

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday December 10, 2023
Second Sunday of Advent
10:30 AM Worship

Woodbury United Methodist Church

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Second Sunday of Advent

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

The Tender Mother

JS Bach

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Bud Behlman, Liturgist

Leader: The Spirit and the Church cry out:

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader: All those who await his appearance pray:

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader: The whole creation pleads:

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

*OPENING HYMN *Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus* UMH 196

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE: **PEACE**

Patti Thomas, John Thomas, James Lavario

Leader: Christ came bringing good news for all the world.

People: New light and new life were born among us.

Leader: Christ will come at Christmas,

People: to be born within us anew, making the darkest places bright.

Leader: Christ will come again, in final victory.

People: He will come in power and glory to usher in his kingdom.

Leader: Last week we lit the candle of Hope.

Leader: Today we light a candle as a sign of peace.

People: This Advent and every day we dream God's dream of a world at peace.

Leader: Not just the absence of war, but the presence of justice.

People: Where enemies are reconciled, and children play in safety;

Leader: Peace among the nations, peace in our community, our homes and our hearts.

People: **In the meantime, we wait and watch, and pray...**

Come, Lord Jesus!

(A candle is lit.)

*ADVENT CAROL

Light the Candle (v. 2)

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 40:1-11

Following each lesson is said:

This Scripture is the feast of Wisdom

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"*

UMH 203

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING Mark 1:1-11

SERMON

Rev. Herb Miller

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each prayer is said:

God of light...

Summon all Your Strength and Come

THE LORDS PRAYER

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; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"* JS Bach

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE An Advent Doxology
tune: *Veni Emmanuel*

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*CLOSING HYMN *Down By the Jordan* 3045

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Lift up Ye Head* Psalmodia Evangelica

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

*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; Sandra Purdy and James Levario, Greeters and Ushers; Mark Davis, AV Tech

The Prayer Corner

Continued prayers for the release of hostages and for peace in the Middle East; for the end of the war in Russia and the Ukraine; prayers of comfort and peace for the family of one of Woodbury's selectman, George Hale, and his family in the loss of his wife and the boys, mother, Terri, who fought a courageous battle with cancer and passed at home this week; love and comfort for those struggling through challenges and hard times this season

Services of Taizé Evening Prayer for Advent

Join us for a half-hour candlelit service consisting of meditative singing, silence, and prayer. December 12 , & 19 at 7:00 pm



Upcoming Events

Sunday, December 10

Soup sale during fellowship hour

Sunday, December 17

Praise Band Concert @ 3pm

Tuesdays, December 12, & 19

Taize Service @ 7pm

Sunday, December 24

Christmas Pageant during worship service

Sunday, December 24

Candlelight service @ 5pm

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. Herb Miller, Pastor

Meg Temple, Lay Leader

Christopher 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

Food Bank

Woodbury UMC has pledged to help supply the Woodbury Food Bank with juice for a three-month period. We are asking our members to help us provide juice for our neighbors in need. The most requested are cranberry and cranberry juice combos, apple juice and juice boxes. Your help is so much appreciated in this ministry. Thank you.

"HOPE FOR EVERYONE"
A Christmas Musical Celebration

Featuring
Water and Light Praise Band
With special music by
THE WUMC Bell Choir

December 17, 2023 at 3 PM
Woodbury United Methodist Church
4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT

Pre-register to reserve seating at
www.woodburyumc.net/events

• Admission is FREE!

• Monetary Donations and Food Items will be collected at the concert.

All Proceeds Support Woodbury Food Bank/Fuel Assistance and
WUMC Helping Hands Community Ministry

Come Celebrate the Music of Christmas
And Help Our Neighbors in Need!



Water and Light Praise Band

Praise Band Concert

We are hosting our third Christmas Music Celebration on Sunday, December 17 that 3pm in the sanctuary. Music will feature our WUMC Praise Band with special music also provided by our WUMC Bell Choir. Proceeds benefit the Woodbury Food Bank, Woodbury Fuel Assistance Program and WUMC Helping Hands Ministry.

Please plan to attend and invite friends and family! This is a great event for outreach to anyone needing some Christmas cheer, or to introduce them to WUMC!

Register now to reserve seating by scanning the QR code in the flyer or just go to www.woodburyumc.net/events.

Let's enjoy the music of Christmas and support our neighbors in need!

Here are some specific items there will be a need for:

- Gift Cards for our guests' holiday meal sacks
- Juice
- Canned Pears
- Canned Chicken
- Pudding Cups (not the ones needing refrigeration)
- Jelly (NOT grape - we are very good on grape!)
- Shampoos and Conditioners
- Facial Tissues

Questions for the Advent Season

Ten of us joined in a meaningful time on Sunday afternoon for the Advent Evening Apart. As you go about this busy season, take some silent time with God during this Advent to reflect on the following questions.

- As you prepare for Christmas, what is important to you?
- What are your hopes and fears for Christmas?
- Is there something you need to let go of to help Christmas live up to your desires and longings? is there something that you need to add?
- In what ways might God be asking you to prepare your house (heart, life, relationships, etc) so that Jesus might come?
- In what parts of your life do you already see Christ making a home? How can you nurture the growth of the Holy One in this area of your life?

Thank You!

A word of thanks you everyone who made decorating the church and hosting the Christmas Cafe and Advent Day Apart a success!

