

Woodbury United Methodist Church



November 24, 2024

Thanksgiving Sunday
Commitment Sunday
The Reign of Christ

10:30 AM Worship

Woodbury United Methodist Church

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798 203-263-4775

www.woodburyumc.net Church e-mail: wumc@woodburyumc.net

November 24, 2024

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"
(The Bell Choir)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Joann King, Liturgist
Psalm 65:9-13, paraphrased

L: O God, visit the earth, ask her to join the dance!

P: *Drench the plowed fields with rainfall as earth produces blossoms and fruit!*

L: You crown the year with goodness! Your paths drip with fatness!

P: *The hills rejoice; the abundant valleys sing for joy!*

ALL: LET US WORSHIP AND PRAISE GOD!

*HYMN

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

UMH #694

THE THANKSGIVING COLLECT (*seated, in unison*)

Almighty God, by whose appointments the seasons come and go, by whose word earth yields its increase and by whose hand we receive blessings: grant that your benevolence will inspire us to live from an attitude of gratitude for all you have done for us, most especially in giving us the gift of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

UMH #597

From the cowardice that dares not face new truth, from the laziness that is contented with half-truth, from the arrogance that thinks it knows all truth, Good Lord, deliver me. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN

Revelation 1:4b-8

*HYMN "Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending" UMH #718
*THE GOSPEL John 18:33-37
*HYMN "We Gather Together" UMH #131
THE SERMON "A True and Objective Point of Reference" Pastor Bodt

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH "The Apostles' Creed" UMH #881
*HYMN "On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand" UMH #724
"FAITHFULNESS IN MINISTRY" AWARD PRESENTATION
Jeff and Barb Hunt, Lay Leaders

OFFERING OUR GRATITUDE, OUR GIFTS AND OUR FINANCIAL
COMMITMENTS TO CHRIST'S MINISTRY IN 2025

OFFERTORY "Thanks Be to Thee" LeBreve
(The Chancel Choir)

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE UMH #587
*Bless thou the gifts our hands have brought, bless thou the work our hearts have
planned. Ours is the faith, the will, the thought; the rest, O God, is in thy hand.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER UMH #895
**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.**

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*CLOSING HYMN "Now Thank We All our God" UMH #102

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE "Trumpet Tune" Purcell
+ + +

THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.

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.

*The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor Jeff and Barbara Hunt, Lay Leaders
Christopher Shay, Minister of Music Matti Paparazzo, Admin. Assistant*

OUR COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Prayers for our nation; for Bishop Bickerton,
Superintendent Sylvester and The United Methodist Church;
for victims of conflicts in the Middle East,
the Ukraine and the Sudan; for those facing life stress,
and for our congregation's forward momentum.

TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC

WELCOME TO WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!

IF YOU ARE A VISITOR, our desire is that you experience the warmth of Christ's welcome and ours in this church. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Brian Bodt.

FELLOWSHIP TIME follows worship downstairs. Invite someone you don't know to join you!

VISION 2024 EMPHASIS TODAY is "*Spiritual Wellness*" Each week we emphasize one of the four focus areas: Evangelism, Missions, Communications and Congregational Vitality and Growth, the latter with three subsets: Spiritual Wellness, Financial Health, Inviting Facilities. Please consider help move forward **VISION 2024!**

WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist: Joann King AV Tech: Matthew Shupenis
Fellowship Time Host: Barb and Jeff Hunt
Greeters and Ushers: Jay Hockenberry and Sandra Purdy

OUR BEAUTIFUL ALTAR TODAY is the artistry of Carol Hennessey, Jane Hutter, Rynn Naylor and Carolyn Shay. Please help yourself to some of the produce at the close of worship.

WOODBURY CHURCH CONFERENCE REPORTS are available in the Narthex while supplies last.

“SANTA’S WORKSHOP” DONATIONS, a program of the Community Services Council of Woodbury, are due by Monday, December 2nd. See the flier in this issue.

POINSETTIA ORDERS ARE DUE TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3rd. Please see the flier in this issue.

LITURGISTS are now sought for 2025. Thanks to all who have served or will serve in 2024. Please contact me at 203.747.1781 or pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com. *Pastor Brian*

THE ADVENT STUDY on John the Baptist, *“Prepare the Way for the Lord,”* written by pastor and author, Rev. Adam Hamilton, starts tomorrow, Noon – 1:30 p.m. in the Assembly Room. If you didn’t sign up, we’ll get you in! Bring a bag lunch; dessert and beverage will be provided. Subsequent dates are Dec. 2, 9 and know.

THIS WEEK

TODAY, NOVEMBER 24

WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

FELLOWSHIP TIME, 11:30 a.m., Fellowship Hall

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS COMMITTEE, Noon, Wesley Room

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 25

ADVENT STUDY ON JOHN THE BAPTIST, Noon – 1:30 p.m., Assembly Room (Bring a bag lunch; dessert / beverages provided)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26

COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING WORSHIP, 7 p.m., South Britain Congregational Church, 693 South Britain Road, Southbury

VALLEY COOPERATIVE UNITED METHODIST PARISH

THANKSGIVING WORSHIP, 7 p.m., United Methodist Church of Waterbury, 250 Country Club Road, Waterbury

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 27

ALL COMMUNICATIONS DUE AT 10 A.M. With Thanksgiving on Thursday, our Administrative Assistant Matti Papparazzo will be on-site on **Wednesday, November 27, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.** All notices and publicity materials are due to her by 10 a.m.

NO CHOIR REHEARSALS

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28, THANKSGIVING DAY

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 29

NO TRANSITION ACADEMY (school recess)

NEXT SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper sung to the tunes of Christmas carols. The sermon “*Time to Watch*” based on Jeremiah 33:14-16, I Thessalonians 3:9-13 and Luke 21:25-36 on the theme of “hope,” is the first of series of five sermons entitled “*Time to....*” Our Liturgist and Communion assistant is Carolyn Shay. The Advent wreath will be lit by Carol Hennessey and Jane Hutter. We will receive Woodbury Food Bank donations and an opportunity to give to the pastor’s discretionary fund will be offered. After worship free blood pressure screenings will be offered by Andrew Styblo, EMT, in the Assembly Room.

MINISTRY OPPORTUNITIES

THANKS FOR YOUR DONATIONS TO THE WOODBURY

FOOD BANK. Bring these any Sunday morning or any Thursday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. **Items most needed for the next two weeks are:**

- | | | |
|--------------|----------------|---------------------------------|
| Kid’s snacks | Pudding cups | Canned pears and peaches |
| Box cereal | Fruit cocktail | Olives |

FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

ARE YOU ON OUR “*Living through Grace*” weekly email? If not, please contact Matti Papparazzo at wumc@woodburyumc.net.

PUBLICATION DEADLINE for the weekly bulletin and “*Living through Grace*” e-newsletter is **10 a.m. THURSDAY.** Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

SAVE THE DATES FOR THESE UPCOMING EVENTS:

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 26, 7 P.M.

- Woodbury/Southbury Community Thanksgiving Worship, South Britain Congregational Church, 693 South Britain Road, Southbury.
- Valley Cooperative Parish Thanksgiving Worship, Waterbury United Methodist Church, 250 Country Club Road, Waterbury.

SUNDAYS, DECEMBER 1, 8, 15 AND 22, 10:30 A.M.

Worship at WUMC with a sermon series, “*Time to....*”

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 3, 10 A.M.

Decorating the sanctuary for Advent/Christmas. *"Many hands make light work."* For details, contact Worship Chair Carolyn Shay, 203.518.3177 or 1jerseygirl52@gmail.com.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7, 2 - 4 P.M.

"Christmas Café and Holiday Handbells" offered as part of the "Woodbury Townwide Christmas Festival." Music provided by "Chime In! Music With a Mission" from 2 -3:30 p.m. Attend any portion. Free-will donations appreciated. Dessert, beverages and soup-to-go for purchase in Fellowship Hall from 2-4 p.m., provided by Family Nurture and Hospitality. Tree lighting on the North Green at 4 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2:30 - 4 P.M.

4th Annual "Praise Band Christmas Program" in our sanctuary. Free-will offering benefits the Woodbury Food Bank, the Woodbury Energy Assistance Program, and scholarships for the spring, 2025 Mission to Ecuador.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22, 10:30 A.M.

Woodbury United Methodist Church Christmas Pageant

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24, 5 P.M.

Woodbury United Methodist Church Christmas Eve worship of carols and candlelight with the message "Time to Marvel."

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29, 10:30 A.M.

Wesley Covenant Service at WUMC

DID YOU KNOW?

AML Pet-Sitting and Dog-Walking is a business owned by Ann Marie Loukrezis, a new worshipper at WUMC. Many of our regular worshippers have met her over the last three Sundays. You can reach her for these services at 203.512.7346. Check it out at <https://www.facebook.com/ann1483/>

200th ANNIVERSARY TRIBUTE PROCLAMATIONS AND LETTERS are now on display in the office entry area. Our Trustees approved their display; Jeff Hunt framed them and Cathy Riefenhauser mounted them. Thanks to all!

“WHAT A GLORIOUS NIGHT!”

A Christmas Musical Celebration

Featuring

Water & Light Praise Band

With special music by

The WUMC Bell Choir

December 15, 2024 at 2:30PM

Woodbury United Methodist Church

4 Church Street, Woodbury CT

Free Admission! *

* Monetary Donations and Food Items will be collected at the event.

Proceeds To Benefit

Woodbury Food Bank & Fuel Assistance

& Woodbury UMC 2025 Mission Trip



Water and Light Praise Band

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



The Community Services Council of Woodbury



Santa's Workshop



is asking for your help in order to make Christmas a special time of year for our local friends in need. This year we will be collecting items for adults and seniors, as well as kids.

The following donations are requested for the

2024 Holiday Season....



Donations of Toys and Gifts for Kids

*please visit New Morning Market, Newtown Savings Bank & the Woodbury Public Library where "Giving Trees" are displayed.
Donation deadline is 12/2/24*

Small Generic (unwrapped) Adult Gifts

Example: Cozy slipper socks, warm throws, puzzles, hand cream, special coffees & teas & treats

Warm Accessories for Kids ages Newborn to 18

Wrapping Paper (sealed)

Items may be dropped off at the Woodbury Public Library

Questions

203-510-9905