

Woodbury United Methodist Church



March 9, 2025

The First Sunday in Lent

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

The First Sunday in Lent

March 9, 2025

10:30 A.M.

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"The Butterfly Song"
Nathaniel Shay, Trumpet

Howard

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Elizabeth Styblo, Liturgist

L: We come to this place of refuge to worship God.

P: *We worship bringing joys and burdens, triumphs and tragedies.*

L: So let us listen for a word from the Lord.

P: *Quiet us, that we may hear God's voice.*

ALL: LENT IS HERE. MAY WE OBSERVE A HOLY LENT.

*HYMN

"Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days"

UMH #269

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*)

UMH #268

O God our deliverer, you led your people of old through the wilderness and brought them to the promised land. Guide now the people of your church, that, following our Savior, we may walk through the wilderness of this world toward the glory of the world to come, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (*by the Pastor*)

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Help us, God, to have the courage and humility to confess the small and large temptations to which we yield, and the secret sins that no one knows. Restore us to right relationship with you by empowering us to trust your promise: "If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just to forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness." Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE PSALTER	Psalm 91	UMH p. 810
*THE GOSPEL		Luke 4:1-13
*HYMN	<i>"Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley"</i>	Rear Cover
THE SERMON	<i>"Trust"</i>	Pastor Brian Bodt

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*THE APOSTLES' CREED		UMH #881
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.

TESTIMONY		Mollie Bodwell
OFFERING OUR GIFTS		

OFFERTORY	<i>"The Lord is My Shepherd"</i> The Chancel Choir	Pote
*RESPONSE OF PRAISE	<i>"The Doxology"</i>	UMH #95
<i>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. Amen.</i>		
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		

THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*A SERVICE OF WORD AND TABLE, Setting A		UMH pp. 17-18
*THE COMMUNION		
<i>(All are welcome to receive. We receive standing today. Please follow the ushers' direction. You may leave a gift for the pastor's discretionary fund if desired.)</i>		

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress Is Our God"

UMH #110

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Precious Lord, Take My Hand"

Dorsey

Wesley Shay, Alto Saxophone

+ + +

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*

TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC

**WELCOME TO WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!
IF YOU ARE A VISITOR PLEASE COMPLETE A VISITOR'S
CARD AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING.** 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 2025 EMPHASIS TODAY is *"Spiritual Wellness."* Each week we focus on one of six areas: Evangelism, Missions, Communications, Affirmation and Inclusion, Youth and Young Adults and Congregational Vitality and Growth, the latter including Spiritual Wellness, Financial Health, Inviting Facilities.

WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist: Elizabeth Styblo Testimony: Mollie Bodwell

A.V. Tech: Meg Temple and Mark Riefenhauser

Fellowship Time Host: Carol Quinby

Ushers and Greeters: Mollie Bodwell and Mark Davis

ECUADOR "STOCK" may be purchased to support the May, 2025 Mission to Ecuador from any member of the organizing team.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION meets at 11:45 a.m. in the Wesley Room.

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:**

Pasta Sauce	Olives	Mushrooms
Chicken and rice soup		Gluten free pasta

Thank you in advance for your donations! *“I was hungry and you gave me food...”* Matthew 25:35

OUR LENTEN STUDY will meet each Monday from 10 – 11 am or 7-8 pm, March 10, 17, 24, 31 and April 7 in the Assembly Room or Pastor’s office (they are next to each other.) We will discuss that week’s readings in the WUMC Lenten devotional. No sign ups, no registration, no homework! Just come and reflect on where Lent, 2025 is taking you!

CHRISTMAS JAR BOOK RETURNS

Eight copies of the book Christmas Jars are out on loan: please return them to Carol Galloway when finished so that others might read this short story and decide if they also want to have a Christmas Jar.

“IRON SHARPENS IRON” Men’s Ministry Conference

Saturday, March 22 in Hartford. See Bud Behlman for details, or at <https://ironsharpensiron.net/aboutironsharpensiron/history.html>, the “Iron Sharpens Iron” website.

FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

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

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

REACH PASTOR BRIAN for pastoral care or visitation at 203.747.1781 or pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com.

SAVE THESE DATES

ECUADOR PASTA DINNER, Mar. 15, 4:30 – 7 pm, Fellowship Hall. See the detailed notice in this issue.

WORSHIP AND COMMUNITY SERVICE, March 30, 10:30 a.m. *A brief 30 minute worship will be followed by opportunities to serve our neighbors in Woodbury.* **Please see the detailed article on the rear cover**, or speak with Meg Temple, Missions Chair (203.910.3711).

"LENT ON THE ROAD": each Tuesday, March 11 – April 8, 6 p.m. light supper, 7 p.m. worship. Please bring non-perishable canned goods for the Food Bank. Woodbury UMC hosts (with North Congregational) at WUMC on April 8.

THIS WEEK

TODAY, MARCH 9

WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

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

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE, 11:45 am, Wesley Room

MONDAY, MARCH 10

LENTEN STUDY, 10 a.m., Assembly Room/Pastor's office

LENTEN STUDY, 7 p.m., Assembly Room/Pastor's office

TUESDAY, MARCH 11

"LENT ON THE ROAD," United Church of Christ, 283 Main Street North, Southbury: 6 pm Soup Supper, 7 pm worship

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 12

CHOIR REHEARSAL: 6 p.m., Bell Choir, 7:15 p.m., Chancel Choir

THURSDAY, MARCH 13

OFFICE HOURS, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Church

EVANGELISM COMMITTEE, 6 p.m., Assembly Room

BOARD OF TRUSTEES, 7 p.m., Assembly Room

COMMUNICATIONS MEETING, 7p.m., Pastors Office

FRIDAY, MARCH 14

TRANSITION ACADEMY, 9:15 – 10:45 a.m., Church Grounds

SATURDAY, MARCH 15

ECUADOR PASTA DINNER, 4:30 – 7 p.m., Fellowship Hall

SUNDAY MARCH 16

WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

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

STAFF PARISH RELATIONS MEETING, Noon, Wesley Room

NEXT SUNDAY, MARCH 16th, 10:30 a.m.

"Conviction" is the message based on Genesis 15:1-12, 17-18; Philippians 3:17 – 4:1 and Luke 13:31-35. Music by the Bell and Chancel Choirs. Our liturgist will be Liam McGrath. Our Mission Moment presenter will be Mark Davis. Staff Parish Relations will meet in the Wesley Room, at noon.

ECUADOR MISSION - STOCK SALE

Take part in this exciting **IPO** (*Initial Parish Offering*) that promises great **ROI** (*Reaching Others Internationally*). The Stock Sale is one of several ways that you, your family, and your friends can



“Share” in the **2025 Mission Trip to Ecuador**.

Stockholders will receive a certificate that entitles them to:

- The gratitude of the Mission Team
- An update from Ecuador
- Stockholder’s dinner following Mission Team’s return from Ecuador

Stock certificates are \$10 per share and will be sold after church from February 9th until April 6th; and will also be available from Mission Team members at any time.

100% of your donations will go directly to the 2025 Ecuador Mission Trip.

Thank you for prayerfully considering your donation.

PASTA DINNER TO BENEFIT ECUADOR MISSION TEAM NEEDS YOUR HELP

Our Ecuador Pasta Dinner is this Saturday, March 15, 2025 from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m.

Please invite your friends to a delicious meal for a worthy cause.

Our need now is for bakers. If you can make a dessert for the dessert table please contact Joann King by phone or email at (203) 885-2643 or jojenu78@earthlink.net.

WUMC DAY OF SERVICE AFTER THE SERVICE: MARCH 30, 2025

Lent is near, beginning March 5th! Many Christians “take on” as well as “give up” something up for Lent. In that spirit, Woodbury UMC will have its first *Day of Service After the Service* on **Sun., March 30th**. We have intentionally created three projects that will:

- impact members of the town of Woodbury and one member of our own congregation.
- accommodate volunteers with different interests and capabilities.
- be scalable to accommodate all who would like to serve.

We will leave a shortened, 30 minute worship for one of these projects and return to church two hours later for a light lunch and to discuss the impact our service had on both recipients and ourselves and where we saw God at work in our work. The opportunities are:

1. **Repair/cleaning in the home** of a member of our congregation, supporting her efforts to organize and discard items in a 3-season porch, garage, and basement and improve house winterization. This project will have a direct and sustainable impact her quality of life.

2. **Trash removal.** With Town of Woodbury’s blessing, we will work at the direction of the Conservation Commission to pick up litter along several roadways in Woodbury. This project will help to keep the town of Woodbury safer and prettier for all residents.

3. **Care home visitation.** We will visit Premier Care of Woodbury during lunch hour to have one-on-one conversation and to bring some entertainment through a sing-a-long or crafts or games, hoping to lift residents spirits by sharing our attention and Good News.

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley 2112



1. Je - sus walked _____ this lone - some val - ley;
 2. We must walk _____ this lone - some val - ley;
 3. You must go _____ and stand your tri - al;



he had to walk _____ it by him - self. _____
 we have to walk _____ it by our - selves. _____
 you have to stand _____ it by your - self. _____



— Oh, no - bod - y else _____ could walk it for him;
 — Oh, no - bod - y else _____ can walk it for us;
 — Oh, no - bod - y else _____ can stand it for you;



he had to walk _____ it by him - self. _____
 we have to walk _____ it by our - selves. _____
 you have to stand _____ it by your - self. _____