



Woodbury
United Methodist Church



Sunday, January 24, 2021

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Love Spoken Here

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Woodbury United Methodist Church

January 24, 2021
3rd Sunday after the Epiphany

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *Andante from Sonata in A, Opus 120* F. Schubert
Christopher Shay, piano

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

*CALL TO WORSHIP based on Psalm 62
Psalter for the 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany
from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2021*

For God alone our souls wait in silence.
In God alone do our spirits find peace.

For God alone is our rock and salvation.
In God alone does our faith remain unshaken.

Pour out your hearts before God.
For God is our refuge and strength.

Put your trust in God.
God's steadfast love endures forever.

*OPENING HYMN *God of Grace and God of Glory*
Hymns sung by Carolyn Shay, Kate Keeler

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Kate Keeler, Liturgist
from *Enter Every Trembling Heart*, by John Killinger

O God, giver of life and truth and grace, we gather today in a spirit of thanksgiving for all your mercies. We praise you for your faithfulness to your people through the ages, and for the gift of your Son, Jesus, in whom we have remission of our sin and renewal of our

An Exciting New Adult Fellowship Opportunity
THE BIBLE: 101

Your Bible is meant to be inspiring, not intimidating; but we often feel uncertain about how to use it.

Pastor John will lead us through a series that will help de-mystify some of the mysteries of...

- † ***Reading the Bible for study, reflection, comfort, and insight***
- † ***Hearing the message contained in God's word for you***
- † ***Locating favorite and familiar passages***

This 4 week study-fellowship will held on **Tuesday nights from 6:30 – 8:00 PM beginning January 26th.**

There is no book to purchase, but please have your Bible handy.
Handout materials may be distributed in advance.

You can participate in person or via Zoom (link will be posted on the church's web page).

Contact Bud Behlman (203-206-9276) for additional information.

Altar flowers are given this week by Carolyn Shay “to the glory to God and in loving memory of her father, Arthur Ayars on his birthday, and in honor of their son, Nathaniel on his 39th birthday.”

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: Kate Keeler, Liturgist; Carolyn Shay, Reader; Kate Keeler and Carolyn Shay, Singers; Kate Keeler, Children’s Time.

Christian sympathy is extended to Travis Cloud and family in the death of Travis’s grandmother, Charlotte Cloud, on January 14 in Monett, Missouri.

Congratulations to Bob and Martha Asman, who celebrated their 59th wedding anniversary on January 20, 2021.

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

Outpatient tests: Jackie Fleming, Laura Brush, Bob Asman, Dave Brencher

Recovering at home: Emilie Cole; 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: 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).



hearts. Receive each one of us as we come before you in humility and supplication, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE SEEK GOD’S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

CHILDREN’S TIME

led by Kate Keeler

THE LORD’S PRAYER (unison)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Kate Keeler

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by Carolyn Shay

Lessons for the 3rd Sunday after the Epiphany, Year B
from *The Revised Common Lectionary*

Old Testament Lesson: Jonah 3:1-5, 10 (NRSV)
Conversion of Nineveh

The word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time, saying, “Get up, go to Nineveh, that great city, and proclaim to it the message that I tell you.” So Jonah set out and went to Nineveh, according to the word of the LORD. Now Nineveh was an exceedingly large city, a three days’ walk across. Jonah began to go into the city, going a day’s walk. And he cried out, “Forty days more, and Nineveh shall be overthrown!” And the people of Nineveh believed God; they proclaimed a fast, and everyone, great and small, put on sackcloth.

When God saw what they did, how they turned from their evil ways, God changed his mind about the calamity that he had said he would bring upon them; and he did not do it.

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 7:29-31 (NRSV)

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though

they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

*Gospel Lesson: Mark 1:14-20 (*NRSV*)

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.”

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me and I will make you fish for people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *Softly and Tenderly, Jesus Is Calling*

SERMON *God Doesn't Give Up on Us* Rev. Thomason

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Be Thou My Vision*

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

BENEDICTION Rev. Thomason

*POSTLUDE *Prelude and Fugue in D Minor* J. S. Bach

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 January 24, 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.

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 after the Epiphany on the Christian calendar. The Season after the Epiphany is a season of Ordinary Time standing between Advent-Christmas-Epiphany and Lent-Easter-Pentecost. The Gospel readings in the lectionary center on stories from the early ministry of Christ. The liturgical color is green, symbolizing growth in Christ.

Please Join Us for Livestreamed Worship Events - 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 will also be available 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#. Note that these numbers have changed from what was previously used. Please mute your phones to eliminate background noise.