Woodbury United Methodist Church

Easter 2022

Woodbury United Methodist Church April 17, 2022 Easter Sunday

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE

Easter Glory
Bell Choir

Cathy Moklebust

*OPENING HYMN #302. Christ the Lord Is Risen Today v.1, 2, 4

THE RETURN OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*AN EASTER LITANY OF LIGHT

The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing the mighty song of all God's people.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right that with open hearts, clear minds, and exuberant voices we should praise you, unseen God, creator of all that is, and your only Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who has ransomed us by his death, and has risen triumphant from the grave.

Therefore, in the joy of this blessed morning, when sin is washed away and mourning is turned to joy, accept our sacrifice of praise. May this Easter candle make our darkness light, for Christ, the morning star, has risen, never again to set, and is alive and reigns for ever and ever. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

God of new life and new possibilities, we gather to sing our songs of gladness and to share your steadfast love. Some of us come from the shadows of our lives, as we anticipate the light. Some of us come eager to learn, but are unsure of what it all means. Some of us come in grief, grateful to discover hope. Wherever we have come from, may we all find you, the

risen Christ, the one who conquered death and proclaims new life for all. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

AN EASTER MORNING SURPRISE FOR THE CHILDREN

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

PROCLAMATION OF THE RESURRECTION Anne Burke, *Liturgist*Luke 24:1-12

Very early in the morning on the first day of the week, the women went to the tomb, bringing the fragrant spices they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they didn't find the body of the Lord Jesus. They didn't know what to make of this. Suddenly, two men were standing beside them in gleaming bright clothing. The women were frightened and bowed their faces toward the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He isn't here, but has been raised. Remember what he told you while he was still in Galilee, that the Human One must be handed over to sinners, be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words. When they returned from the tomb, they reported all these things to the eleven and all the others. It was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told these things to the apostles. Their words struck the apostles as nonsense, and they didn't believe the women. But Peter ran to the tomb. When he bent over to look inside, he saw only the linen cloth. Then he returned home, wondering what had happened.

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever!

Let Israel say,

"His steadfast love endures forever."

The Lord is my strength and my might;

he has become my salvation.

There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous:

"The right hand of the Lord does valiantly;

the right hand of the Lord is exalted;

the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

I shall not die, but I shall live,

and recount the deeds of the Lord.

The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death.

Open to me the gates of righteousness,

that I may enter through them

and give thanks to the Lord.

This is the gate of the Lord;

the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected

has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the Lord's doing;

it is marvelous in our eyes.

This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

UMH #327

Crown Him with Many Crowns

v. 1, 4

AN EASTER MORNING MEDITATION

Pastor Michael Cobb

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The gift of God is here with us, for the presence of the risen Christ is with us always. In gratitude, may we offer our gifts, as we give thanks to the Lord, who is good. Truly, God's steadfast love endures forever.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Christ Is Risen. He Is Risen Indeed!

Joel Ranev

*RESPONSE OF PRAISE

UMH #95

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above the Heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost;

Amen!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

God of abundance, we offer these gifts to you in thanksgiving and joy for the presence of the living Christ. May these gifts bring new life to those both near and far. And may we offer ourselves in service to you and to one another. Amen.

WE GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE

A NEW GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR EASTERTIDE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We offer our entire being to the God of Creation, who made the sun and the moon to govern by day and by night and hung the stars in the sky.

We offer our entire being to the great God who hollowed out the valleys and bulged up the mountains, who spat out the seven seas, and populated the world with glorious creatures.

Blessed be the name of the Lord who created us and fashioned us from the dust and breathed into us the breath of life.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed be the name of the Lord Jesus Christ who came to us in spite of our destructive ways.

He healed the sick, raised the dead and cast out demons.

In the brief time that he was with us, Jesus sided with the oppressed, had compassion for those who suffer, and gave dignity to women and children.

He taught us in word and deed about a God we had been unable to understand.

In spite of his glory-revealing presence among us, Jesus was persecuted by certain religious leaders and betrayed by one of his own. He was lied about, tortured, and hung on a cross to die.

Yet, even on the day of his crucifixion,
Jesus continued to teach those who would listen.
When evil people came with his betrayer,
Jesus did not respond with violence,
choosing instead to remind us that
those who live by the sword will die by the sword.
When he was falsely accused and condemned to death,
Jesus refused to do harm.
And while hanging on the cross, he prayed:
"Father forgive them, for they know not what they do."

But we give you thanks that nothing ever was, or ever will be, able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Early on the morning of the third day
Jesus laughed at death,
shed his grave clothes,
and walked among us alive!
Forty days later, he ascended into heaven,
where he is seated at the right hand of the God of our ancestors.
Our eyes are turned toward the skies looking for the day
when Jesus shall return to a kingdom without end,
where the lion will lie down peaceably with the lamb,
where sickness and disease are not known
where the wicked will cease from troubling
and we will study war no more!

On the night that Jesus was betrayed,
He shared a meal with his disciples.
He took bread from the table,
gave thanks to God,
and gave it to his disciples saying:
"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me."

When the meal was over he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to his disciples saying:
"Drink from this, all of you;

this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Today, Jesus, we remember the bread and the cup. Today, we remember your life and your death. We remember your resurrection; we remember eternal life. As we receive these gifts in praise and thanksgiving we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Holy God,

pour out your Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine; make them be for us the body and blood of Christ. Wonder-working God, pour out your Spirit upon us; as we offer ourselves to be God's presence in the world until Jesus returns in glory.

Almighty God,

We your people cry out to you on behalf of our community: Have mercy upon all who suffer from the evils of poverty.

Have mercy, Lord!

Have mercy upon all who have lost their way.

Have mercy, Lord!

Have mercy upon all who have been offended by the church.

Have mercy, Lord!

Have mercy upon all who feel forgotten and neglected.

Have mercy, Lord!

Have mercy upon us, and make us worthy to be called your people. Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD AND LIFTING THE CUP

GIVING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE LORDS PRAYER

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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

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

*CLOSING HYMN #308

Thine Be the Glory

v. 1, 2

BENEDICTION

We have seen the Lord this day!

Now go into the world to spread this good news.

God is good!

All the time!

And all the time!

God is good!

May you be blessed and may you be a blessing, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. **Amen!**

POSTLUDE

Songs of Peace for Ukraine

Praise Band

Special thanks to Christo Jamo, trumpet.

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A New Great Thanksgiving For Eastertide from United Methodist Discipleship Ministries.

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The Prayer Corner

In prayer, please remember: the people of Ukraine; from the WUMC Congregation:
Bob and Martha Asman; Michael Etcheto, grandson of Barbara Etcheto, Lou
Calabrese (husband of Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese); Linda Bailey; and our
Confirmands: Annabelle Cloud, Cody & Zachary Cordova, James Levario, and
Matthew Shupenis

If you would like our confidential prayer team to pray with you or for you, please reach out to Carolyn Shay, 203-518-3177 or 1jerseygirl52@gmail.com

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.

Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor Pastor's e-mail: pastormichael@woodburyumc.net

> Meg Temple, Lay Leader Chris Shay, Director of Music

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT, 06798 203-263-4775 www.woodburyumc.net

Church e-mail: wumc@woodburyumc.net Church office hours: Tuesday- Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM

Week of April 17, 2022

Visitors are warmly welcomed! If you wish to learn more about WUMC's ministries, please take a copy of our weekly newsletter, *The Messenger*, which is available on the table at the registration area.

If you would like to become a member of the Woodbury United Methodist Church, please speak to Pastor Michael. Inquirers are asked to attend a two-session Membership Orientation class before joining the church.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today:

Ann Burke, Liturgist and Reader;

, Communion Steward;

JoAnn and Bud Behlman, Barbara Etcheto, Mark Davis,

Greeters and Ushers;

James Levario, John Thomas, Mary Grace Styblo, Acolytes; Theron Kissinger, Audio Visual Technician.

Please note: Livestreaming provides an opportunity for all of us to experience worship at the same time, either at home or in-person. Worshipers at home may join us by video on YouTube or audio-only by telephone broadcast. Video recordings of services are also archived on the church's website for later viewing. Later phone broadcasts are no longer available.

- Video: Go to www.woodburyumc.net, scroll to the link for livestreaming near the top of our home page. A link is also provided for archived videos for later viewing.
- **Audio only by phone:** dial 425-436-6391, enter pin with hash sign 2431819#.

COVID Response Team Update

As of April 4, we are delighted to announce that masks are optional during worship services, although we still encourage members of our congregation, who have not been vaccinated, to wear a mask. Further, pre-registration for church services is no longer required.

Please continue to maintain social distancing between different family units and refrain from attending services in person if you or a family member has been ill (e.g., have any cold, flu or COVID symptom). You can find a chart at https://woodburyumc.net/covid-recovery%2Freopening to help you determine when it is safe to return to in-person worship after being ill or having been in close contact with someone else who is ill.

We will continue to livestream services, which are available online at our website, www.woodburyumc.net, or our YouTube channel at http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCN-kkokTCbVE9urwgP AEcw.

Schedule For This Week

Tuesday, April 19th Church Council, 7 PM

Wed., April 20th Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 PM, Sanctuary

Voice Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM, Sanctuary

Saturday, April 23rd Confirmation Retreat, 9 AM—4 PM, Fellowship Hall

Monday, April 25th Missions and Outreach, 7 PM

Saturday, April 30th Woodbury Earth Day 2022, Hollow Park
Sunday, May 1st CT District Conference, 3:30 PM, via Zoom

Woodbury UMC is part of Woodbury Earth Day 2022

Calling all volunteers! The WUMC will be participating in the Woodbury Earth Day 2022 at Hollow Park on **Saturday**, **April 30 from 11-4 p.m.** Our United Methodist denomination has a long history of environmental advocacy and concrete action, rooted in our understanding that our faith demands that we be good, proactive stewards of the earth.

We will need several people to set up, man and dismantle our booth on the day of the event. Even more importantly we need everyone to bring in their recyclables. We are collecting clean clear plastic water bottles, paper towel rolls and toilet paper rolls to use in making children's art, now through April 29th. Please find the bin near the check in area to make your donations! See Meg Temple for details.

Last Day: El Prado, Ecuador: Sharing the Vision

Throughout the Lenten Season we have been receiving a special offering for the community of El Prado, Ecuador. For years the Methodist Church there has been ministering to the community in a borrowed space at a local farm. Much of that ministry has taken place a stable and storage areas. The Methodist Church in El Prado has a vision of building their own church and community center to continue their ministry, especially with the women and children there. To that end they are seeking to raise \$20,000. Our offerings over the past 6 weeks will be sent to our General Board of Global Ministries Missionary in Ecuador, Sara Flores, so we can share in the vision of a growing presence of the Risen Christ in El Prado.

This Resurrection Sunday, as we celebrate the Risen Christ here in Woodbury, we ask you to consider Sharing the Vision with the people of El Prado and leaving a gift in one of the Ecuador tote bags at the front or rear of the sanctuary. Thank You!



The beautiful Easter flowers which adorn our sanctuary are dedicated:

In loving memory of our family members who are no longer with us, from Rev. Dr. Stuart C. Brush and Laura Brush.

In celebration and gratitude for our families, from Rev. J. Michael Cobb and Shannon Cobb

In loving memory of the many people who have lost their lives and are affected by the war in Ukraine; In honor of our 4 amazing children, Abby, Caroline, Annabelle, and Jack from Travis and Amanda Cloud.

We are so excited to celebrate this holiday together!

In honor or Tony and JoAnne Fimmano, T.J's parentsand Nelda White, Karen's mother; In celebration of Austin, Tres, Ginny, and John, our beautiful children.

In support and recognition of the bravery of the people of Ukraine, from Rev. Paul and Diane Hibbard.

In loving memory of our parents and our brothers, from Rae Ann and Jay Hockenberry.

In loving memory of Jack and Donna Ossewaarde, from Jon and Nancy Ossewaarde.

In loving memory of Bill Roper, and in celebration of Morgan Phillippe, and my new life, from Venetia Phillippe.

In loving memory of our parents, Ty and Libby Ayars, Alyce and Rev. Dr. Joseph Bishop and Lew Shay and in celebration of our six grandchildren, Luke, Owen, Liam, Lily, Colette and Sophie, from Chris and Carolyn Shay.

In loving memory of Jack O'Brien, my brother-in-law, from Christine Smith.

In loving memory of Clyde and Flora Story and Patrick and Ann Loughman from Erv and Sharon Story.