

Tear off here and place into the offering plate if desired or mail into office with payment



Each Christmas season, our sanctuary is beautifully decorated with holiday trimmings and poinsettias. As the season approaches, we are now taking orders for the poinsettias, which may be in honor of, in celebration of, or in memory of one or more loved ones. A list of acknowledgments will be printed in the church bulletin on Sunday, December 19 and Christmas Eve.

Poinsettias are \$12.00 each. We encourage you to take your flower(s) home with you after the service on Christmas Eve.

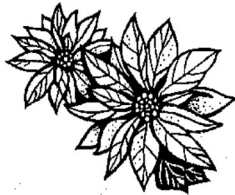
You may order your flower(s) by filling out the form below, and placing it in the collection plate, or returning it to the church office accompanied by a check or cash for total amount (a folder marked Poinsettias Orders is available on the office mail station). All checks should be made out to Woodbury United Methodist Church. **All orders must be placed no later than Tuesday, DECEMBER 7TH.**

Name: _____ Telephone: _____

In honor/celebration/memory of: (circle appropriate one)

(If more space is required, please attach a separate piece of paper)

_____ Red poinsettia _____ Quantity
_____ White poinsettia _____ Quantity



Please be sure to list all the necessary information so follow-up calls do not have to be made. Thanks!

Woodbury

United Methodist Church



HomeSick
First Sunday of Advent

Sunday, November 28, 2021

Woodbury United Methodist Church

November 28, 2021
First Sunday in Advent—Hope
United Methodist Student Sunday

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* JS Bach

GREETING Pastor Michael Cobb

*CALL TO WORSHIP Sam Temple, Liturgist

Can one be homesick for something you've never known?
**We are homesick for a just world, for peace like rivers,
for the end of suffering.**

Yes, we are homesick—
**for joy that is contagious,
for nations that feel like neighbors, and for hospitals that run empty.**

We are homesick for the world God promises.
We are homesick, but we are on our way.

God is here. God is still creating.
Let us worship Holy God.

*OPENING HYMN #211 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* (v. 1-4)

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Sam Temple
**God of the stars and God of our hearts— our days will pass but your words
will last. The earth might fade but your words will last. Our memories
might blur but your words will last. The grass will wither but your words
will last. The sky could go dark and your words would last. So as we listen**

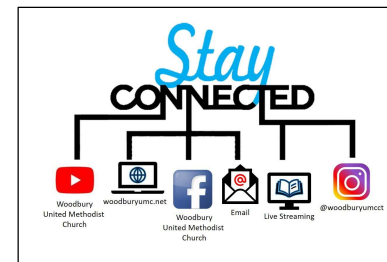
Mission Statement of the Woodbury United Methodist Church

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.

Love is Spoken Here!



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

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

The Community Services Council of Woodbury



Santa's Workshop



GIFTS FOR OUR LOCAL FRIENDS IN NEED
CHILDREN – ADULTS - SENIORS

The following donations are requested for the 2021
Holiday Season....



Small Generic (unwrapped) Adult Gifts

*Example: Cozy slipper socks, warm throws, puzzles,
hand cream, special coffees & teas*

Wrapping Paper (sealed)

**Note: For donations of children's gifts or gift certificates
please visit**

***New Morning Market or the Woodbury Public Library
where "Giving Trees" are displayed.***

Donation deadline is 12/3.

Items may be dropped off at the Woodbury Public Library.

Questions - 203-510-9905

***(For other opportunities to participate in the community over the
holidays, please see your Weekly Messenger for more details)***

**today, help us to hold onto what will last. Help us hold onto you. Gratefully
we pray, Amen.**

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Sam and Meg Temple

A: We hope for a world where all are fed.

B: We hope for a world with more bridges than walls.

A: We hope for a world with wide open doors.

B: We hope for a world with contagious laughter.

A: We hope for a world where trees grow tall and creeks run clean.

B: We hope for a world where all people feel at home—in their bodies, in the
church, in their physical homes.

A: We hope for that world.

B: We long for that world.

A: We are homesick for that world.

B: So today we light the candle of hope, because hope keeps our hearts alive as
we wait.

A: May this light be a reminder that the wait is always worth it.

B: We are close to home. May we carry hope with us. Amen.

ADVENT CAROL

Light the Candle

(see next page)

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by Sam Temple

Epistle Reading:

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13; pg. 277

Now we can give thanks to our God for you. We thank him for the joy we have
in his presence because of you. Day and night we ask him with all our heart to
let us see you personally and supply what is needed in your faith.

May our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus prepare the way for us to
come to you! May the Lord make your love for one another and for all people
grow more and more and become as great as our love for you. In this way he
will strengthen you, and you will be perfect and holy in the presence of our God
and Father when our Lord Jesus comes with all who belong to him.

Light the Candle

Light the can - dle of Hope to - day, the
3 Giv - er of hope will come!
5 Wel - come the hope we long and wait for, but
7 on - ly Christ can give.
9 Flick - er and flame and glow with hope,
11 light up the world a - round you.
13 Flick - er and flame and glow — with hope
15 light up the world a - round you.

Please join us for a WUMC Praise Band
Christmas celebration...

"I Need a Silent Night"

December 12, 2021
2:30 PM

Woodbury UMC
4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT

...and support our neighbors in need!

A freewill offering of food or monetary
contributions will be donated to the
Woodbury Food Bank.

Pre-register at <https://rsvp.church/r/CqMXUVqE>

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#.

SAVE THE DATES

Poinsettias ordering has begun – please see information in today's bulletin – the deadline to place your order is Tuesday, December 7th. Payment must accompany the order.

Sunday, December 12 – Praise Band Christmas Celebration – 2:30 PM at WUMC

Tuesday, December 21 – Blue Christmas Worship Service – 7:00 PM at WUMC

Thursday, December 24 – Christmas Eve Services – 4:30 & 7 PM watch for more details

THE PRAYER CORNER

Outpatient rehabilitation: *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto*

Recovering at home: *Laura Brush; Gary McClendon; Pat Kurtz; Lynne Brencher; Carol Hennessey; Liam McGrath; Robert Mitchell*, brother of *Marci Lowman* (the daughter-in-law of *Marion Lowman*); *Amelia Eager* (friend of the *Temple* family); *Steve Thomas; Dominic Vaiuso*, father of *Karen Williams* (Newtown); *Carl Hinkle*, father of *Toby McGrath* (Greensburg, PA); *Donna Louise Burke*, friend of *Kathy Craig; Lou Calabrese* (husband of *Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese*)

Outpatient treatments: *Dave Brencher; Bob Asman; Dave Davison*, father-in-law of *Gary McClendon; Will Styblo*, nephew of *Jim Styblo* and *Catherine Mason* (Franklin, TN)

Please remember our Confirmands: *Annabelle Cloud, Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, Matthew Shupenis*

Homebound members: *Florence Brown, Linda Bailey*



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. The 2022 calendar has been posted in the office.

Gospel Reading: Luke 21:25-36; pg. 115

"There will be strange things happening to the sun, the moon, and the stars. On earth whole countries will be in despair, afraid of the roar of the sea and the raging tides. People will faint from fear as they wait for what is coming over the whole earth, for the powers in space will be driven from their courses. Then the Son of Man will appear, coming in a cloud with great power and glory. When these things begin to happen, stand up and raise your heads, because your salvation is near."

Then Jesus told them this parable: "Think of the fig tree and all the other trees. When you see their leaves beginning to appear, you know that summer is near. In the same way, when you see these things happening, you will know that the Kingdom of God is about to come. "Remember that all these things will take place before the people now living have all died. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away.

"Be careful not to let yourselves become occupied with too much feasting and drinking and with the worries of this life, or that Day may suddenly catch you like a trap. For it will come upon all people everywhere on earth. Be on watch and pray always that you will have the strength to go safely through all those things that will happen and to stand before the Son of Man."

HYMN OF PREPARATION #210

All Earth is Waiting

SERMON

Homesick

Pastor Cobb

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Family of faith, it does not take long to see that we are not home yet. There are people who are hungry, oceans that are polluted, churches that are fading, walls that are growing. We are clearly not home yet.

So until we reach that promised day, until we make it home, giving what we can to make a better world matters. When we give our tithes and our offerings we help build God's home here. So with hopeful hearts, let us give.

MESSAGES FOR UNITED METHODIST STUDENT SUNDAY

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *He Comes to Heal the Broken Hearted* D. Wagner

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Holy God, We are homesick. We long for the day that you spoke of when swords will be beaten into plowshares, the lion will lie down with the lamb, and justice will roll like waters. Until that holy day comes, take these gifts and use them to build that world here. We are hopeful. Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

CLOSING HYMN #203

Hail, to the Lord's Anointed

BENEDICTION

As you leave this service, your service begins: Comfort the homesick. Open your doors to others. Seek sanctuary. Be brave enough to go home by another way. And remember that here in God's house, all are welcomed—so come back soon. In the name of our Foundation—God, Spirit, and Son— go in peace.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen!

POSTLUDE *How Brightly Shines the Morning Star* Pachelbel

Elements of this service may be taken or adapted from Adapted from a prayer by Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed | A Sanctified Art LLC | sanctifiedart.org. or UMC Discipleship.org. Used by permission.

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. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

Pastor's e-mail: pastormichael@woodburyumc.net

Mark Davis, Lay Leader

Kathy Craig, Office Administrator

Chris Shay, Director of Music

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 November 21, 2021

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.

Today is the 1st Sunday in Advent on the Christian calendar. Advent is a season of four weeks including four Sundays. The season proclaims the comings of Christ – whose birth we prepare to celebrate once again, who comes continually in Word and Spirit, and whose return in final victory we anticipate. The liturgical color is blue, symbolizing hope.

Today is also United Methodist Student Day on the denominational calendar. Observed on the last Sunday in November, this day calls the Church to support students in uniting faith and knowledge. The special offering received today supports loan and scholarship funds for United Methodist College, university, and graduate students. Please refer to the offering envelope included in your worship bulletin.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: *Samuel Temple*, Liturgist and Reader; the *Temple* family, Advent Candle Lighter and Readers; *Meg Temple*, Greeter and Usher; the *WUMC Choir*, Singers; *Mark Davis*, Audio Visual Technician.