

# Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday December 31, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

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Epiphany

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Pastorale*  
From the "Christmas Concerto

Corelli

CALL TO WORSHIP

Carol Quinby, Liturgist

Arise! Shine! Your light has come!

**The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness – on them light has  
shined.**

For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;

**authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful  
Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

A Savior is born, who is the Messiah, the Lord.

**Glory to God in the highest, and on earth, peace.**

\*OPENING HYMN

*We Three Kings*

UMH #254 Verses 1-3

OPENING PRAYER

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 60:1-6

Matthew 2:1-12

HYMN OF PREPARATION

*The First Noel*

UMH #245 Verses 1-3

SERMON

Rev. Herbert Miller

## WE RESPOND IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each prayer is said:  
Lord, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayers**

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.**

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM      *Wexford Carol*      Traditional Irish Carol

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

UMH #245

Tune - The First Noel

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel  
Born is the King of Israel.**

**WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

**WE GO FORTH IN JOY**

\*CLOSING HYMN *While Shepherd Watched*      UMH #236 Verses 1-3

BENEDICTION

*Please join us after worship for a time of fellowship and refreshment. .*

\*Please stand as you are able.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today; Carol Quinby, Liturgist; Barbara Etcheto and Carol Quinby, Greeters and Ushers; Mark Davis, AV Tech

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### **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; safe travels to everyone who is going to visit their families for Christmas; love and comfort for those struggling through challenges and hard times this season*

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### **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

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### **Upcoming Events**

**Thursday, January 11**  
Council Meeting, 7pm