

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, May 18, 2025

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

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 Fifth Sunday of Easter

May 18, 2025

10:30 a.m.

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"The Lord is My Hope"
Maddy Meeker, Soprano

Patrick Loomis

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Mary Grace Styblo, Liturgist
Psalm 148:1, 13

L: Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord from the heavens, praise the Lord in the heights!

P: *Let them praise the name of the Lord, whose name alone is exalted, whose glory is above earth and heaven.*

ALL: LET US WORSHIP GOD!

*HYMN

"All Creatures of Our God and King"

UMH #62

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated*)

Gelasian Sacramentary, 5th cent., alt.

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened too us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection may, by the renewing of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Ruth Duck, USA, 20th cent.

God of all nations, we praise you that in Christ the barriers that have separated humanity are torn down. Yet we confess our slowness to open our hearts and minds to those of other lands, tongues and races. Deliver us from the sins of fear and prejudice, that we may move toward the day when all are truly one in Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

FOR THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE PSALTER	Psalm 148	UMH p.861
THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE		21:1-6
*THE GOSPEL		John 13:31-35
*HYMN	<i>"O Holy City, Seen of John"</i>	UMH #726
THE SERMON	<i>"No Mystery Here"</i>	Pastor Brian Bodt

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

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 Dan Guinipero

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *"The Garden of Prayer"* Gene Grier
The Chancel Choir

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE UMH #588

All things come of thee, O Lord; and of thine own have we given thee.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*HYMN *"For the Healing of the Nations"* UMH #428

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *"City of God"* Dan Schutte
+ + +

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.

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

VISION 2025 EMPHASES TODAY are "*Missions, Financial Health and Affirmation and Inclusion*" from among our foci of Evangelism, Missions, Communications, Affirmation and Inclusion, Youth and Young Adults and Congregational Vitality and Growth (Spiritual Wellness, Financial Health, Inviting Facilities).

WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist: Mary Grace Styblo A.V. Tech: Matt Shupenis
Fellowship Time Host: Christine Shupenis
Ushers and Greeters: Catherine Mason and Meg Temple

"ASK THE PASTOR" is an event **TODAY** for young adults (18-35 years old) meeting **at 12:30 p.m.** at Charcoal Chef, 670 Main Street North (US Route 6), Woodbury. Young adults are invited to come and discuss any question or concern, spiritual or otherwise. Pastor Brian will host lunch for this occasion with a \$15 cap per person. You don't need a reservation. Just come!

ACTIVE MINISTRIES

OFFICE HOURS AND PUBLICATION CHANGES THIS WEEK

The following are schedule adjustments this week:

All published material must be submitted **by 10 a.m. this Wednesday, May 21** for the issue of "*Living Through Grace*" of May 22 and the Sunday bulletin of May 25. Matti will be on-site this week on Wednesday, May 21, **10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m.**
LTG will go out Wednesday.

Thanks to all who contribute to our publications and for your cooperation with these adjusted deadlines.

VALLEY COOPERATIVE PARISH DIAPER DRIVE

In ministry with the Cooperative Parish, we are collecting diapers of all sizes now through May 22. These diapers will benefit families through New Opportunities in Waterbury. You may drop off

donations today or during the adjusted office hours of May 21, or by calling the church to make alternate drop-off arrangements. Diapers will be delivered to New Opportunities on Friday, May 23. Please contact Meg Temple (203.910.3711) with questions.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL CHANGES

Bell Choir will **NOT** rehearse this Wednesday, May 21.

Bell Choir **WILL** rehearse May 28 and June 4.

June 4 will be the final rehearsal until fall.

The Bell Choir will play for the final time this spring on June 8.

WOODBURY FOOD BANK DONATIONS

Bring these any Sunday morning or any Thursday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Items most needed for the next two weeks are:

Brownie mix, rice mix, instant potatoes, mushrooms, whole tomatoes, olives, pork and beans, cookie mix, pasta sauce, chicken broth, chicken combo soup, dry cat food, pancake mix, cereal, deodorant, kids snacks, and shelf stable milk

THE BOOK CHRISTMAS JAR

continues to generate interest. Finished with your copy? Please return it to Carol Galloway at Fellowship Time today. If you'd like a copy, see her there to obtain this engaging tale of kindness to others.

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

For our mission team in Ecuador through May 22.

For conflicts in Middle East, the Ukraine and the Sudan;

For Bishop Bickerton, Superintendent Sylvester and Superintendent-elect Sinclair during this appointment season; and all clergy changing appointments.

Missionaries, especially Sarah Flores (Ecuador) and Rev. Dexter Ceballos (Mongolia).

For anyone facing life's difficulties and for those facing medical challenges, especially Olivia Guinipero, Eni Mucco (friend of Jane Hutter), Lou Calabrese (recovering in Florida) and Lisa Tannenbaum. (to be transported to the U.S. from Germany for continuing care. Lisa is the mother-in-law of Tres Fimmano.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MAY 18

DEADLINE FOR SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS

WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

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

"ASK THE PASTOR," 12:30 p.m., Charcoal Chef

WEDNESDAY, MAY 21

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

**ALL MATERIALS FOR "LIVING THROUGH GRACE" AND
SUNDAY BULLETIN DUE AT 10 A.M.**

CHOIR REHEARSAL: 7:15 p.m., Chancel Choir only, no Bell Choir

FRIDAY, MAY 23

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

NEXT SUNDAY

Acts 16:9-15 and Revelation 21:1-10, 22-27 and 22:1-5 frame the message "*A Destination City*." We will include a litany remembering Memorial Day. Our liturgist will be Carol Galloway.

FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

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

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

CELEBRATING OUR YOUTH

Our church will be celebrating "**EDUCATION SUNDAY**" on **June 8TH**. This will be our opportunity to recognize the youth of our church for their contributions to our faith community while also celebrating the advancement in their educational journey.

As we prepare for this event the Christian Education Committee asks for your help.

- If you're aware of any young person who is advancing to a new school level.(Elementary to Middle school / Middle School to High School, etc.).....
- If you are aware of any young person graduating from high school or a post-secondary program including vocational school, college or university...

- If you have experienced a young person actively engaged in a church activity in any way....
- If you are aware of any young person who has been positively involved in the community in a way that represents our church in an affirming manner....

PLEASE LET US KNOW BY PASSING INFORMATION ALONG TO:

Bob Asman: asmanct@hotmail.com

Meg Temple: megtemple1@gmail.com

Also, a reminder that our church offers scholarships to graduating high school Seniors. To be considered, applications must be completed and returned by May 18th. You will find a link to an application below. For more information please contact Catherine Mason: catherine.mason02@outlook.com

Here are 3 options for submitting the scholarship application:

1. Complete the attached fillable Word Document (found [HERE](#)) save the file & email the file as an attachment to communications@woodburyumc.net.
2. Complete & submit an online scholarship Google form available at <https://forms.gle/tLEFMmBWhEbQapD98>*
3. Complete & submit a paper copy by mail to Attn: Catherine Mason, Woodbury UMC, [4 Church St. Woodbury, CT 06798](#)

*If you are logged into Google Drive, Google will autosave your work, so you can pause and return later.

The deadline for scholarship submissions is May 18, 2025.



SOUTHBURY FOOD BANK

April 30, 2025

Woodbury United Methodist Church
4 Church Street
Woodbury, CT 06798

Dear Friends at Woodbury United Methodist Church,

Thank you so much for your support of Southbury Food Bank's mission to end hunger in our community! Your donation of \$308 in April, from your special Lent on the Road Service, directly supports nearly 200 Southbury Families in need through our daily operations and special programs. You have truly made a positive impact on a local family!

As a full-choice food pantry, we strive to continue to offer a wide variety of non-perishable food items, frozen meat options, fresh produce, cheese and yogurt, and personal care products. New families seek our assistance every month. With your support, we have been able to provide over 3,700 bags of groceries so far this year. Our food distribution has increased by over 200 bags since last spring in 2024. As the need for food assistance in our town continues to grow, our mission to meet that need and close the hunger gap requires increasing funds. Your donation secures our existence as a necessary food resource, thereby providing support and nutritional stability for families in need. Thank you!

The support we receive from generous donors like you has enabled the Southbury Food Bank to serve consistently for 43 years! We would not exist if it weren't for your compassion and generosity. Thank you for your donation and your continued support of our mission, as we strive to end hunger together.

With sincere gratitude,

Angela Villadolid
Southbury Food Bank Director

Emergency Food Aid in Southbury (dba Southbury Food Bank) is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization under federal tax ID 22-3018164. All contributions are tax deductible to the full extent of the law; no goods or services were provided in exchange for this donation. Please use this letter as your official receipt for tax purposes. Thanks for your support!

PO BOX 68 • SOUTHBURY, CT 06488 • 203.721.0377

SOUTHBURYFOODBANK.ORG