

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, February 5, 2023

10:45am Worship

Woodbury United Methodist Church

February 5, 2023

Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE

I've Got Peace Like a River

African American Spiritual

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bud Behlman, Liturgist

You are the salt of the earth. You are the light of the world. Jesus says so. Be salty and let your light shine.

Happy are those who worship the Lord and delight in God's precepts.

They rise before dawn as a light to the upright.

They are gracious, merciful, and righteous.

They shine their light before others for all the world to see.

They will never be moved.

Let this be our worship.

*OPENING HYMN

Bring Forth the Kingdom

#2190 v 1, 2

*OPENING PRAYER

Caretaker of our souls, aid us in our quest.

**We long to be the salt of the earth
and the light of the world.**

**We yearn to live with such passion and purpose
that our lives may be like a city on a hill,
resplendent in justice and righteousness
for all the world to see.**

Shine through us this day,

for we seek to reflect your glory

in all that we say and in all that we do.

Amen.

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:13-20

HYMN OF PREPARATION *We Are Climbing Jacobs Ladder*

UMH #418 v 1, 2, 4

SERMON

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

On this winter morning, we come together to thank God and to offer our gifts so that the ministry of this church will continue to grow and be a blessing to the world. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *You are the Light of the World*

Schwartz

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

UMH #95

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Radiant One, source of every good gift,
receive the gifts we bring before you this day,
that they may loose the bonds of injustice,
undo the thongs of the yoke, feed the hungry,
and let the oppressed go free.

Bless this offering and the ministries it supports,
that your light may chase away the shadows
in places lost to hopelessness and despair.

In Christ's name, we pray. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us that those who mourn will be comforted. Too often we fail to offer that comfort. You taught that

the meek will inherit the earth, yet we often take advantage of those who do not stand up for themselves. You bless those who hunger for righteousness, yet righteousness slips our minds more often than not. We struggle to be merciful, or pure in heart, or peacemakers. Forgive us these and all our sins, as we continue to confess in silence.

Silent Prayer

Hear the good news! Christ died for our sins and rose again that God may free us from the tyranny of judging others to live fully in the power of God's grace. In the name of Jesus Christ, God forgives your sins and offers you a transformed future. Live fully into God's grace. Amen.

WE GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing,
always and everywhere to give thanks to you,
almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.
You have made from one every nation and people
to live on all the face of the earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the
highest.**

Holy are you, and blessed is Jesus Christ, who called you Father.
As a mother tenderly gathers her children,
you embraced a people as your own

and filled them with a longing for a peace that would last
and for a justice that would never fail.
In Jesus' suffering and death you took upon yourself our sin and
death
and destroyed their power for ever.
You raised from the dead this same Jesus,
who now reigns with you in glory,
and poured upon us your Holy Spirit,
making us the people of your new covenant.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread,
gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup,
gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said:
"Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,
we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving
as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us,
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here,
and on these gifts of bread and wine.
Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ,
that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his
blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ,
one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world,
until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly
banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever. **Amen.**

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

THE LORDS PRAYER (unison)

Our Father, 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit, through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*CLOSING HYMN *In Christ There is No East or West*

UMH #548 v 1, 2

*BENEDICTION

You are the salt of the earth;
so be salty.

You are the light of the world;
let your light shine.

May your thirst for justice and righteousness
be like a city on the hill that cannot be hid.

Go with the blessings of the one
who makes us salt and light. **Amen.**

POSTLUDE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me
Afro-American spiritual adapted by William Farley Smith

Please join us downstairs for a time of fellowship and refreshment.

Elements of this service may be taken or adapted from UMC Discipleship.org or the Abingdon Worship Annual 2022, Copyright 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

*Please stand as you are able.

Visitors are warmly welcomed!

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: Bud Behlman, Liturgist/Communion Steward; Mollie Bodwell and Carol Quinby, Greeters and Ushers; Shannon Cobb/Mark Davis, AV Tech

The Prayer Corner

Prayers for God's, loving care and healing and prayers of comfort, healing, and strength for Bob and Martha Asman, who continue to face medical challenges; comfort and God's love for all those affected by the mass shootings that have occurred during the past week.

Woodbury United Methodist Church

We are a welcoming Christian fellowship who celebrate and share God's love with everyone. We seek a closer relationship with Jesus Christ. Inspired by His example, we strive to be God's hands in this world. Empowered by God's word, we proclaim the Gospel and serve through worship, study, mission, and community support.

Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor
Pastor's e-mail: pastormichael@woodburyumc.net

Meg Temple, Lay Leader
Chris Shay, Director of Music
Matti Paparazzo, Administrative Assistant

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT, 06798
203-263-4775 www.woodburyumc.net
Church e-mail: wumc@woodburyumc.net

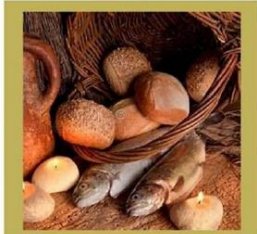
Upcoming Events

Sunday, February 12th

Intergenerational Sunday Worship, 10:45am
Ring-A-Story: The Little Boy and the Lunch

WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
INTERGENERATIONAL SUNDAY

Bringing All God's Children Together to
Worship, Learn, and Grow



"The Little Boy and His Lunch"

FEBRUARY 12, 2023 | 10:45 AM

4 CHURCH STREET WOODBURY, CT

ALL AGES & GENERATIONS WELCOME: ADULTS, TEENS, & KIDS

Join us for a family-friendly worship service followed by an intergenerational fellowship and conversation with lunch.

For our food bank collection, please bring non-perishable food items.

For more information, please contact
203-263-4775 or wumc@woodburyumc.net

Connecticut District Training Days



"In Connecticut, After God, We Put People First"

CT DISTRICT CHURCH
2023 "VIRTUAL" RESOURCING
EXPERIENCE
"From the comforts of home"



Rev. Dr. Alpha Sylvester
CT District Superintendent

"MINI CLINICS"

LINKING CONFERENCE RESOURCES TO THE CT CHURCHES

Building the Branded Church: What it Means, Why it Matters and Where to Start

February 19, 2023 - 2:00pm-3:00pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Expert

Lisa Isom

ZOOM LINK TO FOLLOW

Equipping your church to respond to Local & International Disaster

February 23, 2023 - 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Experts

Tom & Wendy Vencuss

ZOOM LINK TO FOLLOW

Ministry Success in Cross Racial Cross Cultural Appointment

February 25, 2023 - 6:00 pm - 7:00 pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Expert

Doris Dalton

ZOOM LINK TO FOLLOW

Equipping you to Lead the SPPRC, Finance & Trustee Committees in Cooperative Parish

February 26, 2023 - 12:30 pm - 1:30 pm



Presented by
Conference Resource Expert

Ric Hanse

ZOOM LINK TO FOLLOW

**WHO SHOULD ATTEND?
ALL CLERGY - ALL LAITY**

REGISTRATION FOR SEVERAL OF THESE EVENTS IS STRONGLY ENCOURAGED

Questions? Office Phone: 914-615-2227