

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, May 25, 2025

Memorial Day Sunday

“Peace with Justice Sunday”

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

May 25, 2025

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"Eternal Father Strong to Save"* John B. Dykes

*CALL TO WORSHIP from the Syrian Orthodox Church
Carol Galloway, Liturgist

L: Glory to the Father, who has woven garments of glory for the
Resurrection.

P: *Worship to the Son, who was clothed in them at his rising.*

ALL: **THANKSGIVING TO THE SPIRIT, WHO KEEPS THEM
FOR ALL THE SAINTS. LET US WORSHIP GOD!**

*HYMN *"America the Beautiful"* UMH #696

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, unison*) The Book of Worship, 1964 (edited)

O God, we bless thee on this Memorial Day weekend for the remembrance of those who fought and died that we might live. Accept our gratitude as we bless thee, by whose providence makes wars to cease. Make us worthy of their sacrifice; and help us follow more closely in the steps of thy blessed Son, that at last we may with them stand in thy presence, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*) (based on Matthew 5:22 and James 3:8)

God of mercy, be merciful to us when anger rises. It is the root of violence. Be merciful to us when our tongues wag: they can be a fire that poisons lives and communities. Forgive those times when we cry for mercy, yet are miserly in sharing it. Help us do better, and be better people, by your great love in Jesus Christ. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF ASSURANCE

FOR OUR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

ACTS OF THE APOSTLES 16:9-15

THE REVELATION OF ST. JOHN THE DIVINE 21:1-10, 22-27; 22:1-5

*HYMN

"Shall We Gather at the River"

UMH #723

THE SERMON

"A Destination City"

Pastor Brian Bodt

(concluding with Hymn #722, "I Want to be Ready")

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

A LITANY FOR PEACE

The Book of Worship, 1964 (edited)

L: O Lord, the peoples of the world are divided into many nations and tongues, yet you see them all as your children. Deliver us from every evil that obstructs your saving purpose; and fulfill your promise of old to establish your realm of peace.

From the curse of war and all that begets it,

P: O Lord, deliver us.

L: From believing and speaking lies against other nations,

P: O Lord, deliver us.

L: From narrow loyalties and selfish isolation,

P: O Lord, deliver us.

L: From fear and distrust of other nations, from all false pride, vainglory, and self-conceit,

P: O Lord, deliver us.

L: From the lust of the mighty for riches, that drives peaceful peoples to slaughter,

P: O Lord, deliver us.

L: From putting our trust in the weapons of war, and from want of faith in the power of justice and good will,

P: O Lord, deliver us.

L: From every thought, word, and deed which divides the human family and separates us from the perfect realization of your love,

P: O Lord, deliver us. *On this Memorial Day Sunday, as we remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice, may we commit ourselves to that to which they aspired, hastening the day when all shall dwell together in peace and mutual love, through the Prince of Peace, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS, including the "Peace with Justice" offering

OFFERTORY

"Love Grows Here"
The Chancel Choir

Don Besig

*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

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*CLOSING HYMN

"The Navy Hymn"

TFWS #2191

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Rhapsody in G"
+ + +

Johannes Brahms

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 "Spiritual Wellness" 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).

Eternal Father, Strong to Save 2191

1. E - ter - nal Fa - ther, strong to save, whose arm has bound the
 2. O Sav - ior, whose al - might - y word the wind and waves sub -
 3. O Ho - ly Spir - it, who did brood up - on the cha - os
 4. O Trin - i - ty of love and power, all trav - elers guard in

rest - less wave, who bid the might - y o - cean deep its
 mis - sive heard, who walked up - on the foam - ing deep, and
 wild and rude, and bid its an - gry tu - mult cease, and
 dan - ger's hour; from rock and tem - pest, fire and foe, pro -

own ap - point - ed lim - its keep: O hear us when we
 calm a - mid its rage did sleep: O hear us when we
 gave, for fierce con - fu - sion, peace: O hear us when we
 tect them where - so - e'er they go; thus ev - er - more shall

cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 cry to thee for those in per - il on the sea.
 rise to thee glad praise from air and land and sea.

WORDS: William Whiting (Gen. 1:2; Job 38:8-11; Matt. 8:23-27; Mark 4:35-41; Luke 8:22-35)
 MUSIC: John B. Dykes

MELITA
 88.58.88

WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist: Carol Galloway

A.V. Tech: Mark Riefenhauser and Meg Temple

Fellowship Time Host: Mark and Cathy Riefenhauser

Ushers and Greeters: Jon Ossewaarde and Meg Temple

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, MAY 25

WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

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

MEMORIAL DAY, MONDAY, MAY 26

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSED

WEDNESDAY, MAY 28

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

THURSDAY, MAY 29

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

AV TECHS, 5 p.m., Sanctuary

EVANGELISM, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Room

FRIDAY, MAY 30

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

NEXT SUNDAY, JUNE 1, ASCENSION SUNDAY

We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper (Setting B). The sermon, "*Soon Come*" is about the "in-between" times in our lives, based on Luke 24:44-53 and Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21. We will receive Woodbury Food Bank donations and gifts to the pastor's discretionary fund. We will have a Mission Moment from Mark Davis on the growth and expansion of our "*Helping Hands*" ministry. Our liturgist and communion assistant will be JoAnn Behlman. Special music will be offered by *New Praise*, a contemporary youth ensemble from the Hamden Plains United Methodist Church, Hamden, CT recently featured at the May 3rd District Conference. After worship, free blood pressure screenings will be offered in the Assembly Room by Carol Galloway, MSPT.

ACTIVE MINISTRIES

OFFICE HOURS return this week to our regular Thursday, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. schedule. Published materials are due by 10 a.m.

BELL CHOIR REHEARSALS resume this Wednesday, May 28 with final rehearsal before the fall on June 4. Bell Choir will play 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

Thanksgiving: for the safe return of our Ecuador mission team and for their good work; for the healing of Olivia Guinipero
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 Carol Hennessey, Nancy Ossewaarde, Eni Mucco (friend of Jane Hutter), Lou Calabrese (recovering in Florida), Lisa Tannenbaum (mother-in-law of Tres Fimmano, at Massachusetts General Hospital), and Jean Lilly, Meg Temple's mother, recovering from a broken leg in Ohio

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

ALTAR FLOWERS TODAY are given by Carolyn Shay, "In loving memory of my father, Arthur "Ty" Ayars, a World War II Navy veteran, and in honor of the men and women who have served with honor and integrity in our armed services."

ALDERSGATE DAY

On Wednesday, May 24, 1738, the Reverend John Wesley, a priest in the Church of England, experienced his "*heart strangely warmed*," as he wrote in his journal. Wesley's awakening to salvation by grace through faith happened on Aldersgate Street in London, England. It was crucial for his own life and became a touchstone for the Wesleyan movement that is the origin of today's United Methodist Church.

MEMORIAL DAY

Observed the last Monday in May, Memorial Day honors the war dead of the United States of America. It was first celebrated on May 5, 1866 in Waterloo, New York in the aftermath of the American Civil War. It was originally called Decoration Day from the practice of decorating the graves of the war's fallen soldiers with flowers and flags. In 1950, Congress passed a resolution requesting that the president issue a proclamation calling Americans to observe Memorial Day as a day of Prayer for Permanent Peace. In 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, establishing Memorial Day as the last Monday in May. It became an official holiday in 1971.

NATIONAL EMS WEEK

National Emergency Medical Service (EMS) week was May 18 through today, May 25. It recognizes and celebrates EMS first responders for their commitment and dedication to the community and those they service. We especially highlight Andrew Styblo and Barbara Etcheto as members of Woodbury UMC who are EMS responders.