

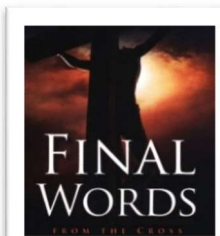
Woodbury
United Methodist Church



Love Spoken Here
4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798
Email: wumc@woodburyumc.net
(203) 263-4775 • www.woodburyumc.net

Sunday, March 7, 2021

Third Sunday in Lent
& Communion Sunday



Woodbury United Methodist Church

March 7, 2021
3rd Sunday in Lent

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *Benedictus* Gabriel Faure
Christopher Shay, organist

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

*CALL TO WORSHIP led by Rynn Naylor, Liturgist
1 John 3:11, 18; 4:7, 9, 11-12

This is the message you have heard from the beginning, that we should love one another.

Let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God.

God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him.

Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. **No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is perfected in us.**

*OPENING HYMN *Lift High the Cross*
Sung by Carolyn Shay

WE CONFESS OUR SIN AND ACCEPT GOD'S PARDON

A LENTEN CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Thomason



Altar Easter Flowers 2021

Every Easter, our sanctuary is decorated with the flowers of the season. If you would like to place a plant on the Altar, we are now taking orders for:

_____ *Easter Lily (10.00)* _____ *Daffodils (\$8.00)*

_____ *Tulip (\$8.00)*
(red only)

**Please include below your acknowledgement; in honor of, in celebration of, or in loving memory of one or more loved ones. A list will be printed in the church bulletin on Easter Sunday, April 4.*

All flower orders must be paid in advance. Simply fill out the form below, and place it in the collection plate, or return it to the church office, accompanied by a check or cash for the total amount or mail it to; 4 Church Street, Attn: Kathy Craig, Easter Flowers. All checks should be made payable to Woodbury United Methodist Church. You can also visit our website @ www.woodburyumc.net to order your flowers. Be sure to fill out everything needed. Thanks!

Please return all orders by Friday, March 19, 2021

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

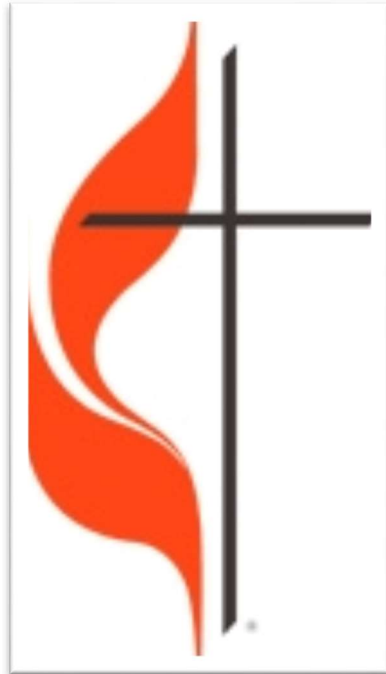
In honor/celebration/loving memory of: (please circle one):

**If you would rather give a monetary donation to the church in lieu of flowers, you can also use one of the memorial cards located in the Narthex. Simply fill it out and return it in the same fashion as the floral order form.*



If you would like to send someone a birthday card, please see our website @ www.woodburyumc.net for this month's birthday listing.

Reminder that we are placing flowers on the altar again so let us know if you want to sign up for a particular date.



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

O holy and merciful God, we confess that we have not always taken upon ourselves the yoke of obedience, nor been willing to seek and to do your perfect will. We have not loved you with all our heart and mind and soul and strength, neither have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. You have called to us in the needs of our sisters and brothers, and we have passed unheeding on our way. In the pride of our hearts, and our unwillingness to repent, we have turned away from the cross of Christ, and have grieved your Holy Spirit.

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION (silent)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

1 John 1:5, 7

This is the message we have heard from God and proclaim to you, that God is light and in God there is no darkness at all.

If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus the Son cleanses us from all sin.

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

led by Garrett Walkup

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Rynn Naylor

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

*GOSPEL READING

John 19:23-27 (NRSV)

Read by Rynn Naylor

When the soldiers had crucified Jesus, they took his clothes and divided them into four parts, one for each soldier. They also took his tunic; now the tunic was seamless, woven in one piece from the top. So they said to one another, "Let us not tear it, but cast lots for it to see who will get it." This was to fulfill what the scripture says, "They divided my clothes

among themselves, and for my clothing they cast lots.” And that is what the soldiers did.

Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, “Woman, here is your son.” Then he said to the disciple, “Here is your mother.” And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION

The Old Rugged Cross

SERMON

Final Words from the Cross: Rev. Thomason
Here Is Your Son . . . Here Is Your Mother

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT OF REFLECTION from *Final Words*, by Adam Hamilton

Lord, thank you for your mother Mary. Her witness, courage, and love for you were most profound. Help me to heed your call to John and to hear it as my own, so that I might care for my parents and children, and so that I might see those who have no parent or child as my own parents and children and care for them. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

The Lord Is My Hope

WE GATHER AT THE LORD’S TABLE

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING FOR LENT

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.

Video recordings of services are also archived on the church’s website for later viewing. Later phone broadcasts are no longer provided.

The options for accessing services electronically remain the same:

- **Video:** Go to <http://www.woodburyumc.net>, scroll to “Sunday Morning Worship in the Sanctuary” and click the link for livestreaming. 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#.

The Prayer Corner:

Christian sympathy is extended to *Dave Cordova* and family in the death of Dave's grandmother, *Norma Cordova*, on February 27 at the age of 93. A funeral mass was celebrated on March 3 in Bethel, CT.

Home from the hospital: *Brett Toomes*, fiancé of *Lindsey Behlman* (outpatient procedure on March 5, Bridgeport Hospital)

In the hospital: *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto* (Gaylord, Wallingford)

Please remember our Confirmands: *Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, Matthew Shupenis*; their teachers: *Catherine Mason, Meg Temple, John Thomason*; and their mentors: *Mike Boisseau, Mollie Cole, Rev. Paul Hibbard, Carolyn Shay*.

Recovering at home: *Sue Vindigni, Amber Craig, John Fleming, Josh Harwood, Gary McClendon, Steve Thomas, Paige LeBlanc*, mother of *Jessie Lynch* (Manchester, CT); *Dominic Vaiuso*, father of *Karen Williams* (Newtown); *Robert Ayers*, father of *Tacy Nettleton* (Woodstock, GA); *Carl Hinkle*, father of *Toby McGrath* (Greensburg, PA); *Donna Louise Burke*, friend of *Kathy Craig*; *Peter Gallagher*, father of *Jen Carnes* (Brookfield, CT); *Lou Calabrese* (husband of *Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese*); *Jane King*, mother of *Stephen King* and mother-in-law of *Joann King* (Sarasota, FL); *Antonio Stillitano*, grandson of *Paul Hatch*

Outpatient treatments: *Dave Brencher, Bob Asman, Mary Wilkins*, sister of *Barb Hunt* (Rochester, NY); *Dave Davison*, father-in-law of *Gary McClendon*; *Stephanie Galaburri*, friend of *Sandy Carbonaro*; *Will Styblo*, nephew of *Jim Styblo* and *Catherine Mason* (Franklin, TN)

Homebound members: *Florence Brown, Linda Bailey*

Please continue to remember: relatives of *Rev. Betty Lines* who are seriously ill: niece *Sharon Parish* (hospice care in Idaho); and brother-in-law *Stephen Lines* (recovering from a stroke in Florida); *Jean Lilly*, mother of *Meg Temple* (Cincinnati, OH), *Manny Gesh, Jane True, Blair Feller, Marilyn Bender, Ryan DeRidder and family, Laura & Stuart Brush, Janet Grant* (sister of *Betty Lines*).

Woodbury United Methodist Church

4 Church St., Woodbury, CT, 06798

Church phone: 203-263-4775

Web Site: www.woodburyumc.net

Church e-mail: wumc@woodburyumc.net

Church office hours: Tuesday- Friday, 9 AM – 3 PM

Rev. John Thomason, Pastor

Parsonage phone: 203-263-7575; cell phone: 845-707-5152

Pastor's e-mail: johnthomason1948@yahoo.com

Chris Shay, Director of Music

Kathy Craig, Office Administrator

Mark Davis, Lay Leader

Mission Statement

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.

Week of March 7, 2021

Visitors are warmly welcomed! We invite you to sign the worship register as it is passed during the announcements, or fill out a visitor's card provided by a greeter. If you wish to learn more about WUMC's ministries, please take a copy of our weekly newsletter, *The Messenger*, which is available in the narthex. Immediately following today's worship service, please join us for Fellowship Hour downstairs in Fellowship Hall.

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

Today is the 3rd Sunday in Lent on the Christian calendar. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday. Lent serves as a season of spiritual preparation for celebrating Easter. The liturgical color is purple, symbolizing penitence and royalty.

On Communion Sundays, the Lord's Table is open to all persons who seek to follow Christ, regardless of age or denominational background. An offering plate is located at the rear of the sanctuary to receive donations to our church's benevolence fund.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: *Rynn Naylor*, Liturgist & Reader; *Garrett Walkup*, Children's Time; *Gary McClendon* and *Carolyn Shay*, Singers.

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You brought forth all things into being and called them good. From the dust of the earth you formed us into your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. When rain fell upon the earth for forty days and forty nights, you bore up the ark on the waters, saved Noah and his family, and made covenant with every living creature on earth. When you led your people to Mt. Sinai for forty days and forty nights, you gave us your commandments and made us your covenant people. When your people forsook your covenant, your prophet Elijah fasted for forty days and forty nights; and on your holy mountain, he heard your still small voice.

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.

Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. When you gave him to save us from our sin, your Spirit led him into the wilderness, where he fasted for forty days and forty nights to prepare for his ministry. When he suffered and died on a cross for our sin, you raised him to life, presented him alive to the apostles during forty days, and exalted him at your right hand. By the baptism of his suffering, death and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit.

Now, when we your people prepare for the yearly feast of Easter, you lead us to repentance for sin and the cleansing of our hearts, that during these forty days of Lent we may be gifted and graced to reaffirm the covenant you made with us through Christ.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "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.”

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving, as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ’s offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood. By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet.

Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BREAKING THE BREAD AND LIFTING THE CUP

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

adapted from *At the Lord’s Table*

Lord, you renew us at your table with the bread of life. May this food strengthen us in love and help us to serve you as we serve our neighbors. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Lord. Amen.

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

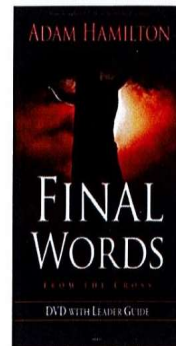
CLOSING HYMN *At the Cross* Chris Tomlin

Sung by Gary McClendon

BENEDICTION Rev. Thomason

POSTLUDE *Blessed Are Ye Faithful Souls* J. Brahms

LENTEN VIDEO & DISCUSSION SERIES



Christ’s “final words from the cross” can offer a new understanding of his teachings, his faith, and his own relationship with God.

And Jesus’ words can do the same for each of us. Helping us to renew our relationship with God, strengthen our faith, and live the teachings of Jesus.

In his book “Final Words from the Cross”, well-known pastor and author, Adam Hamilton, provides fresh insight into Jesus’ final words through the perspective of those who witnessed the crucifixion.

And in an optional seventh session, he moves beyond the cross to Jesus’ words to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and to those who were witnesses to the Resurrection. (excerpt from Christianbook.com)

Sessions include:

- ❖ “Father Forgive Them.”
- ❖ “Today you will be with me in paradise.”
- ❖ “Behold your son”” Behold your mother”.
- ❖ “My God, My God why have you forsaken me.”
- ❖ “I thirst.”
- ❖ “It is finished” ...” Into your hands I commit my spirit.”

Please join this compelling discussion/fellowship, which will parallel Pastor John’s sermon series.

DAY: Tuesdays (beginning February 23rd)

TIME: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

PLACE: Fellowship Hall (in person)
Online via Zoom (link available on the church website)
By phone (link and information on the church website)

Books are available through the church office or online through usual booksellers.

Contact Bud Behlman for additional information:

budbehlman@charter.net

203-206-9276