



# Woodbury United Methodist Church

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## The Hanging of the Greens

**November 30, 2025**

\*Please stand as you are able.

### WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Jesu Joy of Man's Desiring"

JS Bach

#### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

L: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the King?

P: *With branches of cedar, the tree of royalty.*

L: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of the eternal Christ?

P: *With garlands of pine and fir, whose leaves are ever living, ever green.*

L: How shall we prepare this house for the coming of our Savior?

P: *With wreaths of holly and ivy, telling of his passion, death and resurrection.*

L: How shall we prepare our hearts for the coming of the Son of God?

P: *By hearing again the words of the prophets, who foretold the saving work of God.*

L: For God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through him might be saved.

**ALL: GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST!**

\*HYMN "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" UMH #211, verses 1, 2, 6, 7

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH (*seated*) The Candle of Hope  
Mary and Sarah Schivera

#### SUNG RESPONSE (*unison*)

*Light the candle of HOPE today, the Giver of hope will come!*

*Welcome the hope we long and wait for, but only Christ can give.*

*Flicker and flame and glow with hope, light up the world around you. (2x)*

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

*O God of Hope, in your providence you made all ages a preparation for the kingdom of your Son. Make ready our hearts for the brightness of your glory and the fullness of your blessing in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

## THE HANGING OF THE GREENS

GOD WILL SEND A RIGHTOUS KING Jeremiah 23:5-6

HYMN "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus" UMH #196

THE PROPHET DECLARES A CHILD WILL BE BORN Isaiah 9:2,6-7

HYMN "Hail to the Lord's Anointed" UMH #203

THE FOURTH SERVANT SONG Isaiah 53:1-6

HYMN "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" UMH #626, vss. 1, 2

THE MYSTERY OF THE INCARNATION John 1:1-5, 9-14

THE BLESSING OF THE CHRISTMAS TREE (*unison*)

*Holy Lord, we come with joy to celebrate the birth of your Son, who rescued us from the darkness of sin by making the cross a tree of life and light. May this tree, arrayed in splendor, remind us of the life-giving cross of Christ, that we may always rejoice in the new life that shines in our hearts. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.*

\*HYMN "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light" UMH #206, vss. 1-3  
(During the hymn, let Christmas cards be placed on the tree.)

## PRAYERS AND OFFERINGS

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 OUR GIFTS

OFFERING IN SONG "Advent" Charlotte Lee  
The Chancel Choir

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE UMH #221, vs. 4

*What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;  
If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him:  
give my heart.*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## **THE WORD READ AND PROCLAIMED**

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 2:1-5

THE EPISTLE

Romans 13:11-14

\*THE GOSPEL

Matthew 24:36-44

THE SERMON

*"The Unexpected Guest"*

**Pastor Brian Bodt**

### **WE GO FORTH IN JOY**

\*HYMN

*"People, Look East"*

UMH #202

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

*"Wake, Awake, For Night is Flying"*

JS Bach

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**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

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### **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.

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