesday – 7:30 PM, Trustees' meeting via Zoom

7:30 PM, Festival Ringers rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Thursday – 7:30 PM, Senior Choir rehearsal in the Choir Room

Friday – 7:30 PM, MVR Auditions in the Sanctuary

Sunday, September 14th, 14th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM, Worship Service In-person and via Zoom

Ongoing Prayer Requests

- Victims and their families of mass shootings in our country
- Victims and their families of plane crashes in our country and around the world
- World peace and conflict in the Middle East and Ukraine
- All that are sick, mourning, and/or lonely

Article Submission Due Dates

- Articles for the **mid-week email** are due in the church office by **9:00 AM on Monday**.
- Articles for the **church bulletin insert** are due in the church office by **9:00 AM on Tuesday**.
- Articles for the **October 2025 Newsletter** are due in the church office by **Monday, September 15, 2025**.

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

Continue to support our Organ Fund – Don't forget to leave your donations in the organ pipe display.

Sunday School – Today is the first day of Sunday School! Since today is Communion Sunday, we will meet in the classroom first and go up to the Sanctuary for Communion together.

If you have not already registered your child(ren) for Sunday School for the upcoming year, here is the link: [2025-2026 WCUMC Children's and Youth Programs Registration Form](#)

Additionally, if you are interested in helping with our Sunday School program, please reach out to Kathy Clark at kathysbiz@verizon.net.

Educational Opportunity - **Confronting White Christian Nationalism with Jim Wallis, on Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 6:30 PM EST via ZOOM**

The **Committee on Christian Unity and Interreligious Relationships (CUIR)** invites you to a vital and timely conversation on the rise of **White Christian Nationalism**—an urgent issue facing both the Church and our democracy today.

We are honored to welcome **Jim Wallis** as our featured speaker. A leading voice in public theology and social justice, Wallis serves as the inaugural **Archbishop Desmond Tutu Chair in Faith and Justice** at Georgetown University's McCourt School of Public Policy, where he also directs the new **Center on Faith and Justice**.

Wallis is the founder of *Sojourners*, a bestselling author, and a nationally recognized advocate for faith in action. His latest book, *The False White Gospel: Rejecting Christian Nationalism, Reclaiming True Faith, and Refounding Democracy* (April 2024), has sparked widespread discussion on the role of faith in confronting extremism and rebuilding a more just society.

His past leadership includes service on President Obama's first **White House Advisory Council on Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships**, and recognition by *Washingtonian* magazine as one of **D.C.'s 500 most influential policy shapers** in both 2022 and 2023.

Join us as we reflect on how Christian communities can respond faithfully, courageously, and prophetically to the growing threat of Christian nationalism.

Save the Date: Thursday, September 18, 2025, at 6:30 PM EST. [Click here to register](#)

Memorial Service for Rev. Mack Hagins – A memorial service for Rev. Mack Hagins will be held on **Saturday, September 20th, at the family farm in Bolton, MA, at 1:30 PM.** Cards and notes can be sent to Whitney at 310 Green Rd., Bolton, MA 01740.

Fundraiser for the St. Paul's Meal – Join us in celebrating 30 years of St. Paul's Soup Kitchen at their 1st Annual Gala on **Saturday, September 20, 2025, at 6:00 PM** at Merrimack Valley Golf Club located at 210 Howe St., Methuen, MA. Enjoy dinner prepared by The Sandtrap Restaurant, music, entertainment, and a specialty raffle – all while supporting St. Paul's mission to feed those in need.

Tickets are \$50 (includes dinner): <https://givebutter.com/ZhnKMi>

Men's Group Study - The 5 Masculine Instincts by Chase Replogle - Last Father's Day, we distributed this book to men who wished to learn more about themselves as they embarked on a summer reading program focused on *The 5 Masculine Instincts*. Through this book, the intent is to discover your instincts and believe that they are neither a curse nor a virtue. They are the experiences by which you develop a new and better instinct - an instinct of faith. Through exploring these 5 instincts through the lives of Cain, Samson, Moses, David, and Abraham, we will strive to understand our own instincts and how we could step forward on our own faith journeys listening to God's intended message.

For those of you who have books, please continue reading in preparation for our discussion group on **Sunday, September 21st, from 11:00 AM to 12:00 PM**, following the Sunday Service. We will meet in the Youth Lounge. For those of you who do not have books or would like to invite a friend, please contact Bill Evans, 978-852-1456 or evans1818@verizon.net. An in-person meeting is encouraged, but Zoom attendance will be arranged if needed. A text message will be sent to those who already have books for a 5-minute pre-work assessment.

The sign-up sheet for the St. Paul's Meal is now online. To volunteer, please click on the link below. The St. Paul's Meal will be served on **Wednesday, September 24, 2025**. Thank you for your support of this important mission.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A8AB28AAFF2-58055175-stpauls>

Rummage Sale News: The dates for the sales have been set for **Friday, October 24th, and Saturday, October 25th**. Times have not yet been determined. The donations will be from Sunday, October 19th, through Wednesday, October 22nd. We are not advertising donation times to the public. We want only donations from the congregation and their close friends. Donations will be limited, and a list will be available to the congregation. Please let me know if you can help. I will have a list of “jobs” later, but I particularly need many people to help sell on Friday. Let me know if you are available anytime from October 19th through October 25th, and we'll work out where you can help.

Holly Cerullo - hbcteach@comcast.net.

4 Ways to Give to WCUMC

- Mobile Giving – Download the Tithely app. Fill out the Tithely secure donation transfer form. Enter donation and fee coverage (if desired)
- QR Giving – Using your phone's photo app, click the link after hovering over the QR code (see below). Fill out the Tithely secure donation transfer form. Enter donation and fee coverage (if desired)
- Click “Give” or “Donate” – Go to www.wcumc.us. Fill out the secure donation transfer form for PayPal or Tithely. For Tithely, remember the code number assigned for future login. Enter donation and fee coverage (if desired)
- Cash or Check – Place in the offering plate during the Worship Service or send your donation via the US Postal Service to WCUMC, 242 Main Street, North Chelmsford, MA 01863.

QR Giving Code:



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.

Communion Responses

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

Words: From *The United Methodist Hymnal* (Isa. 6:3; Matt. 21:9)

Music: Mark A Miller

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Memorial Acclamation

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

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Great Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen.

Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

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