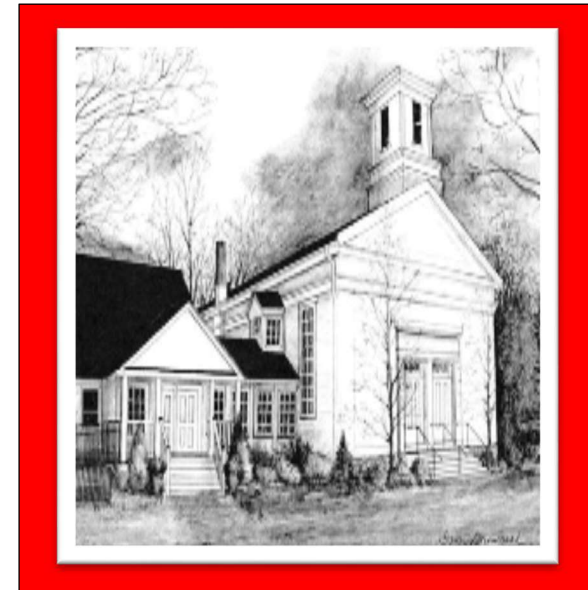


Woodbury
United Methodist Church



Sunday, November 8, 2020

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

Woodbury United Methodist Church

November 8, 2020
23rd Sunday after Pentecost

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *Gia il sole dal Gange* Alessandro Scarlatti
Morgan Phillippe

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

*CALL TO WORSHIP from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

Sing praises to God, O you saints, and give thanks to God's holy name!
We exalt you, O God, for you have restored us to life!

We may cry through the night, but your joy comes with the morning.
You hear us, O God, and you are gracious in our distress.

You turn our mourning into dancing!
**Our souls cannot be silent! O God, our Savior, we give thanks to you
for ever!**

*OPENING HYMN *Rejoice, the Lord Is King* Wesley/Darwall
Hymns sung by Venetia and Morgan Phillippe

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Venetia Phillippe, Liturgist
adapted from *Enter Every Trembling Heart*, by John Killinger

O God, we are here with many kinds of needs and expectations. Let the shadow of your wings fall across us, that we may know that we are in your presence. Then our wounds will be healed and our discomforts made bearable, our night will turn to day and our darkness to light. Then our hearts will sing again; and we shall face our lives with new hope and understanding; and love will blossom in the desert places of our lives. Come, Lord Jesus, and lift our vision to the one you saw, of a world fitly joined together in your heavenly Father. Amen.



Fall Clean Up
Saturday, November 14th

All members welcome

- Come for one or both fellowship opportunities
- Outdoors; masks and social distancing required

Fall Clean-Up – 9am to noon

- Many hands make light work
- Youth earn community service hours for school

Fall Harvest Celebration – 12-1pm

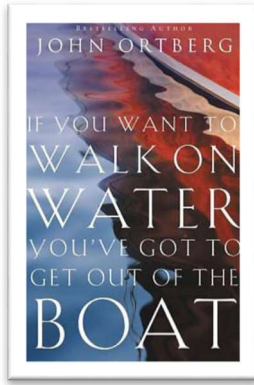
- Bring donations for Woodbury Foodbank
- Pastor John will preside over a brief service of Thanksgiving
- Donations may also be brought on Sunday

Fall Harvest Celebration

The poster features a yellow background with several autumn leaves in shades of orange, red, and brown scattered around the text. The text is in a bold, sans-serif font.

Bible Study Fellowship for Adults

*If You Want to Walk on Water,
You've Got to Get Out of the Boat*
by John Ortberg



Tuesdays, 6:30 PM, through November 24

This class is being offered both in-person in Fellowship Hall and remotely by Zoom and phone call-in. It's not too late for you to pick up a book and join the group study. Books are available at the church for a cost of \$11 each.

Phone-in option: Call 646-558-8656, meeting ID 838 4151 6435; passcode 405251381

Online (Zoom) option: <https://zoom.us/join>; meeting ID 838 4151 6435; passcode !WUMC2020

Please contact *Bud Behlman* with any questions at 203-206-9276 or budbehlman@charter.net.

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

Morgan Phillippe

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by Venetia Phillippe

Lessons for the 23rd Sunday after Pentecost
from *The Revised Common Lectionary*

Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (*NRSV*)
The Coming of the Lord

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:1-13
The Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out

to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *Blessed Assurance* Crosby/Knapp

SERMON *Living with Loss* Rev. Thomason

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *It Is Well with My Soul* Spafford/Bliss

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

BENEDICTION Rev. Thomason

POSTLUDE *Canzona* Domenico Zipoli

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 November 8, 2020

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. Immediately following today’s worship service, please join us for Fellowship Hour downstairs in Fellowship Hall.

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 23rd Sunday after Pentecost on the Christian calendar. The Season after Pentecost, also called Ordinary Time, begins the day after Pentecost and ends the day before the First Sunday of Advent. The liturgical color is green, symbolizing growth in Christ.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: *Venetia Phillippe*, Liturgist; *Morgan* and *Venetia Phillippe*, Singers, and *Morgan Phillippe*, Children’s Time.

Please note: WUMC’s worship services are recorded and archived on the church’s website, www.woodburyumc.net.

Altar flowers are given this week by *Carolyn Shay*, “In loving memory of her grandmother, *Bessie Harbison*.”
