

**Readings for Sunday, September 8, 2019**  
**Woodbury United Methodist Church**

**A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah:**

I am the LORD, your holy God. I created you, Israel, and I am your king.”

<sup>16</sup>Long ago the LORD made a road through the sea, a path through the swirling waters. <sup>17</sup>He led a mighty [army](#) to destruction, an army of chariots and horses. Down they fell, never to rise, snuffed out like the flame of a lamp!

<sup>18</sup>But the LORD says, “Do not cling to events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago. <sup>19</sup>Watch for the new thing I am going to do. It is happening already—you can see it now! I will make a road through the wilderness and give you streams of water there.

**A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the Romans:**

**12** So then, my friends, because of God's great mercy to us I appeal to you: Offer yourselves as a living sacrifice to God, dedicated to his service and pleasing to him. This is the true worship that you should offer. <sup>2</sup>Do not conform yourselves to the standards of this world, but let God transform you inwardly by a complete change of your mind. Then you will be able to know the will of God—what is good and is pleasing to him and is perfect.

**A READING FROM THE GOSPEL ACCORDING TO Matthew:**

<sup>13</sup>“Go in through the narrow gate, because the gate to hell is wide and the road that leads to it is easy, and there are many who travel it. <sup>14</sup>But the gate to life is narrow and the way that leads to it is hard, and there are few people who find it.

This is the word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**