

\*Please rise in body or in spirit

Prelude - "O Jesus, Thou Art Standing" arr. Thygerson

Greeting

This is the day that the Lord has made.

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Opening Hymn\* - "What Gift Can We Bring" UMH 87

Call to Worship\*

Make a joyful noise, a noise of service and love.

**Praise God with lives of compassion.**

Sing with acts of kindness.

**Glorify God with acts of mercy.**

Praise God with works of justice.

**Praise God with overflowing love.**

Choral Introit - "Healer of Our Every Ill" Haugen

Opening Prayer

**God of grace and God of glory, reveal yourself through our lives and our love. Shine your wisdom and truth into our hearts this day. Help us know the hope to which we are called, that we may be the servants you craft us to be. In your glory and grace, we pray. Amen.**

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 UMH 895

Children's Message

Offertory Reflection

Kristin Kirby

Offertory Anthem - "Neighbors"

arr. Lovelace

Doxology\*

UMH 94

Prayer of Dedication\*

**Shepherd of love, transform these gifts into nourishment for a hungry world. May they offer shelter from the storms of life. May they bring kindness and compassion to the lost and the lonely. Transform us, even as you transform these gifts, that we might be your hands and feet in the world. Amen.**

Hymn - "Freely, Freely" UMH 389

Gospel Reading - Matthew 25:31-40\*\*

Sermon - "Celebrating Our Partnership: St. Paul's Meal"

Paula Foster, Rev. Geisa Matos

Closing Hymn\* - "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service"

UMH 581

Announcements

Benediction

Seek the lost and care for the wounded.

**We will strengthen the weak and encourage the downtrodden.**

Seek justice and love mercy.

**We will be God's mercy and love for the world.**

And God's people say: **Amen.**

Benediction Response - "The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve" Dufner

Postlude - "Arise, My Soul, Arise" arr. Ritter

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

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

**The Flowers on the altar** this morning are given to the Glory of God by the Davidson and Stratton families in memory of loved ones.

**Today** - Senior Choir

Lay Reader - Maggie Elmore

Minister of Music - Karen Leonard

Pastor - Rev. Geisa Matos

Guest Speaker - Paula Foster, St. Paul's Meal at Eliot Church

## THIS WEEK AT WEST CHELMSFORD UMC

**Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**9:30 AM, Worship Service In-person and via Zoom**  
**10:00 AM, Sunday School, in the Education Wing**  
**10:30 AM, Coffee Hour, in the Vestry**  
**1:30 PM, MVR Rehearsal in the Sanctuary**

**Monday – 10:00 AM, Congregational Care Meeting in the Library**  
**7:30 PM, Jubilee Ringers rehearsal in the Sanctuary**

**Tuesday – 7:00 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, Cub Scout Pack 70 Webelos Den Meeting in the Education Wing, Classroom 1**

**Sunday, November 16<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**  
**9:30 AM, Worship Service In-person and via Zoom**

### Ongoing Prayer Requests

- Victims of Hurricane Melissa
- Victims of the UPS plane crash in Louisville, Kentucky
- 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 who 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 **December 2025 Newsletter** are due in the church office by **Monday, November 17, 2025**.

**Altar Visuals:** Today's altar honors the services WCUMC support with our pledges. "...*Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink?*" (bread and water) **Matthew 25: 37**. "*When did we see you a stranger and invite you in or needing*

*clothes and clothe you?* (open door with "Come in" and folded sweater) **Matthew 25: 38**. "*When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?* (First Aid kit and gate with person) **Matthew 25: 39**. "*I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.*" **Matthew 25: 40**

**Pledge Cards** – Thank you to everyone who submitted their Pledge Cards. If you haven't submitted your pledge or never pledged, please consider blessing your church by submitting a Pledge Card. You can submit your pledge by emailing Ellen O'Neill, Finance Secretary, at [fin\\_sec@wcumc.us](mailto:fin_sec@wcumc.us) or by sending your pledge to: WCUMC 242 Main St., North Chelmsford, MA 01863-2106 Attn: Financial Secretary.

**Stewardship Campaign** - Help us complete this sentence, "I want to try and serve God this year by...". Share your thoughts on a Post-It found in the pew, in the chat during the service, on our Church's Facebook page, or on our Instagram account.

Thank you!  
Finance Committee

## UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

**Your Thanksgiving Offering** - This Thanksgiving season, let us come together to express our gratitude for God's abundant blessings. We invite you to bring a *Special Thanksgiving Offering* on **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**, as an act of thanks for all God has done for us. Envelopes will be provided, and if you would like one mailed to you, please contact the church office.

Let's trust that your generosity will impact lives for God's glory.

Sincerely,  
Rev. Geisa and the Finance Committee

**The sign-up sheet for the St. Paul's Meal** is now online. Each year, the traditional "Thanksgiving Meal" at the St. Paul's Soup Kitchen is prepared by the Princeton Station restaurant and served by members of our church on the night before Thanksgiving, Wednesday, **November 26, 2025**. Given the "bounty" of the meal (turkey and all the "fixins"), we will need at least ten people to help serve the meal. We invite you to be part of this annual tradition.

Servers should be at the Eliot Presbyterian Church (273 Summer St., Lowell) by 4:15 PM. Be sure to leave your e-mail address and/or phone # on the sign-up sheet. Please call or e-mail David Troughton (978 935-3813) or [dtroughton@comcast.net](mailto:dtroughton@comcast.net) if you would like a ride to the Eliot Church in Lowell.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A8AB28AAFF2-59805001-copy>

**Annual Church Conference** - Our church conference has been scheduled for **Sunday, November 30, 2025, at 7:00 PM** at Aldersgate UMC, 242 Boston Rd., Chelmsford.

We will share more information when it becomes available. If you have specific questions, do not hesitate to contact the office.

**Angel Tree** - Will You Help Bring Joy to a Child This Christmas? Once again, our church is participating in the Lowell Salvation Army "Angel Tree" program.

Every child deserves to experience the joy of Christmas morning. The Salvation Army Angel Tree program helps provide Christmas gifts for children in our community.

Starting **Sunday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**, "Angel Tree" tags will be available in the lobby of the Education Building. We have 35 tags for 35 Angels. Please return the gifts (with the tag) to the Education Building Lobby no later than **Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**.

Remember: All gifts should be new and unwrapped. Be sure that the tag is attached so that it gets to the right child.

If you have any questions, please get in touch with a member of the Missions Committee.

#### **Holiday Fair News:**

- **Jewelry Donations** - Jewelry can still be donated for the Holiday Fair through **Sunday, November 30<sup>th</sup>**. Thanks, Holly Cerullo, Lori Evans, and Heidi Vaughn.
- **Candy Making Night:** Time to get going on candy for the Holiday Fair. We will get together for a fun, productive evening of making candy on Tuesday, November 18<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 PM in the Fellowship

Hall kitchen. Let me know if you are available to help. I will have a list of items for purchase soon. Holly Cerullo, [hbcteach@comcast.net](mailto:hbcteach@comcast.net) or 978 846 2203.

- **Plants:** We will not have a separate plant table this year. Plants will be spread out among the other items. However, I need to be very specific about the number and type of plants I can accept. I will need to see the plant and determine if it is something I know will sell. Please contact me before Monday, December 1<sup>st</sup>, with a description or photo. Holly Cerullo
- **Evergreen Swags:** In conjunction with the plants, I have always created Holiday Evergreen Swags. This year, I will only take preorders. A form with photos and ribbon choices will be provided soon. Holly Cerullo

**Open Pantry Donations** - As we begin shopping for our holiday meal, let's remember to give thanks for all that we have and to pay it forward to those in need. This month, let's focus on filling the shelves of the Open Pantry with some of our favorite holiday fixings! Cans of cranberry sauce, applesauce, yams, boiled onions, green beans, and pumpkin, as well as chicken and turkey gravy or broth, boxed mashed potatoes, and stuffing mix, will help families in need enjoy their holidays. Donations of any unexpired, non-perishable food items are, of course, always welcome, and if you would like to make a monetary donation, please annotate your contribution with the notation "Open Pantry". Your generosity will be appreciated more than you know. If you have any questions, you may contact the Missions Committee.

**2026 Flower Calendar** – The 2026 Flower Calendar is posted on the wall in the entryway. Select a favorite date, write your name and phone number on the calendar. The flower arrangement each Sunday is \$30.00. Make your check payable to the church with a notation that it is for the altar flowers. If you have any questions, please get in touch with Diana Bard at 978-692-7668.

**Instant Church Directory** – We've noticed that some people have not updated their information in the Instant Church Directory. If you need help entering your information in the directory, Lori Evans or Roberta Stratton will be available during Coffee Hour to help you. There will be instructions (hard copy) available if you need them.

Roberta Stratton

#### **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](http://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:

