

Sunday November 29, 2026 10:00 AM
Reverend Michelle Sumption Stone

WEBSTER UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

November 29, 2026 First Sunday of Advent 10:00 A.M.

Prelude Oleksandra Yurchenko

Words of Welcome

Gathering Song "Wake, My Soul" NCH #91

Wake, my soul, with all things living, thanks be giving to the Source of life and day. Sunlight comes and gone confusion, night's illusion, like the starlight, fades away.

All your hopeful plans confessing, ask for blessing on that good which you would do. But if you should need correction, ask direction, pray for purpose, clear and new.

Cry for help, when griefs assail you, good friends fail you, life is hopeless, death appears. One whose child knew deep affliction, crucifixion, ever waits to dry your tears.

Stewardship Moment

Lighting the Advent Wreath: The Hope Candle

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 Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kindom 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 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (Verse 6) NCH #116

O come, O Dayspring, come and cheer, our spirits by your advent here. Love stir within the womb of night, and death's own shadows put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel!

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 - "O Come To Set Us Free" – Mary McDonald
Ron Milliman, Director

Offering
Invitation
Offertory Oleksandra Yurchenko
Prayer of Gratitude and Dedication

Scripture Reading (NRSV, Updated Edition) Isaiah 64:1-4

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence—[2] as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! [3] When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down; the mountains quaked at your presence. [4] From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him.

Message "A Thrill of Hope" Pastor Michelle

Song of Response "Toda la Tierra (All Earth Is Waiting)" NCH #121

All earth is waiting to see the Promised One, and open furrows, the sowing of our God. All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty: it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.

Thus says the prophet to those of Israel: "A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel": One whose name is "God with us," our Savior shall be, through whom hope will blossom once more within our hearts.

Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain: open new highways, new highways for our God, Who is now coming closer, so come all and see, and open the doorways as wide as can be.

Announcements
Benediction

Sung Congregational Benediction "May You Run and Not Be Weary"
TFWS #2281

May you run and not be weary, May your heart be filled with song. And may the love of God continue to give you hope, and keep you strong. And may you run and not be weary. May your life be filled with joy! And may the road you travel always lead you home.

Postlude Oleksandra Yurchenko

Serving you this morning:

Reader – Heather Himes
Greeter— Carole Haas
Livestream – Heather Himes

ANNOUNCEMENTS 11/29/26

CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS: Red or white Poinsettias for the Sanctuary from Chase's can be purchased for $9 each. Orders must be in by December 6th and will be delivered December 13th. You may take your plant home at the end of December. Please see Linda Rayburn to order. Make checks payable to Webster United Church of Christ.

ADOPT A FAMILY FROM FAMILY PROMISE: Again, this year we get to help fulfill the Christmas Wishes for a family from FPGROC. List available in the narthex or by emailing Wendy at wlesko88@gmail.com We have a quick turnaround on this project as Family Promise needs the gifts returned early in December.

ANGEL TREE: The angels for the grandchildren at Rochester Advocates for children are available in the narthex. Unwrapped gifts due back on December 13th. Questions? Ask wlesko88@gmail.com

LOVE YOUR NEIGHBOR ADVENT CALENDAR: 25 ways to LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORS! One way for each day from December 1 to Christmas Day!! Do one or do them all! Do them in any order...on your own or with a friend and/ or family
collection center in narthex

CHRISTMAS BRUNCH: The Rebel Beat youth & kids will host a Christmas breakfast after worship on December 6. All proceeds support youth outreach projects.
WOODSIDE WREATH PICKUP- December 6 after worship
THURSDAY MORNING: The next resource will be ""Einstein's God: Conversations About Science and the Human Spirit," by Krista Tippett. The book captures many interviews with top scientists and thinkers Tippett interviewed on her NPR radio show On Being. Beginning December 10th, 9:30-11:00 AM, Thursdays. By Zoom. For information contact Joe Roth (585-671-8458) or jaroth462@gmail.com
COMFORT & JOY COOKIE SALE: December 13th. Drop your cookies in the kitchen that morning then walk the cookie tables after worship!
FREE COMMUNITY SUNDAY SUPPER- December 13th, 4:30-5:30. Everyone is welcome. The menu is …. lasagna, garlic bread, tossed salad, chocolate chip cookie. Contact Wendy if you'd like to volunteer wlesko88@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 November, we will collect cans of Chili with NO Beans. . 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
CLEAN YOUR CLOSETS: Just a reminder… we collect winter coats for the guests at Baber with the goal of distributing them in November and December. A basket is in the narthex. Questions wlesko88@gmail.com

ONGOING

FRIENDS AND FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEONS: The next lunch will be Thursday December 3rd, 1pm. We will be going to Simply Crepes, Bay Rd, Webster, Pastor Michelle's favorite! Please let Lynne know, as this place requires reservations. StillLynnePA@Gmail.com Thanks!
HOT TOPICS: The Hot Topics discussion group will be meeting on the first and third Tuesdays of December - December 1 and December 15 - at 6:30 p.m. in the Sanctuary. We will be discussing AI (artificial intelligence) data centers - pros and cons. All are welcome to participate. For more information or to be added to our e-mail, contact richard_kendrick@verizon.net
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!

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 / DISH CLOTHS: 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.

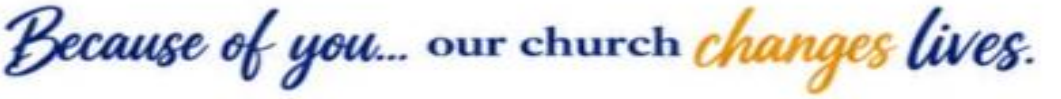
CLOTHING & SMALL HOUSEHOLD ITEMS Please place the items in the 2 bins located in the hall near the West Entrance. Items are distributed to Cameron Community, Matthew's Closet, or Saints Place. Thank You!

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



As we look toward 2027, we face both opportunities and challenges. Our proposed pledge goal of $195,000 represents an increase of approximately $15,000 over the current year. This increase will help cover rising operating costs and strengthen our Capital Reserve Fund to prepare for future building expenses, including a necessary roof replacement in the coming years.

As you think about your 2027 pledge, we ask that you consider increasing your contribution, if you are able. Every pledge, regardless of size, makes a difference and helps us plan confidently for the year ahead.

Our Stewardship Campaign runs throughout November. Please return your pledge card by mail, place it on the offering plate on Sunday morning, or pledge online at uccwebster.org. We ask that pledges be received by December 6 so our finance team can prepare a final budget for congregational consideration in January.

If you have questions about the budget or pledging, please contact the Stewardship Team: Norm Short (short315er@gmail.com) and Marcia Kendrick (kendricks@verizon.net), or our treasurer, Judy Short (treasurer@uccwebster.org).



Love Your Neighbor ADVENT CALENDAR

25 ways to LOVE YOUR NEIGHBORS One way for each day from December 1 to Christmas Day!! Do one or do them all ! Do them in any order...on your own or with a friend/family *collection center in narthex

1. Write a special note to someone & tell them how much you appreciate them. Mail, hand deliver or text!
2. Treat your neighbor with dignity and respect.
3. Listen to someone's stories. Share your own stories.
4. Be an encourager. Cheer someone on and tell them they are awesome!
5. Donate Cat or Dog Food to the Pet Food Pantry *
6. Fulfill an Angel Tree Wish for a child at Rochester Advocates for children- Unwrapped gifts due 12/13 *
7. Take Time to stop and chat or give a hug.
8. Help a neighbor with a chore such as shoveling, washing dishes, etc
9. Donate new socks or underwear for the guests at Baber *
10. Check in on a neighbor regularly.
11. Donate hats/gloves/mittens for children & teens at Cameron Community *
12. Greet people with a warm smile and a friendly hello!
13. Donate a new or gently used children's book for a child at Family Promise *
14. Be present when someone needs you to be there.
15. Donate cans of kidney beans for the Neighbors Table meal in a bag project*
16. Donate a package of 4 fruit cups for the guests at Baber Hot Lunch *
17. Donate one jar of spaghetti sauce to the Baber Hot Lunch program *
18. Decorate a paper lunch bag for the bag lunches donated monthly to the House of Mercy street program.
19. Bear someone's burdens. Be a good listener to someone who is having a tough time.
20. Donate a new pair of socks to a child and/or mom served by Willow
21. Provide a gift for the adopted family from Family Promise
22. Make a cheerful card for a nursing home resident.
23. Donate a gently used stuffed animal to the Hug it Forward program that rehomes stuffies to kids in need
24. Tell someone they are loved.
25. Donate a new or gently used purse for the purse filling event for women served by Willow