

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*).



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.

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors
4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798
(203) 263-4775 • www.woodburyumc.net

Sunday, May 2, 2021

Woodbury United Methodist Church

May 2, 2021
5th Sunday of Easter

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

GREETING Christopher Shay

PRELUDE *Clair de Lune, from Suite Bergamasque*
Christopher Shay, organist

*CALL TO WORSHIP led by Rev. Garrett Walkup
(Responsive reading) Psalm 16:5-8

Lord, you alone are my portion and my cup;
you make my lot secure.

**The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places;
surely I have a delightful inheritance.**

I will praise the Lord, who counsels me;
even at night my heart instructs me.

I keep my eyes always on the Lord.

With him at my right hand, I will not be shaken.

*OPENING HYMN *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing*
Hymns sung by Anna, Grace, and Sarah Kate Walkup

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) Rev. Walkup

Lord open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that, as the scriptures are read and your Word proclaimed, may we hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME led by Joann King

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS Carolyn Shay

Thanks to all those who are making special contributions to our worship service today: *Anna and Grace Walkup*, Readers; *Carolyn Shay*, Prayer Ministry; *Joann King*, Children's Time; *Anna, Grace, and Sarah Kate Walkup*, Singers.

The flowers in the chancel are given today by *Christine Smith*, "to the glory of God."

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 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:

Home from the hospital: *Amanda Eager* (friend of the *Temple* family)

In the hospital: *Christian Echeveria*, friend of *Kelly Etcheto* (VA Hospital, West Haven)

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

Please remember the *Behlman* family on the occasion of *Lindsey's* wedding to *Brett Toomes* on Sunday, May 2, in Hatboro, PA. *Pastor John* will officiate at the ceremony.

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: *Liam McGrath; Caroline Cloud; Amelia Eager* (friend of the *Temple* family); *Brett Toomes* (fiancé of *Lindsey Behlman*); *John Fleming; 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*)

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)

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 May 2, 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 found on the table in the hallway entrance. 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.

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 5th Sunday of Easter on the Christian calendar. The Easter season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset on Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost, and focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and on the gift of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20:22-23) and the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). The liturgical color is white.

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.

We welcome as today's pulpit guest *Rev. Garrett Walkup*, who serves as Hospice Spiritual Care Coordinator for RVNA Health in Ridgefield. Garrett is an ordained minister in the Christian and Missionary Alliance Church. He, *Sarah Kate, Grace*, and *Anna* have been frequent worshippers and worship leaders with us over the past year.

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Rev. Walkup

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by Anna Walkup

2 Corinthians 4:6-10, 16-18 (NRSV)

For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

But we have this treasure in clay jars, so that it may be made clear that this extraordinary power belongs to God and does not come from us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be made visible in our bodies.

So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.

Romans 5:1-5 (NRSV) read by Grace Walkup

Therefore, since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us.

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Through it All* Kristene DiMarko

SERMON *From Suffering to Hope* Rev. Walkup

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

Rev. Walkup

Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of

their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent prayers of confession

Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

As forgiven and reconciled people, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Great is Thy Faithfulness

Sarah Kate Walkup, soloist

WE GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

from *At the Lord's Table*

Lift up your hearts and give thanks to the Lord our God.

Blessed are you, Lord our God, Creator and Sovereign of the universe. You loved the world so much that you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to be our Savior. He suffered and died for the sin of the world. You raised him from the dead that we, too, might have new life. He ascended to be with you in glory and, according to his promise, is with us always.

On the night he offered 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."

Breaking the Bread

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."

Lifting the Cup

Therefore, in remembrance of all your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we ask to you accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, which we offer in union with Christ's offering for us, as a living and holy surrender of ourselves.

Send the power of your Holy Spirit on us and on these gifts, that in the breaking of the bread and the drinking of the wine we may know the presence of the living Christ; be one body in him, cleansed by his blood; faithfully serve him in the world; and look forward to his coming in final victory.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Amen.

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

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

He Leadeth Me: O Blessed Thought

BENEDICTION

Rev. Walkup

Ephesians 3:17-19

May Christ dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

*POSTLUDE

Prelude, from Suite Bergamasque

Debussy