

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 9, 2026 10:00 AM
Reverend Michelle Sumption Stone

WEBSTER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

August 9, 2026

10:00 A.M.

Prelude

Oleksandra Yurchenko

Words of Welcome

Gathering Song “Holy, Holy, Holy”

NCH #277

Holy, holy, holy! God, the Almighty! Early in the morning we praise your majesty, Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Saints adore you truly, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea. Cherubim and seraphim bow before you only, from the beginning, God eternally.

Holy, holy, holy! Though we know but dimly, though the eyes of humankind your glory may not see. You alone are holy, you alone are worthy. Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Congregational Conversation

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

Our Creator, 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

Sung Prayer Response “Precious Lord, Take My Hand”

NCH #472

Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand. I am tired, I am weak, I am worn. Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light: take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

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 "Honor The Lord"- arr. John Innes

Ron Milliman, Director

Offering

Invitation

Offertory

Oleksandra Yurchenko

Prayer of Gratitude and Dedication

Scripture Reading (Common English Bible)

Matthew 14:22-33

²² Right then, Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go ahead to the other side of the lake while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ When he sent them away, he went up onto a mountain by himself to pray. Evening came and he was alone. ²⁴ Meanwhile, the boat, fighting a strong headwind, was being battered by the waves and was already far away from land. ²⁵ Very early in the morning he came to his disciples, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified and said, "It's a ghost!" They were so frightened they screamed.

²⁷ Just then Jesus spoke to them, "Be encouraged! It's me. Don't be afraid."

²⁸ Peter replied, "Lord, if it's you, order me to come to you on the water."

²⁹ And Jesus said, "Come."

Then Peter got out of the boat and was walking on the water toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when Peter saw the strong wind, he became frightened. As he began to sink, he shouted, "Lord, rescue me!"

³¹ Jesus immediately reached out and grabbed him, saying, "You man of weak faith! Why did you begin to have doubts?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind settled down.

³³ Then those in the boat worshipped Jesus and said, “You must be God’s Son!”

Message

“Some Nights”

Pastor Michelle

Song of Response “Incarnate God, Immortal Love”

NCH #414

Incarnate God, immortal Love, whom we, that have not seen your face, by faith, and faith alone embrace, believing where we cannot prove.

You will not leave us in the dust; you gave us life, we know not why. We trust we were not made to die, for you have made us, you are just.

In you meet human and divine, the highest holiest union known. We falsely call our powers our own until our wills with yours combine.

Our little systems have their day: they have their day and cease to be. They are but fleeting certainty, and you, O Christ, are more than they.

Announcements

Benediction

Sung Congregational Benediction “I’ve Got Peace Like a River” (Verse 3)

TFWS #2145

I’ve got love like an ocean, I’ve got love like an ocean, I’ve got love like an ocean in my soul. I’ve got love like an ocean, I’ve got love like an ocean, I’ve got love like an ocean in my soul.

Postlude

Oleksandra Yurchenko

Serving you this morning:

Reader – Pat Hauck
Greeter— Linda Ims

Livestream – Ken Mihalyov

ANNOUNCEMENTS 8/9/2026

THURSDAY MORNING GROUP: The next Thursday morning resource will be "Jesus Before the Gospels," by Bart Ehrman. The book is a scholarly evaluation of how the earliest Christian communities remembered, changed and invented their stories of Jesus. The author goes deeply into what psychological, anthropological and sociological research tells us about memory. Beginning August 20th, 9:30-11:00 AM, Thursdays. By Zoom. For information contact Joe Roth (585-671-8458) or jaro462@gmail.com

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

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

FREE COMMUNITY SUNDAY SUPPER- August 9th, 4:30-5:30. Everyone is welcome. The menu is Sloppy Joes, Salt Potatoes, Tossed Salad & Ice cream. Contact Wendy if you'd like to volunteer wlesko88@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

ONGOING

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

HOT TOPICS: The Hot Topics discussion group is on break for July and August. We will resume our conversations on Tuesday, September 1, at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. In the meantime, if you'd like more information or to be added to the Hot Topics e-mail list, contact Richard_Kendrick@verizon.net.

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

RICHARD KENDRICK will be appearing in the radio play, "The Legend of Double Ax Max and the Shadow People: Exodus," for one performance only on Friday, August 21 at 7:30 p.m. at the Multi Use Community Cultural Center at 142 Atlantic Ave. in Rochester. The play is a compelling and entertaining horror story set against the backdrop of the Great Migration of the early 1900s. It is presented in the style of a 1940s radio drama, complete with sound effects artists on stage with the actors. Written by local writer, Karen Culley, and directed by Reuben J. Tapp, the production is a part of the week-long Sankofa Festival, a celebration of the African American performing arts. For more information visit <https://www.muccc.org/events/sankofa-2026>. Discount Early Bird tickets are on sale now. _

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



GATHERING IN GRATITUDE...
Please join us for our year 22
volunteer celebration.
6:30 on Wednesday, August 19
Webster UCC
Congregational Hall.
RSVP YES OR NO.
TEXT: 585-233-6602 (SUE)

