

First United Methodist Church
of Shelton, Connecticut
Open hearts. Open minds. Open doors.



August 23, 2026 | 13th Sunday after Pentecost

Revised Common Lectionary Texts

Exodus 1:8-2:10 | Psalm 124

Romans 12:1-8 | Matthew 16:13-20

Prelude: "The Girl with the Flaxen Hair"

Debussy

Please come to silence as we honor the work of our musician to prepare us for worship.

Welcome & Announcements

Centering Prayer

***Call to Worship:**

Leader: We come because God has called us together.

People: We are God's people, gathered in grace.

Leader: We come to worship the living Christ.

People: In Christ, we know whose we are.

Leader: Let us worship the God to whom we belong.

People: Let us worship with grateful hearts.

***Opening Hymn:** "Majesty, Worship His Majesty"

UMH 176

Opening Prayer:

Living God, you have called us your people and gathered us into one body in Christ. As we worship, turn our hearts from ourselves toward you. Help us to recognize Christ among us and to remember who we are because we belong to him. Shape our life together so that your grace and love may be made visible through us. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

First Scripture Lesson: Romans 12:1-8

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Children's Message

Special Music: "Beside a Quiet Lake"

Florence Price

***Gospel Lesson:** Matthew 16:13-20

This is the Word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon: "Whose Church Is This?"

***Hymn of Response:** "We Are the Church"

UMH 558

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Lord in your mercy/Hear our prayers

The Lord's Prayer

Passing of the Peace

Invitation To Offer Our Gifts

Offertory: "Sarabande"

Bach

***Presenting Our Gifts:** "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow." UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication**

Gracious God, all that we have and all that we are belong to you.
Receive these gifts and use them to share your grace and love in
the world. May our giving be part of our life together as your
people, called and sent in Christ. Amen.

***Sending Hymn:** "Here I Am, Lord"

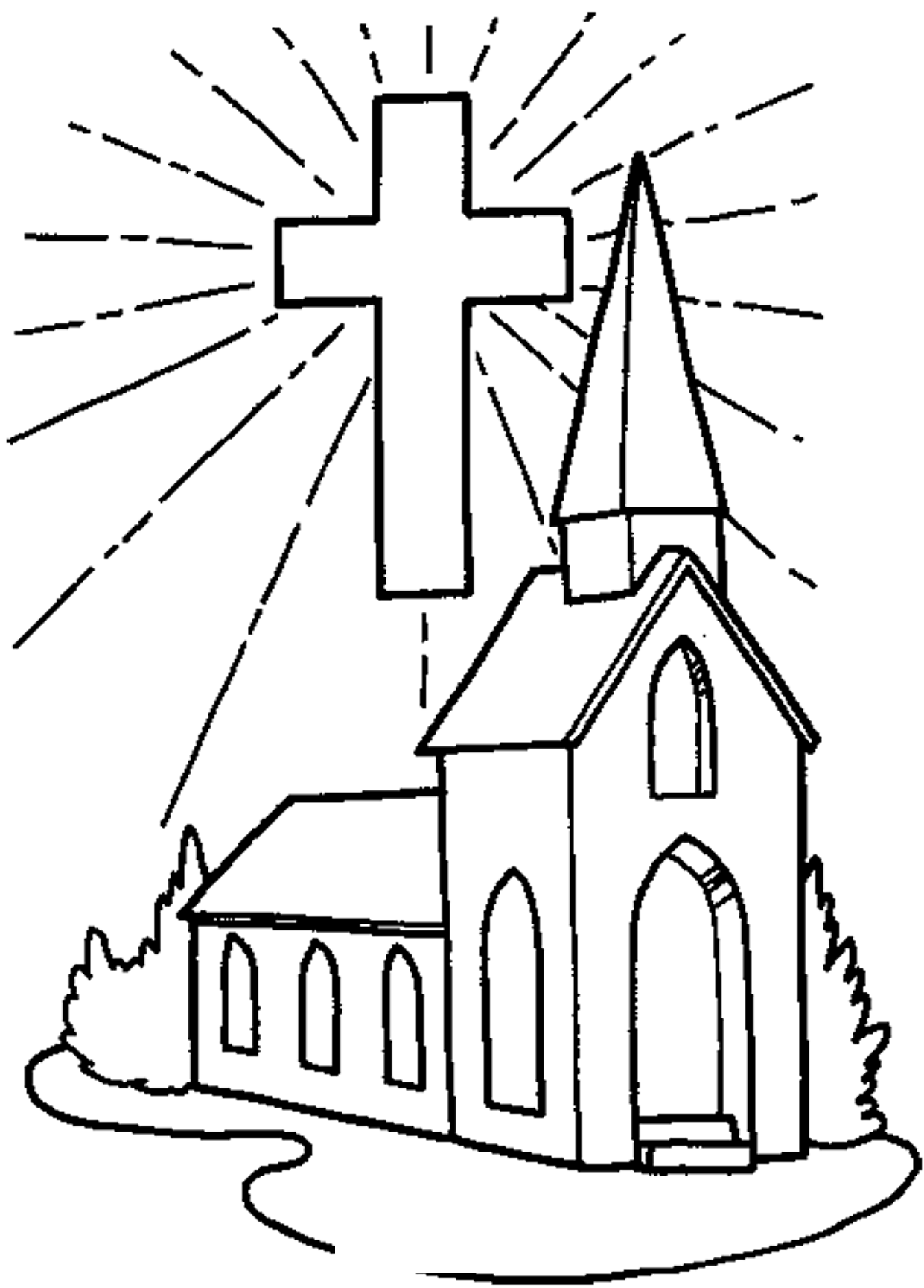
UMH 593

Benediction

Postlude: "Sonata in Bb, K. 333, III. Vivace"

Mozart

*Please stand in body or spirit as you are able.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

What Hymn Carries You?

Is there a hymn that lifts your spirit, gives you strength during difficult times, brings you comfort, or reminds you of God's presence?

We would love to know the hymns that are meaningful to you—and sing more of them together in worship.

Please choose a Post-it note and write down the **title of a hymn or song** you love from *The United Methodist Hymnal*, *The Faith We Sing*, or *Worship & Song*. Then place it on the whiteboard in the narthex.

Share a song that has carried you, so we can sing it together.

Thank You!

In the last two weeks we have received many generous donations for our food bank. We thank you for all donations, both large and small. It's truly a blessing for us to help feed our neighbors!

We would also like to thank UMC Nichols very much for the generous donation of food they collected for us. We are so happy to partner with them for working together in cooperative parish.

Pastor's Office Hours – Next Week

There will be no Pastor's Office Hours next week. Pastor Juhye will be out of town from August 24–27 attending a clergy training.

Regular office hours will resume the following week.

Fellowship Luncheon

Please join us for our fellowship luncheon today, after service. We will be having: Sloppy Joe over mashed potatoes, salad, desserts and beverages.

All are Welcome!

Counters Needed

We need to add a few more counters to ensure that we are using safe financial practices. If you are a member of this church and would like to be trained to work as part of a counting team, please see Chris Craft to serve. This is important, so your help will make a big difference.

Save the Date

Blessing of the Animals
Sunday, October 4 from 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Eastern Fairfield Cooperative Parish Charge Conference
Saturday, Nov 14, at 10:00 AM
The meeting location will be determined later.

Suggestion Box in Narthex

Do you have a question or comment to share? One more way to do that is through the suggestion box in the narthex. Of course, you can always feel welcome to speak with Pastor Juhye about questions or concerns.

We are *all* in ministry together.

TO REACH PASTOR JUHYE

Please call or text 860-899-6755. She may also be reached via email: pastor@umcshelton.org. Her typical hours at the church office are Mondays and Wednesdays from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm (but may vary).

WEEKLY EMAIL NEWSLETTER

An email newsletter is sent out each Wednesday. Please have any items for submission to the church office by Wednesday at 9 am.

SERVING TODAY:

Juhye Hahn, Pastor
Lynn Scully, Music Director
Alexis Zingale, Pianist Organist
Hector Aguilan, Liturgist
Sal Iorfino, Video & Sound Tech

CHURCH LEADERSHIP:

Juhye Hahn, Pastor
Lynn Scully, Music Director
Leadership Board: Chris Craft, Kim Dumschott, Suzena James, Linda Loglisci,
Ken Miller, Jorge Varas, Raechel Vargas, Elaine Wood, Bob Yamnicky

WELCOME

We welcome you to our worship and our church community. We are so glad you are here. We invite you to participate in the service as much as you feel comfortable and to sit out parts of the service you might not yet feel comfortable with. Wherever you are in your journey of faith, you are welcome here. As our "Welcoming Statement" says, "We welcome **all** to full inclusion in the life and ministry of our church."

(see below for complete "Welcome" and "Mission" statements)

**SUNDAY WORSHIP // 10:00 also live-streamed & recorded
Fellowship 11:00 am**

Welcoming Church Statement

A welcoming family of God committed to becoming more and more like Jesus Christ.

We affirm and respect each individual as a child of God. We celebrate the uniqueness of each person and welcome people of every age, ethnicity, and race, sexual orientation and gender identity, marital status, socio-economic situation, and physical/mental ability.

Empowered by the Holy Spirit, we strive to create a community of faith that reflects Christ's message of love and justice. We invite all to full inclusion in the life and ministry of our church in Christ.

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF SHELTON

188 ROCKY REST RD. // SHELTON, CT 06484

PHONE: (203)929-3537 **WEB:** UMCSHELTON.ORG

Majesty, Worship His Majesty UMH 176

Majesty, worship his majesty.
Unto Jesus be all glory, honor and praise!
Majesty, kingdom authority,
flow from his throne, unto his own
his anthem raise!

So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus!
Magnify, come glorify,
Christ Jesus the King.

Majesty, worship His majesty;
Jesus who died, now glorified,
King of all kings.

We are the Church UMH 558

Refrain:

I am the church!
You are the church!
We are the church together!
All who follow Jesus,
all around the world!
Yes, we're the church together!

The church is not a building,
the church is not a steeple,
the church is not a resting place,
the church is a people.

We're many kinds of people,
with many kinds of faces,
all colors and all ages, too,
from all times and places.

Sometimes the church is marching,
sometimes it's bravely burning,
sometimes it's riding, sometimes hiding,
always it's learning.

And when the people gather,
there's singing and there's praying,
there's laughing and there's crying sometimes,
all of it saying:

At Pentecost some people
received the Holy Spirit
and told the Good News through the world
to all who would hear it.

Here I am, Lord UMH 593

I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin
my hand will save.

Refrain:

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I, who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.

I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my words to them.
Whom shall I send?

I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.

Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?