

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.

Sunday August 30, 2026 10:00 AM
Reverend Michelle Sumption Stone

WEBSTER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 30, 2026

10:00 A.M.

Prelude

Oleksandra Yurchenko

Words of Welcome

Gathering Song “Over My Head”

NCH #514

Over my head I hear music in the air. Over my head I hear music in the air.
Over my head I hear music in the air, there must be a God somewhere.

Over my head I hear singing in the air. Over my head I hear singing in the air.
Over my head I hear singing in the air, there must be a God somewhere.

Over my head I see trouble in the air. Over my head I see trouble in the air.
Over my head I see trouble in the air, there must be a God somewhere.

Over my head I see Jesus in the air. Over my head I see Jesus in the air.
Over my head I see Jesus in the air, there must be a God somewhere.

An Offering of Prayer- Joys and Concerns

PLEASE LIFT YOUR HAND TO SHARE REQUEST

In response to each request, the minister will say “Loving God”

The congregation will respond, “**Hear our Prayer.**”

Pastoral Prayer, followed by The Lord’s Prayer (Version written by Jeffrey Curran)

O Divine Power of Creation, hallowed be thy name. The mystery of thy grace be with us. Give us this day our nourishment for both body and the soul. And forgive us our shortcomings as we forgive the shortcomings of those around us. Strengthen us in the ways of wisdom and strengthen our spirit when confronted with evil. For thine is the glory and the power of all that is seen and unseen for ever and ever. Amen

Sung Prayer Response “Come and Find the Quiet Center”

TFWS #2128

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed: Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Greeting One Another with God's Peace (*a wave, a nod, a sign of peace...*)

"May the Peace of Christ be with you."

"And also with you."

Choral Anthem "People Need the Lord" (Arr. by Lloyd Larson)

Ron Milliman, Director

Offering

Invitation

Offertory

Prayer of Gratitude and Dedication

Oleksandra Yurchenko

Scripture Reading (Common English Bible)

Exodus 3:1-15

3 Moses was taking care of the flock for his father-in-law Jethro, Midian's priest. He led his flock out to the edge of the desert, and he came to God's mountain called Horeb. ² The LORD's messenger appeared to him in a flame of fire in the middle of a bush. Moses saw that the bush was in flames, but it didn't burn up. ³ Then Moses said to himself, Let me check out this amazing sight and find out why the bush isn't burning up.

⁴ When the LORD saw that he was coming to look, God called to him out of the bush, "Moses, Moses!" Moses said, "I'm here." ⁵ Then the LORD said, "Don't come any closer! Take off your sandals, because you are standing on holy ground." ⁶ He continued, "I am the God of your father, Abraham's God, Isaac's God, and Jacob's God." Moses hid his face because he was afraid to look at God.

⁷ Then the LORD said, "I've clearly seen my people oppressed in Egypt. I've heard their cry of injustice because of their slave masters. I know about their pain. ⁸ I've come down to rescue them from the Egyptians in order to take them out of that land and bring them to a good and broad land, a land that's full of milk and honey, a place where the Canaanites, the Hittites, the Amorites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites all live. ⁹ Now the Israelites' cries of injustice have reached me. I've seen just how much the Egyptians have oppressed them. ¹⁰ So get going. I'm sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the Israelites, out of Egypt." ¹¹ But Moses said to God, "Who am I to go to Pharaoh and to bring the Israelites out of Egypt?" ¹² God said, "I'll be with you. And this will show you that I'm the one who sent you. After you bring the people out of Egypt, you will come back here and worship God on this mountain."

¹³ But Moses said to God, “If I now come to the Israelites and say to them, ‘The God of your ancestors has sent me to you,’ they are going to ask me, ‘What’s this God’s name?’ What am I supposed to say to them?” ¹⁴ God said to Moses, “I Am Who I Am. So say to the Israelites, ‘I Am has sent me to you.’” ¹⁵ God continued, “Say to the Israelites, ‘The LORD, the God of your ancestors, Abraham’s God, Isaac’s God, and Jacob’s God, has sent me to you.’ This is my name forever; this is how all generations will remember me.

Message

“Try To Leave a Light On”

Pastor Michelle

Song of Response “Lead On Eternal Sovereign”

NCH #573

Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow in your way: loud rings your cry for justice, your call for peace this day. Through prayerful preparation, your grace will make us strong, to carry on the struggle to triumph over wrong.

Lead on eternal Sovereign, we follow not with fear, for in each human conflict your words of strength we hear: That when we serve with gladness, you will not let us fall, our trust is in your promise that love will conquer all.

Lead on eternal Sovereign, till sin’s fierce war shall cease and all your saints together will sing a hymn of peace. Then all in your dominion will live with hearts set free, to love and serve each other for all eternity.

Announcements

Benediction

Sung Congregational Benediction “This Little Light of Mine”

NCH #525

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine. This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Postlude

Oleksandra Yurchenko

Serving you this morning:

Reader – Lon Krautwurst
Greeters— Polly Ellstrom

Livestream – Heather Himes

ANNOUNCEMENTS 8/30/2026

SAVE THE DATE: On September 20th we will celebrate Michelle's Installation!!!! More details to follow.

HOT TOPICS: After a hiatus in July and August, the Hot Topics discussion group will resume meeting on Tuesday, Sept. 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We meet on the first and third Tuesdays of each month, so we will meet on Sept.1 and then again on Tuesday, Sept. 15. Our meeting on Sept. 1 will be an organizational meeting for the upcoming year. We will have our usual check-in and then brainstorm topic ideas for the next few months. Stay tuned for announcements of upcoming topics. For more information, or to be added to the e-mail list for the group, contact richard_kendrick@verizon.net

THE NEIGHBORS TABLE PROJECT: The Rebel Beat youth & kids established this project so they can fill ready-to-make meal bags throughout the year for families in need. For the month of August, we will collect cans of kidney beans and packets of chili seasoning. Thank you so much for your help gathering these simple ingredients that will become meaningful meals because *everyone deserves a place at the table*. A collection basket is in the narthex. Questions?

Wlesko88@gmail.com

MISSION TEAM: Join us once again in supporting children around the world through our annual Church World Service kit drive. Below is the list of specific supplies we are collecting to build this year's School Kits. A collection bin is in the narthex.

Kids Kit Supplies -

12 colored pencils

Two-pocket folder

Glue stick

Blunt-tip scissors

70-page wide spiral-bound notebook

30-cm/12" ruler

Hand-held pencil sharpener

Large eraser

Six new, unsharpened pencils

Box of 24 crayons

NEW SENIOR LUNCH OUTINGS GROUP (But all are welcome) We will start going out for lunch twice a month and adjust from there, on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays, at 1 PM, and will be asking for separate checks. So, we will start on the 4th Thursday in August, the 27th. There will be a one-time sign-up sheet for your name, email address, and text number in case we need a quick change. The emails will go out ahead of time, so that we can make reservations if necessary. All you need to do is sign up with your email, then RSVP, and show up! Contact Lynne with any questions StillLynnePA@gmail.com

CLEAN YOUR CLOSETS: Just a reminder... we collect winter coats for the guests at Baber with the goal of distributing them in October and November. A basket is in the narthex.

Questions wlesko88@gmail.com

DISH CLOTHS: Reminder to keep crocheting/knitting dish clothes for the Thanksgiving grocery bags for Rochester Advocates for Children and Move-in kits for families at Family Promise of Greater Rochester. Questions? wlesko88@gmail.com

FREE COMMUNITY SUNDAY SUPPER- September 13, 4:30-5:30. Everyone is welcome. The menu is chili, cornbread, tossed salad & brownies. Contact Wendy if you'd like to volunteer wlesko88@gmail.com

ONGOING

VOLUNTEER SIGN UP- Please use the following link to sign up to volunteer during our Sunday services: <https://uccwebster.org/worship-volunteer-opportunities/>

MEDITATION GROUP- Wednesdays at 11:00 a.m. in the back of the Sanctuary. All are welcome! Note...will not meet in July and August

The Nurture Team: is a group of caring individuals who express the love of God through their Ministry of Care. They hope to walk with those in need of company or pray. They liaison with the pastor if a pastoral visit is desired. If you have a concern or need of prayer or if you know someone who does, please put a note in the offering plate.

PRAYER SHAWL: This group does not formally meet. It's for anyone who wants to knit or crochet prayer shawls to be given to people in need of comfort and/or dish cloths for outreach grocery bags given to people in need. contact Wendy wlesko88@gmail.com

INFORMATION FOR THE NEWSLETTER should be directed to Wendy Lesko wlesko88@gmail.com by the 25th of the month

ANNOUNCEMENTS EMAIL LIST If you'd like to receive email notifications from church, you can join our email list. There's a link on the church website under "Connect with Us".

<https://uccwebster.org/connect-with-us/> Enter your email address and hit "subscribe."

NAME TAGS – If you need a nametag, please email Carole Kohler at carolekohler1192@gmail.com with the first and last names of your family members or sign up in the narthex.

FLOWERS We invite anyone who would like to contribute to the beauty of our worship service to bring flowers on Sunday for the communion table. Whether from your garden, a roadside bouquet, or a florist, your gift will create a beautiful expression of gratitude and praise.

CLOTHING & SMALL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS Please place the items in the 2 bins located in the hall near the West Entrance. Items are distributed to Cameron Community, Matthew's Closet, or Saints Place. Thank You!

THE ROCKERS This is a group of the mature men from our congregation that meets on the 1st and 3rd Thursday each month at 8:30am at The Nutcracker Restaurant

COFFEE HOUR Volunteers are needed to sign up to coordinate a week (make the coffee, provide a treat). If you are interested, please contact Heidi Zastowny heidizastowny@gmail.com (585) 314-0678) or Diane Cannarozzo dcannaro@gmail.com

IN THE COMMUNITY

PET FOOD NEEDED: The pet food pantry needs donations of dry and canned cat food and dog food. A collection basket is in the narthex. Thank you