

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, November 9, 2025

Pentecost 22

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 9, 2025

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE *"Blessed Peace with Thee"* J Brahms

*CALL TO WORSHIP Jeff Hunt, Liturgist

L: Trust in the Lord, and do good. God is our refuge and strength.

P: O taste and see that the Lord is good!

**ALL: LET US WORSHIP THIS GOD WHO FREELY GIVES US
GIFTS OF GOODNESS, REFUGE AND STRENGTH FOR TODAY**

*HYMN *"Great Is Thy Faithfulness"* UMH #140

THE PRAYER OF THE DAY (*seated, in unison*)

Lord of the Wind and Wave, you call us into the majesty of your marvelous creation. As we gather again today, remind us of scripture's call to "bear one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Bless our commitment to Christ through the Church, to your eternal glory. This we pray through our Savior Christ. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*unison*)

Saving God, we confess that our faith is not always strong in times of distress. We cry out to you but are not sure if you will answer. Help us to know again that your yearning for us is love, wholeness and peace. Help us to know again that sometimes your answer is "yes;" sometimes "no;" and sometimes "not now." Grant us the faith and courage, in whatever circumstance, to claim Christ's anointing to be lights to a darkened world. This we pray in the name of the One who forgives us, even Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

WE PRAY FOR GOD'S WORLD AND PEOPLE

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.

OFFERING OURSELVES

*THROUGH SONG

"God Is Here"

UMH #660

THROUGH MEMBERSHIP

UMH p. 33-38

By Letter of Transfer: Connor Langdon (Bob Asman, sponsor)

By Affiliate Membership: Carol Galloway (Mumbi Musau, sponsor)

THROUGH WITNESS

"God Is Here"

Elizabeth Styblo

"God Is Here" is our Stewardship Campaign for 2026.

Commitment Sunday is November 23rd.

THROUGH OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS, including the special offering for UMCOR for Hurricane Melissa relief

THROUGH MUSIC

"Order My Steps"

Glenn Burleigh

The Chancel Choir

*THROUGH PRAISE

UMH #95

"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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE PSALTER

Psalms 107:23-32, KJV

*THE GOSPEL

Matthew 5:14-16

*HYMN

"Brightly Beams Our Father's Mercy"

facing page

THE SERMON

"Let the Lower Lights Be Burning"

Pastor Brian Bodt

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

*HYMN

"Freely, Freely"

UMH #389

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

"Largo from Xerxes"

G. F. Handel

+ + +

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
Christopher Shay, Director of Music*

*Jeff and Barbara Hunt, Lay Leaders
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.

VISION 2025 EMPHASIS TODAY is *"Financial Health."* Emphases are Evangelism, Missions, Affirmation and Inclusion, Communications, Youth and Young Adults and Congregational Vitality and Growth (Spiritual Wellness, Financial Health, Inviting Facilities).

WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS:

Liturgist: Jeff Hunt

A.V. Tech: Mark Davis

Ushers and Greeters: Mark Riefenhauser and Mary Schivera

Fellowship Time Host: Cathy Riefenhauser and Joann King

FREE BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS follow worship in the Assembly Room, taken by Andrew Styblo, Paramedic.

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS meets at Noon in the Wesley Room.

TODAY'S SPECIAL OFFERING

is for The United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) for Hurricane Melissa relief. Checks may be made payable to WUMC with the memo "UMCOR/Melissa" or you may place cash in the special envelope. You may also contribute directly to this relief at <https://umcmmission.org/disaster-responses/hurricane-melissa> Thank you in advance for helping our neighbors in need.

"GOD IS HERE" STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

Our second stewardship letter, from Pastor Brian, was mailed last Tuesday. If you did not receive it, please pick up an extra copy on the document table in the Foyer. The final letter from Elizabeth Styblo and mailed this week will include a pledge card. They may be submitted to the Financial Secretary, Rynn Naylor, in person or in her in-office mailbox; or presented on Commitment Sunday, Nov. 23.

VETERAN'S DAY IS NOVEMBER 11

Please thank a veteran for their service to our country. If possible, attend a Veteran's Day service in your community. Pastor Brian will be giving the invocation and benediction at the ceremony in Woodbridge, where he and Carol reside. We also honor the 250th anniversary of the establishment of the U.S. Marine Corps on November 10th, and two of its veterans in our congregation: Jay Hockenberry and Jon Ossewaarde. *Semper fideles!* (Always faithful!)

CHURCH CONFERENCE

is **this Saturday, November 15**, 3-5 p.m. at Seymour UMC, 90 Pearl Street. Anyone may attend: vote is reserved to members of Woodbury UMC. Business includes election of 2026 Church officers and Trustees; setting the pastor's compensation package and other business brought by the District Superintendent. Copies of the nominating slate are on the document table. A description of what Church Conference is and why it is important was in the October 30th issue of "*Living Through Grace*." If you do not have it and would like a copy, please speak with Pastor Brian.

POINSETTIA ORDER DEADLINE

is Sunday, December 7. Please see the details on the enclosed flier.

OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Carol Quinby undergoing vision testing.

For Nancy Ossewaarde, recovering at home.

For the Rev. John Thomason, recovering from surgery and now out of his sling!

For Carolyn Shay, being treated for a medical condition.

For conflicts in the Middle East and our troops stationed there; and for the conflicts in the Ukraine and the Sudan.

Bishop Bickerton; our new District Superintendent, the Rev. Heather Sinclair; and the churches and clergy of the NY Conference.

For Missionaries, especially Sarah Flores (Ecuador) and Rev. Dexter Ceballos (Mongolia) as well as prayers this week for Belinda Forbes and Princess Jusu.

For those facing life's difficulties and medical challenges, especially Carol Hennessey, Eni Mucco (friend of Jane Hutter) and Jean Lilly (Meg Temple's mother).

WEEKLY CALENDAR

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9

WORSHIP, 10:30 a.m., Sanctuary

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

BLOOD PRESSURE SCREENINGS, 11:30 a.m., Assembly Room

STAFF-PARISH RELATIONS, Noon, Wesley Room

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 10

AFFIRMATION AND INCLUSION, 6:15 p.m., Zoom

CHRISTMAS IS NOT YOUR BIRTHDAY, 7 p.m., Assembly Room

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 11

VETERAN'S DAY: thank a veteran and attend a recognition event

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 12

BELL CHOIR, 6 p.m., Sanctuary

CHANCEL CHOIR, 7:15 p.m., Sanctuary

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13

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

"TESTIMONY", 1 p.m., Zoom

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Room

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

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 14

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

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 15

CHURCH CONFERENCE, 3-5 p.m., Seymour UMC, 90 Pearl St.

NEXT SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 16

The sermon "*Sinner in a Tree*," a first-person portrayal of Zacchaeus, will be based on Luke 19:1-10 with Psalm 119:137-144. Our final "*God Is Here*" stewardship speaker (in lieu of our 3rd Sunday "Testimony" speaker) will be Bob Asman. Our liturgist will be Olivia Guinipero.

ON-GOING MINISTRIES

CURRENT WOODBURY FOOD BANK NEEDS are pumpkin, cherry or apple pie filling, pie crust mix, crispy onion rings (for green bean casserole). Please leave them in the Foyer box.

"I was hungry and you gave me food...." Jesus, Matthew 25:35

COLLEGE CONNECTION: Thanks to those who agreed to write personal notes to our post-high school young adults. Those cards are due to be returned to Carol Galloway or Patti Thomas no later than **NEXT SUNDAY, November 16**. Questions? Please see or contact Patti Thomas (203.228.1602; patti.thomas12@yahoo.com) or Carol Galloway (203.687.6225; carol9996@hotmail.com)

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS

Sunday, November 23: Thanksgiving / Commitment Sunday: receiving financial pledges for 2026

Tuesday, November 25: two Thanksgiving services, both at 7 p.m.
Interfaith Woodbury-Southbury service at North Congregational, 11 Main Street North, Woodbury, Rev. Tuesday Rupp, preaching
Valley Cooperative Parish at Waterbury UMC, 250 Country Club Rd

FOR THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Pastor Brian can be reached at pastor.woodburyumc@gmail.com or 203.747.1781 for pastoral care. Want a visit? Please let him know. He'd love to meet with you!

Are you on our "*Living through Grace*" weekly email? If not, please contact Matti Paparazzo at wumc@woodburyumc.net. She'll get you on!

Publication deadline for the weekly bulletin and "*Living through Grace*" e-newsletter is **10 a.m. THURSDAY.** Thanks in advance for your cooperation.

Each Christmas season, our sanctuary is beautifully decorated with holiday trimmings and poinsettias. As the season approaches, we are now taking orders for the poinsettias, which may be in honor of, in celebration of, or in memory of one or more loved ones. A list of acknowledgments will be printed in the church bulletin on Sunday, December 21 and Christmas Eve.

Poinsettias are \$11.00 each. We encourage you to take your flower(s) home with you after the service on Christmas Eve.

You may order your flower(s) by filling out the form below, and placing it in the collection plate, or returning it to the church office accompanied by a check or cash for total amount (a folder marked Poinsettias Orders is available on the office mail station). All checks should be made out to Woodbury United Methodist Church. **All orders must be placed no later than SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th.**

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

In honor/celebration/memory of: (Please circle one)

(If more space is required, please attach a separate piece of paper)

_____ Red poinsettia	_____ Quantity
_____ White poinsettia	_____ Quantity
_____ Pink poinsettia	_____ Quantity



Please be sure to list all the necessary information so follow-up calls do not have to be made. If you can't fill out the form, call Carolyn Shay at 203-518-3177 with order and mail check to church office at 4 Church St. Thank you!