

Woodbury  
United Methodist Church



Sunday, May 1, 2022

# Woodbury United Methodist Church

May 1, 2022  
Third Sunday of Easter

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE                      *You Satisfy the Hungry Heart*                      Kreutz

GREETING

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

We think we know what will happen and how things will turn out.

**But then God's Spirit surprises us. Trust the Spirit at work in you now.**

Sing praises to God, you people of faith.

**We give thanks to God, who heals and restores.**

Praise God who transforms us, who heals and loves us.

**Praise God, who clothes us with joy.**

Do not be silent. Praise the Lord!

**We give thanks our God, today and always.**

\*OPENING HYMN 173 *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies*      v. 1, 3

\*OPENING PRAYER (unison)

**Wisdom of God, come and dwell among us. We gather to hear your word, and to sing your praise. We come as we are, trusting that your grace will perfect us. Interrupt our lives with your vision of truth and love. We praise you now and always. Amen.**

## WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING                      Acts 9:1-19

\*HYMN OF PREPARATION 154

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*                      v. 1, 6

SERMON

## WE RESPOND IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Ours is a creator God, a God of new beginnings, a God of fresh starts. As we make our offering, we give thanks and praise that we can contribute to the things God is bringing into being, here where we live, and all over creation.

## THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

*In Your Presence*

Ken Medema

## DOXOLOGY

### PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O God, you have power and wisdom and might. You deserve honor and glory. We come to you, Holy One, blessed by your abundant life, to offer ourselves as your faithful workers. We bring our gifts this day, trusting that they will serve your people. Amen.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

**Loving God, we head into life following our own dreams. Interrupt us with the blinding light of your grace, that we may gain new vision. When despair and sadness overwhelm us, and when hope fails us, teach us to dance to the music of your love. Open us up, O God, that we may see your path, walk in deeper faith, and be loving witnesses of your glory. Amen.**

## SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes in the morning. God is at work, transforming our sorrow, giving us hope for a new day.

## **WE GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 recall the words and blessings of Jesus each time we unite at his table. We remember the gifts of Jesus the Christ each time we wake to a new day and step into his renewed future.

We join with every creature in heaven and on earth, every creature under the earth and in the sea, to sing your praises. You created all that is, bringing forth goodness and new life. You are at work in our world still, transforming lives, healing brokenness, comforting those who mourn. Your people were not always faithful. They followed their own desires, lashing out in anger, forgetting those in need. You sent prophets to call them back to your paths, reminding them of your love, and telling them to care for one another. You were always faithful, for you loved your people.

And so, we join all creation as we sing praise to you:

**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.**

You gave us Jesus to walk with us and to show us your love. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and taught us your ways. He showed us the abundance of your love and reminded us to share it with others.

On the night before his death, Jesus gathered with his followers, telling them to love one another. He shared a meal with them, taking bread, blessing it, breaking it, and giving it to them, saying, “This is my very being. When you eat this, remember that I am with you.” He took the cup, blessed it, and gave it, saying, “This is the cup of forgiveness, poured out in abundance for you and for all people. As you drink this, remember that I am with you.”

And so, we offer our very selves, with glad and grateful hearts, as we proclaim this mystery:

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

Send your spirit of abundant love upon these gifts of the earth, bread and wine. Transform them, by the power of your grace, into food for our bodies and nourishment for our souls. Send your Spirit upon us, and transform us by the power of your Wisdom, that we may become the body of Christ, feeding his lambs, and tending to his sheep. All praise is yours, God of power and might, wisdom and honor, glory and blessing. All praise is yours, now and forever. Amen.

**BREAKING THE BREAD AND LIFTING THE CUP**

## SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

May the Spirit of God bless the great table of Christ. May the Spirit of God help us recognize God's grace in the breaking of the bread and in the pouring of the cup. May the Spirit of God encourage us to embrace our divine callings, as we all work to create God's realm here on earth. Amen.

## **WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

## **WE GO FORTH IN JOY**

CLOSING HYMN 398

*Jesus Call Us*

v. 1, 4

BENEDICTION

Go forth to feed and tend God's people. Do so because you love Jesus, and because Jesus loves and needs you. May the abundant blessings of God's love surround and feed you, as God renews you day by day.

POSTLUDE

*In Thee Lord, Have I Put My Trust*

JS Bach

*Elements of this service may be taken or adapted from UMC Discipleship.org, reworship.blogspot.com, or the Abingdon Worship Annual 2021, Copyright 2022 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.*

***Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors***

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

Find us on  /woodburyumc  
&  /woodburyumc



## **THE PRAYER CORNER**

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

**To add other individuals to the weekly prayer list, please reach out to Carolyn Shay, 203-518-3177 or [Ijerseygirl52@gmail.com](mailto:Ijerseygirl52@gmail.com)**

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## **SCHEDULE FOR THIS WEEK**

<b>Today</b>	Connecticut District Conference, 3:30 PM
<b>Monday, May 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	CRT, 7 PM via Zoom
<b>Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	Children & Youth Brainstorming Session, 6:30 PM
<b>Wed., May 4<sup>th</sup></b>	Bell Choir Rehearsal, 6:00 PM, Sanctuary Voice Choir Rehearsal, 7:15 PM, Sanctuary
<b>Thursday, May 5<sup>th</sup></b>	Transition Academy students, 9-11 AM
<b>Saturday, May 7<sup>th</sup></b>	Florence Brown Memorial Service, 2 PM

*(All meetings will be held in the Assembly Room unless noted)*

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## **Woodbury United Methodist Church**

4 Church St., Woodbury, CT, 06798

Church phone: 203-263-4775

Web Site: [www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net)

Church e-mail: [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto:wumc@woodburyumc.net)

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

*Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor*

Pastor's e-mail: [pastormichael@woodburyumc.net](mailto:pastormichael@woodburyumc.net)

*Meg Temple, Lay Leader*

*Chris Shay, Director of Music*

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## **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.*

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## Week of May 1, 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: *Rynn Naylor*, Liturgist and Reader & Communion Steward; *Barb Hunt*, Greeter; *Mollie Bodwell* and *Karen Fimmano*, Ushers; *James Levario*, Acolyte; *Theron Kissinger*, Audio Visual Technician.

**Altar flowers** are given in tribute this week to Bob & Martha Asman joining the church on Sunday, April 24.

**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

- **Video:** Go to [www.woodburyumc.net](http://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#.

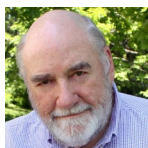


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### **A REMINDER ON FLOWERS FOR THE ALTAR:**

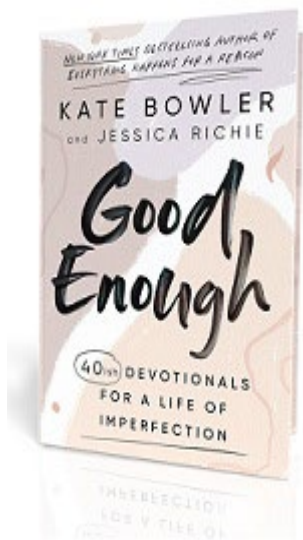
The floral chart will be placed in the Narthex for your convenience if you would like to select a date for flowers throughout the year. REMEMBER: If you don't have an occasion, you can donate and we will be sure to deliver them to one of our homebound people during that week. Call or email the office at (203) 263-4775 or [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto:wumc@woodburyumc.net).

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Friends, the photography of long-time WUMC congregant Bill Wilhelms is now on exhibit in the Community Room at The Watermark at Easthill. The display will be up for the next few weeks. Please reach out to Judy or the church office for more details or to visit.

## New Bible Study Starting May 10: *Good Enough*



Please join us for a study of *Good Enough*, *40ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection* by Kate Bowler. We will meet on **Tuesday evenings via Zoom at 6:30 PM** from May 10 to June 14.

To learn more, see Meg Temple or call the church office at (203) 263-4775 to sign up. Copies of the book are available in the church office for \$16.

Please indicate whether you will be joining us by Wednesday, May 4 to receive the Zoom link and reading assignments.

### INVITATION

Brainstorming\* Session for  
Children & Youth Programming at WUMC



**WHEN:** Tuesday, May 3<sup>rd</sup> - 6:30 PM

**WHERE:** WUMC FELLOWSHIP HALL

**WHO:** All Welcome ...

WUMC Church Council Members

Children & Youth Ministry Committee Members

Past & Present Teachers or Youth Leaders

Parents of WUMC Children & Teens

WUMC High School Teens

Anyone else interested in WUMC Kids

LIGHT REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED

\*Note: Attending this meeting does not commit anyone to lead or volunteer for children & youth ministry programming, please come to share ideas, give input, & support our small Children & Youth Ministry Team