



The TRUMPET

May 2019

A publication of the East Woodstock Congregational Church, 220 Woodstock Road, East Woodstock, CT 06244
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The Trumpet deadline is the 20th of every month!



How do we celebrate the Easter season?

We are in that time of year not marked on any calendar and not celebrated in any home – it is the Easter season. We have seven weeks, until the celebration of Pentecost (another holiday most people have not heard of) in which to ponder what Easter means and the lasting impact it has on our lives and our faith.

Celebrating Easter Sunday is a snap. We know just what to do. Sunrise service will happen, rain or shine; this year we took it on the faith that the sun was actually rising as we sang, “Christ the Lord is risen today!” Our Easter service was predictably full and joyfully exuberant. An abundance of flowers surrounded us as we enjoyed music from children, adults, and bells. We declared with enthusiasm that “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!”

And then everyone went home. And the Easter season began.

We’re left with the nagging reminder that Easter is not a fairy tale with a tidy ending. Everyone did not, in fact, live happily ever after. What happened was a lot grimmer. The hero of the story – Jesus – was killed in about as brutal a fashion as anyone could imagine. There was betrayal and loss, disappointment and disillusionment, mourning and fear.

Even the resurrection doesn’t cancel out the

brutality of Jesus’ death. The Apostles’ Creed insists on repeating the harsh reality – Jesus was “crucified, died, and was buried. Then he descended into hell.” He was really, really dead. Hope, in that moment, disappeared.

It is not a pretty story. We have to acknowledge Good Friday’s trauma in order to celebrate Easter and the miracle of life after death. Jesus lives again but now he is different. Now he lives with scars. He is forever changed by the violence that took his life.

Violence continues to impact lives today. Survivors are forever marked by evil; they carry the scars of sudden, disrupting loss.

To combat the terror and violence that seems to fill our world, we may crave for a superhero to rise up and defeat our enemies. I suspect the popularity of the latest *Avengers* movie – 1.2 billion dollars earned worldwide in three days – reflects a desire to have extraordinary powers to face overwhelming enemies.

Instead, we have Jesus. Our wounded savior has been hurt, oppressed, attacked, wrongly accused, betrayed, mocked, and unjustly treated.

Despite balloons and bunnies, flowers and songs, Easter does not allow us to ignore life’s hardships. Instead, Easter provides hope that suffering and violence do not – cannot – have the final word. Even as we acknowledge the pain that exists in our world, we declare our faith in God who is greater than any evil. Jesus lives. Love will have the final word.

We celebrate the Easter season by celebrating the enduring power of love. Love wins.

Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Susan J. Foster

The following are the scriptures for the month of May:

You are invited to read them as part of your daily devotions and as preparation for worship.

May 5

Acts 9:1-20
Psalm 30
Revelations 5:11-14
John 21:1-19

May 12

Acts 9:36-43
Psalm 23
Revelations 7:9-17
John 10:22-30

May 19

Acts 11:1-18
Psalm 148
Revelations 21:1-6
Romans 8:22-27
John 13:31-35

May 26

Acts 16:9-15
Psalm 67
Revelations 21:10, 22-22:5
John 14:23-29



Worship News

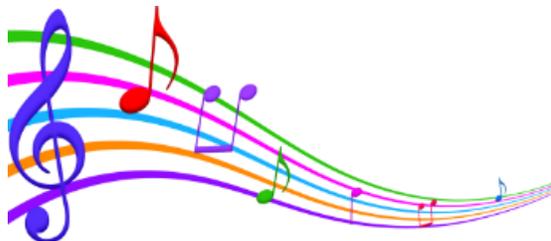
We hope that you can join every Sunday for worship and fellowship – and bring a friend!

May 5: Our confirmation class will lead worship on the theme “Family”

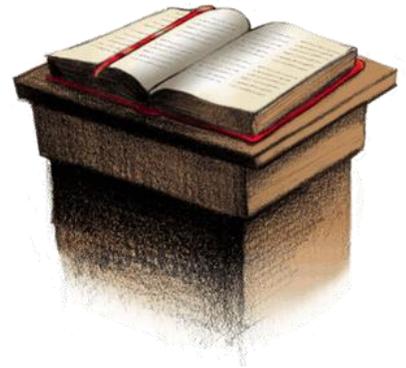
May 12: Communion Sunday

May 19: Music Appreciation Sunday

May 26: Special music



Study ^{the} Bible
with us



A mid-week opportunity for conversation, coffee, learning, and laughter.

Give yourself the gift of time...

**Wednesday morning study group
10:00 a.m.**

Everyone is welcome!

News from the Pews

Feel free to share your news with us. Just email Heidi at ewccsec@yahoo.com or call the church office at 928-7449.

Mila Jane Johnston was baptized on April 14. She is the daughter of Ryan & Melissa Johnston, little sister to Blake and great-granddaughter to Ken & Debbie Sherman.

Benjamin Nicholas Tolentino was baptized on April 28. He is the son of Rachel & Christopher Tolentino and little brother to Christopher and Victoria.

We ask God to bless Mila and Benjamin and their families in their faith journey.

Congratulations to **Derek May** who was named the 2018 Emergency Manager of the Year in the Northeast States Consortium. Derek is the Emergency Management Director in the town of Pomfret and was honored at a ceremony in April which recognized his work on emergency preparedness for local, regional, and national emergencies.

Thank You!!!

Our church is blessed by the work of many volunteers. Every bit of effort and caring helps the church live out its calling to be the Body of Christ. This month we especially would like to thank...

Christine Armstrong for teaching our fourth-graders about the sacrament of communion. On April 7th, Kaylyn Converse, Karoline Noe, Anthony Reed, Blake Robida, and Adelise Young did an excellent job teaching the congregation about Jesus' Last Supper. Thank you, Christine, for all your time and effort!

Richard Forrester for continuing the hard work of staining the cabinets in our church kitchen. There are a lot of cabinets in that kitchen and Richard is doing a wonderful job transforming them. We appreciate all your effort!

Christine and Glen Lessig for their ongoing care of our church garden. We appreciate all the weeding, mulching, watering and tending the plants that you do. The garden is beautiful in every season!

Kaleb Morin for choosing EWCC as the site for his Eagle Scout project. Kaleb installed a beautiful garden

by our front walkway which will offer a lovely welcome to everyone who comes to EWCC. Thank you, Kaleb, for all your hard work!



Women's Breakfast

The Men's Group invites the women of EWCC to a breakfast on Mother's Day, Sunday, May 12th at 8:00 am. All mothers, spouses and significant others welcome!

Come for breakfast and stay for worship. Hope to see you there!

A warm and sincere thank you to all who supported me with the many caring cards and messages of condolence in the very unexpected loss of Jim – my husband, my rock. A very special thank you to Pastor Sue for taking the time to check in on me when I needed the company most and to help me understand that grief never ends but is a passage and not a place to stay. It is the price of love.

Again, thank you all.

With my deepest gratitude,

Grace (Harmon)

Save the Dates! All-age Bible Camp

July 9, July 11, July 15, July 17

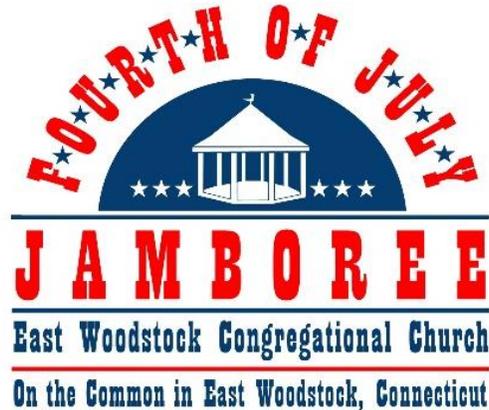
We will meet 5:30 – 8:00 p.m. All ages are encouraged to come and enjoy a meal together. We will be experiencing the Creation story from Genesis. These inter-generational evenings include stories, games, conversation, music, and new ways to engage with the Scripture.

Easter Flowers

Lilies, Daffodils and Tulips for our Easter Service were donated in memory or honor of loved ones by the following people:

The Armstrong Family	In memory of Guy Brown Armstrong
Mark & Diane Billings	In memory of Francis & Eileen Perrin and Oscar & Marjorie Billings
The Boisvert Family	To honor Our Parents & Grandparents In memory of Kaisa Jurczyk and Jim Holley
Susan Converse	In memory of Tom Converse, George & Barbara Brown and Sharon Neely
Joan Crossman	To honor Ron and Dottie Carlyle
Barbara Ann Davis	In memory of Jack & Carole Woehrman
John & Charlotte Davis	In memory of John & Lucy Davis and Alice D. Murray
Nancy Ducharme	In memory of Nancy Moore and Carl Lyman
Laurie & Wayne Edwards	In memory of Pauline and Evelyn Edwards
Dee Harless	In memory of Warren & Lorayne King
Dennis, Kathie & Erin Kelly	In memory of Rolf & Virginia Swanson and Edmund & Mary Kelly
Louise Labbe-Fahy	In memory of Stella Lachance
Greg & Vickie Noë	In memory of our parents, Cleo & Virginia Keller and Bernie & Dolores Noë
Bob & Marilyn Rath	In memory of Harold & Ruth Ashton and Charles & Betty Rath
Pat Sarasin	In memory of James H. Clair and Richard & Gwendolyn Potter
Bernice Sheldon	In memory of Raymond W. Sheldon & Prudence Wetherell
Gordon Smith	In memory of Mr. & Mrs. William J. Smith (parents)
The Tucker Family	To honor Janet Hansen In memory of Robert Hansen and Ernie & Mary Ellen Tucker and Dot & Einar Hansen
Geoy & Norma Wetherell	In memory of Prudy Wetherell
Judith & Jeff Wong & Family	In memory of Ann and Wes Miller

Jamboree News



Thursday, July 4th, 2019 will be our 63rd Jamboree! Our Jamboree Co-Chairs this year are Christine Armstrong & Lynn Loogy. The Jamboree committee is off and running! We have been meeting every two weeks on Tuesday evenings at 7pm. Our May meetings will be May 7th and May 21st. All are welcome! Please join us in making this Jamboree the best ever!

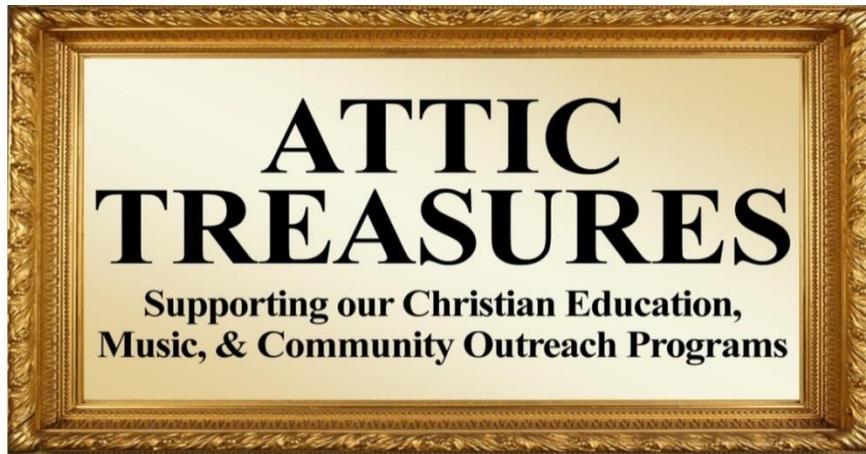
As you know it requires the efforts of many people from our congregation and community to make this event a tremendous success, so please look for the sign-up sheets at church in Fellowship Hall to volunteer to work a food booth, help with an activity, or set up before or clean up after the event. There is something for everyone who wants to be a part of this truly special day.

Our biggest need this year is covering the Strawberry Shortcake booth. Grace Harmon and her family are passing the torch - they did a great job and sold out year after year. Many thanks to Grace for her years of generous dedication! This booth will require a team of 5-6 people. Please come to the next meeting or contact one of our co-chairs if you are interested.

If you cannot be at the event on July 4th, then please consider donating your time in some other way by picking up supplies, donating a case of water, sorting books, sorting attic treasures, or running other last-minute errands! All are welcome! Please contact Christine Armstrong, Angela Young, Lynn Looby, or Judith Wong for more information about how you can help. Help us make the 2019 4th of July Jamboree the best one ever!

Come and join us as we commemorate our 63rd year!





THREE REASONS TO SUPPORT ATTIC TREASURES:

1. The mental and physical benefits of decluttering & getting rid of “stuff” (YES, it makes you healthy!)
2. The satisfaction of knowing that you are helping our Christian Ed, Music, and Community Outreach programs
3. Realizing that the more you donate, the happier you feel!

READY... SET... GO! Start your donation boxes now! This year’s Jamboree Attic Treasures sale is around the corner! We’ll be accepting donations any time after worship on Sunday June 16 through business hours and Sundays until noon, July 2. Not sure what to donate? Check out the list coming soon in Fellowship Hall!

Antiques? YES! Furniture? Of course! Antiques and Collectibles are our most sought-after items! We welcome your special treasures to add to this collection. And we love gently used furniture – it’s always a big seller!

Please pre-sort all items. Our storage space up until the Jamboree is EXTREMELY limited, and our prep work is time-consuming. Until the week before the Jamboree, tables will be set up in a very small area. It REALLY helps if you weed out the “probably should throw away” items before you bring them to Church. **It’s easy & fun to sort your donated treasures when you bring them in, THEN place them on tables labelled by category.** This saves us time and space! Yeah!

We are THRILLED with your clean donations, but not so much by your trash. Missing parts? Broken? Unfortunately, we won’t be able to sell it. Not sure if it works? Please try all donations with electrical plugs before you donate to be sure they’re in working order. (Lamps with lightbulbs are preferred!) **Please CLEAN your items before donating** - clean items can be priced higher and sell faster! As always, we won’t be selling clothes, computers/monitors, TVs, most electrical appliances, exercise equipment, or used candles. Not sure if it’s saleable? Ask one of our Attic Treasures helpers!

Want to get in on the action? Come join our Attic Treasures team! We’re looking for movers & shakers, leaders and followers, young and seasoned volunteers to unpack, research, sort & price, set up right up to July 4th, and to sell and pack up on the 4th. Please sign up in Fellowship Hall (coming soon!) or see Judith Wong: 860-315-7059 or jmwong@pomfret.org. We match jobs to what you enjoy!

Many thanks in advance for your donations to Attic Treasures! Remember, all proceeds benefit the East Woodstock Congregational Church and Christian Education, Music, and Outreach Programs!

GET EXCITED! Look for us in Fellowship Hall on Jamboree Day!

Missions Committee News

Thank You Easter Buckets for Covenant to Care Children



Thank you for helping spread the Easter Message of love and hope to
30 young children in Northeastern CT!

Covenant to Care for Children channels the generosity of caring and faithful people to advocate for and provide direct assistance to Connecticut's children who are neglected, abused and/or impoverished.

Five baskets were delivered to the **Domestic Violence Shelter**.

Caring Families-Woodstock

Weekly food assistance program
Weekly serves 50 families in the Woodstock school system

EWCC provides Tuna



Please pick up Tuna when you shop and leave it in the Missions basket!

Thank you for caring...



One Great Hour of Sharing Offering UCC

"More than we can Imagine"

A donation of \$375 was collected. Thank you for your support and generosity, which will be used to respond to a number of disasters worldwide in a timely manner. **Thank you!**



WAIM
Windham Area
Interfaith Ministry

WAIM Mission: Uplifting and uniting our community by providing caring services and resources to meet our neighbors' needs with dignity and respect.

Volunteer Help needed at their loading dock in Willimantic where they receive their donations. For the first time in a long

time, they had to close the dock for lack of workers. Please help us keep WAIM's Material Goods Program functioning; they do not want to have to turn people and their donations away!! Our dock hours are Tuesdays through Saturdays, 9-noon

Merle Potchinsky, Human Services Manager, Windham Area Interfaith Ministry
860-456-7270 x17 Office Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday

Missions/Outreach Quarterly Donations

- \$100 Camp Quinebaug (NE CT Camp for students with special needs)
- \$100 Disabled Veterans
- \$100 East Woodstock Cemetery
- \$50 East Woodstock Library
- \$100 Holy Joe's Café (Military Chaplin)
- \$125 Interfaith Human Services (Daily Bread, Diaper Bank, Clothes Closet etc.)
- \$100 Robert L. Klimaytis Fund (young boy with paralysis)
- \$50 Treehouse Foundation (Tom Stokes)
- \$100 Why Me & Sherry's House (support for families caring for children w/cancer)
- \$45 World Vision (sponsor child Luis Agnel Gonzalez – birthday)
- \$100 Jasmin Floyd – birthday
- \$100 RoJeanne Floyd – gift cards
- \$195.77 Community Kitchens (2 months)
- \$70 Yarn for prayer shawls
- \$375 One Great Hour of Sharing offering

Our next meeting will be June 12th at 7:00 pm.



Support for Jasmin

Jasmin Floyd has been experiencing a severe flare-up from the disease FOP which has caused new bone growth that severely inhibits her ability to move around independently. Additional bone is growing in many parts of her body which is very painful and is inhibiting her breathing and mobility. Hopefully Jasmin will be moving from UMass Medical Center to a local rehabilitation facility soon.



Apartment Search – As a result of all these issues, Jasmin and her mother RoJeanne would like to move from their apartment in Dayville to Putnam, Woodstock, or Pomfret. They hope to accomplish two things:

1. Be closer to the church and their support system around here.
2. Find living space that is easily accessible - no stairs (or only 1) and as open as possible.

Please spread the word and think creatively. Ask your friends, neighbors, co-workers and anyone who might know of a living situation that would work for them.

Missions Meals Ministry

<http://www.takethemeal.com/>

Thank you so very much, to the thoughtful and caring members of our congregation who have contributed meals and supported many church members. A warm meal and a kind heart goes a long way to comforting those in need. **Meals for Jasmin and RoJeanne have been temporarily paused.**



Please keep both Jasmin and her mom RoJeanne in your prayers. Thank you for your caring.

Ladies Benevolent Society News & History

LBS held its meeting on April 17 with a fantastic presentation by Sam Ducharme about *Hiking the Appalachian Trail*. Sam presented a wonderful slide show of pictures as he narrated the adventures of his 2,200-mile hike from Georgia to Mount Katahdin in Maine. We had around 25 men and women in attendance. If you missed it, you can read Sam's book "*Sole Searching on the Appalachian Trail*", available from Amazon.

Our May 15 meeting will feature Pastor Sue Foster's presentation on her and Roger's 2018 European trip and their Puerto Rico mission adventure. Please join us for another virtual and scenic trip: May 15 at 1:30 p.m. in Fellowship Hall. Refreshments will be provided.

Now for a bit of LBS History: "Everyone was still struggling to overcome the depression years when in September of 1938 a vicious hurricane struck. Damage to the church was extensive and power and phones were out for several days. All church events were held in the Community House. Everyone responded, a Church Repair Fund was started, and many hours of work donated. The ladies paid for much of the inside painting and had the furnaces repaired. New hymnals were bought, many families paid for one. With the superb efforts of everyone, by November of 1939 we were able to hold our first event in the restored sanctuary – a 25th Wedding Anniversary celebration for Rev. & Mrs. Baker, including her birthday. For a final touch we furnished material for a skirt around the organ and covering for the pulpit chairs. The communion table, pulpit and chairs were re-varnished."

Respectfully submitted, Kerstin Forrester

9th Annual Connecticut Conference

SAVE THE DATE!

YOUTH REVIVAL

Sunday, May 5 at 3:00 PM

First Congregational Church in
Bloomfield 10 Wintonbury Avenue
Bloomfield, CT



Rev. Trayce Potter, Revival Preacher
UCC Minister for Youth and Young Adult Engagement

*United in Christ's love,
a just world for all*



This worship experience is a signature program of the Racial Justice Ministry of the Connecticut Conference, UCC. www.ctucc.org

Parents of 4th-7th Grade Children

You are invited to a planning meeting for a

Middle School Youth Group

Starting next Fall 2019

- *Weekly Meetings*
- *Time for Learning and Reflection*
- *Community Service Projects*
- *Games and Snacks, of course!*

We will meet June 2, 2018 at 11:30am after worship.

Come to share your ideas with me and each other.

Please email, text or call to tell me you can come.

Anne Sorensen, Youth Group Director

email: annesorensen065@gmail.com

Phone number 860-428-2198

Sunday School News

First let me give you all a few important dates:

Sunday, June 9th is Children's Sunday. I would like all the children at church that morning by 9am at the latest. I also need to know ASAP if your child(ren) will participate in the service. This year has been "an award-winning year" and the children have learned so much and are eager to share that with everyone.

Tuesday July 9th, Thursday July 11th, Monday July 15th & Wednesday July 17th. These are the dates for this year's Vacation Bible Camp. This year VBC will be intergenerational and open to ALL. You are welcome to come for 1 night or all 4 nights, whatever your schedule allows you to do. More details will be forthcoming, but I just want to give you the dates so you can set them aside.

I grew up in a very strong Catholic home and attended Catholic schools. Every May we were asked to bring lilacs to school to honor Mary, the mother of Jesus. As we approach Mother's Day, I wonder what kind of mother Mary was? What were the things that Mary thought were important for Jesus to learn? What traditions did Mary pass down that her mother Anne taught her? Who were Jesus's friends when he was young? What did Mary think of Jesus's friends? What was their home like?

As many of you know, my grandmother died in February at the age of 101. My grandmother was a woman of strong faith. I think my grandmother had a home that Mary would have had. You were always welcome in my grandmother's home. It was a busy house, but no matter when you dropped in you were welcome and made to feel special. It was small, but you could always fit one more. I'd like to think Jesus's home was very similar.

In what ways is your home like the home Jesus was raised in? What are we teaching our children about Jesus's love in the everyday little things... like cooking a meal, doing the laundry, sweeping the kitchen? It's LOVE that makes a home, and LOVE that makes a family. So get yourself some lilacs and thank Mary for all she has passed down through all the generations.

Louise cedirectorewcc@gmail.com

Children's Page

A picture to color.



May 2019						
Daily Bread request: Cereal						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm AI-anon	2 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	3	4
5 Confirmands lead worship 6:30 pm EWCB	6 9am Community Kitchen Prep (Hill) 10 am Music Class	7 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Deacons 7:00 pm Jamboree 7:00 pm Sanctuary Singers	8 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm AI-anon	9 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	10 9:30 am MOMs Group Clothing Sale 3 pm – 7 pm	11 Clothing Sale 9 am – 2 pm
12 Happy Mother's Day! Communion 8:00 am Men's Breakfast (hosting the Women!)	13 10 am Music Class 7:00 pm Council	14 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Sanctuary Singers	15 10:00 Study Group 1:30 pm LBS 7:30 pm AI-anon	16 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	17 TRUMPET DEADLINE!	18
19 Music Appreciation	20 10 am Music Class 7:00 pm Society	21 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Jamboree 7:00 pm Sanctuary Singers	22 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm AI-anon	23 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	24	25
26	27 Memorial Day	28 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Sanctuary Singers	29 10:00 Study Group 7:30 pm AI-anon	30 10:00 am Tai Chi 7:00 pm Bells	31	

Looking Ahead:

June 2 ~ Confirmation Sunday

June 10 ~ Children's Day



The coffee hour in May will be served courtesy of:

Stewardship

The coffee hour in June will be served courtesy of:

The Nominating Committee

May Birthdays:

- Becket Marinelli May 2
- Devin Noë May 10
- Abigail Manning May 12
- Avery Dumas May 20
- Anais Newall-Vuillemot May 21
- Freya Robbie May 25
- Kate Lewis May 30

PRAYER PAGE

Let us join our hearts together in prayer and know that we are always welcome in God's presence.

Dear Jesus,

Help us to spread your fragrance everywhere we go.

Flood our souls with your spirit and life.

*Penetrate and possess our whole being so utterly
that our lives may only be a radiance of yours.*

Shine through us

and be so in us

*that every soul we come in contact with
may feel your presence in our soul.*

*Let them look up and see no longer us
but only Jesus.*

Stay with us

*and then we shall begin to shine as you shine,
so to shine as to be light to others.*

The light, O Jesus, will be all from you.

None of it will be ours.

It will be you shining on others through us.

*Let us thus praise you in the way you love best
by shining on those around us.*

*Let us preach you without preaching
not by words, but by our example
by the catching force*

*the sympathetic influence of what we do
the evident fullness of the love our hearts bear to you.*

Amen.

~Mother Theresa

