5th Sunday of Easter — May 3, 2026
Worship Service at WCUMC and via Zoom — 9:30 AM

Prelude – "At Thy Table" — Peterson

Greeting
This is the day that the Lord has made
Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Opening Hymn – "In Christ Alone"

Call to Worship
Come to Christ, our cornerstone.
Christ has called us here.
Trust in God, our firm foundation.
God is with us here.
Rest in the Spirit, our peace beyond peace.
May the Spirit guide our way.

Choral Introit – "Table of Plenty" — Schutte

Prayer of Confession
Mighty God, we want to be brave, but it's tempting to be small and afraid. Lift us up when we fall down. Protect us from our own doubts and fears. Shine your face upon us with mercy and grace, that we might find the courage and strength to be steadfast and faithful, loving and righteous. Be our strong foundation, so that we may grow up as your household, your family, and your people of justice, love, and mercy. In hope and gratitude, we pray. 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 Anthem – "In You, We Are One" — Althouse

Doxology

Prayer of Dedication
God of steadfast faithfulness and love, bless these gifts, that they may bring your message of faith and love to the world. Bless us also, that we may be steadfast and true in our giving and in our living. Build our church, build us, and build your world into a household of love and justice — the household you've envisioned since the beginning of time. In faith and trust, we pray. Amen.

Gospel Reading – John 14:1-14**

Sermon – "The End of Endless Wanting"

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 – "Nothing Can Trouble"

Announcements

Benediction
Go now in trust—resting in God. What you seek is already given:
a love that satisfies, a presence that is enough.
Drink deeply of that peace,
And share it with a world in need.
And God's people say:
Amen.

Benediction Response – "Because Thou Hast Said" — Wesley

Postlude – "Jubilation" — Simone

~~~~~~

**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, on Zoom, or watching later via a video link.

The Flowers on the altar this morning are given to the Glory of God by Marilyn Parker in loving memory of her mother, Bernice Gardiner, and her son, RJ Parker.
~~~~~~

Today – Senior Choir
Acolyte – Anisha Machuca
Lay Reader – David Grudinski
Communion Ministers – Anisha Machuca, David Grudinski, Roberta Stratton
Minister of Music – Karen Leonard
Pastor – Reverend Geisa Matos

THIS WEEK AT WEST CHELMSFORD UMC

Sunday, May 3rd, 5th Sunday of Easter, Communion
9:30 AM, Worship Service In-person and via Zoom
9:30 AM, Sunday School in the Education Wing, Classroom 1
10:30 AM, Coffee Hour in the Vestry
1:30 PM, MVR Rehearsal in the Sanctuary

Tuesday – **10:00 AM, Congregational Care Team Meeting in the Library**

Wednesday – **7:30 PM, Missions Committee 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, May 10th, 6th Sunday of Easter, Mother's Day
9:30 AM, Worship Service In-person and via Zoom

Ongoing Prayer Requests

- World peace and social justice for all God's children, independently of race, gender, or socioeconomic background.
- 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 Monday.**
- Articles for the **church bulletin insert** are due in the church office by **9:00 AM Tuesday.**

MYF Event – Today, **Sunday, May 3rd**, we will be going to the Stonybrook Fish and Game Club in Westford, MA, to do some fishing. If your child does not have a fishing rod, the club will supply one free with bait that they can keep. After lunch at the church, we will leave around 12:00 PM and head to the club. Depending on how many kids are going, I may need some help from the parents to drive and help at the club. Please have your child bring a bag lunch to church and dress appropriately for the outdoors.

Harry Johnson
617-784-3776

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES/EVENTS

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

Fill the Ark!! Heifer International Project - Imagine a world where families don't just survive—they thrive! Heifer International empowers families by providing livestock, training, and resources that create lasting income and food security.

With the donation of an Ark, Heifer will provide two pigs along with an assortment of other animals, tools, training, and encouragement to help care for an entire community, from Asia to the Americas – wherever hunger, poverty, and hopelessness can be found!

Your gift of a pig can help a family escape hunger and poverty. The pig is easy to care for because it just needs a little land and scraps to eat. Also, the pig reproduces quickly with more than 16 piglets a year, helping to grow the herd. With a bigger herd comes more manure to fertilize crops, meaning more food to eat and sell.

Since 1977, Heifer has supported and empowered local farmers in Mexico through livestock initiatives and agricultural training. One of those farmers, José, joined Heifer's Milpa for Life project, ready to create a brighter future for his family. José has been part of the program for the last two years. Through participating in Heifer's trainings and expanding his knowledge, he improved his corn and pig farming practices. He's also grown both the scale of his farm and its overall cultivation. Starting with only two pigs, José has now increased his herd to nine pigs. José diversified his family's diet, providing them more nutrient-rich foods, and he enhanced his family's income. "We get a big benefit because we feel motivated to continue working and fighting in life," he said.

Let's show that this small church in West Chelmsford can work together to Fill the Ark for a community in need! Each pig costs $120 but please give generously to help us raise $5,000 to Fill the Ark either in our collection plate, designating your donation to Heifer, or in our Chicken Bank located at the back of the Sanctuary, or by mailing your donation to WCUMC annotated for Heifer. You may also donate electronically at https://www.wcumc.us/give through Tithley or PayPal. If using PayPal, please send a follow up email to Finance at fin_sec@wcumc.us to let Ellen know that your contribution is for the Heifer project.

Proverbs 19:17 *"Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done."*

For more information, contact a member of the Missions Committee.

Save the Date for #StillInMission! - Please join Belinda Forbes on **Thursday, May 7, 2026, at 12:00 PM EDT**, to hear updates from her missionary placement site with **AMOS Health and Hope.**

What happens on the call? The Zoom call lasts for one hour and includes a shared devotional, followed by breakout rooms where friends and supporters can engage in conversation with the missionary of their choice. Global Ministries will also bring updates and information.
Why #StillInMission? #StillInMission missionary episodes started during the COVID-19 pandemic and have continued as a valuable resource to connect local churches with United Methodist missionaries from different parts of the world.

#StillinMission is an opportunity to learn about the different ways missionaries answer God's call and how churches can extend their mission presence in the world through the Advance. Registration is required. To join the #StillInMission May 7th Zoom call, please register by clicking here. I hope to see you there!

Belinda Forbes

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, May 27, 2026**. Thank you for your support of this important mission.

https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040448A8AB28AAFF2-63684503-may27

2026 Summer Camp - Summer is just around the corner. If you are looking for a summer camp experience for your child, the following camps are accepting registrations.

- **Aldersgate** – For information and Camp Registration, click here.
- **Mechuwana** – For information and Camp Registration, click here.
- **Wanakee** – For information and Camp Registration, click here.

Upcoming Community Event – Chelmsford Public Health has set up the following community event.

- Summer Walking Group on the Bruce Freeman Rail Trail on the **2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month from 9:00 to 9:30 AM**. The first one is on May 12th. The meeting location is at the rail trail at Brickhouse Center. All abilities are welcome!

Lost and Found – If you are missing a child's jacket, a sweater, a pair of earrings, a pair of gloves, a single glove, or a toy dinosaur, please pick them up in the church office. Your items miss you.

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.
Holy, holy, holy Lord; God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full, full of your glory,
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest! Hosanna in the highest!

From *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert; adapt. by Richard Proulx
Adapt. © 1985 G.I.A. Publications, Inc.
All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-734521

Memorial Acclamation

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

Words: From *The United Methodist Hymnal*
Music: Sally Ahner
Music © 1988, 1996 Sally Ahner
All rights reserved. Streamed under ONE LICENSE #A-734521

Amen

Amen, Amen, Amen, Amen.

From *Deutsche Messe* by Franz Schubert; adapt. by Charles H. Webb
Arr. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House
All rights reserved. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-734521