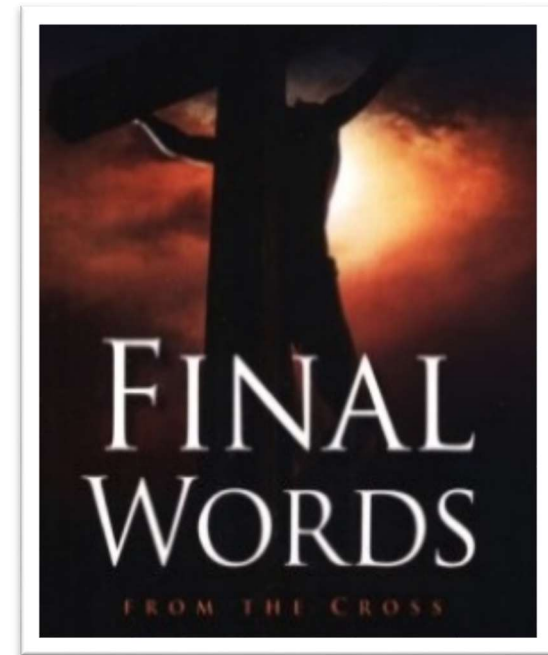




Woodbury
United Methodist Church



Sunday, February 21, 2021

First Sunday in Lent

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Love Spoken Here

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798

Email: wumc@woodburyumc.net

(203) 263-4775 • www.woodburyumc.net

Woodbury United Methodist Church

February 21, 2021
1st Sunday in Lent

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *Come and Find the Quiet Center*
Barb and Jeff Hunt, Bells

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

*CALL TO WORSHIP led by Joann King, Liturgist
from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor requite us according to our iniquities.

What shall I render to the Lord for all his bounty to me?

I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

*OPENING HYMN *Trust and Obey*
Sung by Joann King and Paul Beavers, Sr.

WE CONFESS OUR SIN AND ACCEPT GOD'S PARDON

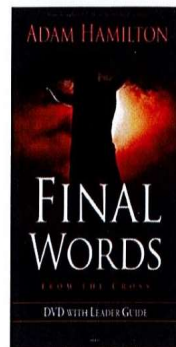
A LENTEN CALL TO CONFESSION Rev. Thomason

INDIVIDUAL PRAYERS OF CONFESSION (silent)

CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)
from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

**Almighty and merciful God, we know that when we offend another,
we offend you. We are aware that we have often allowed the shadow**

LENTEN VIDEO & DISCUSSION SERIES



Christ's "final words from the cross" can offer a new understanding of his teachings, his faith, and his own relationship with God.

And Jesus' words can do the same for each of us. Helping us to renew our relationship with God, strengthen our faith, and live the teachings of Jesus.

In his book "*Final Words from the Cross*", well-known pastor and author, Adam Hamilton, provides fresh insight into Jesus' final words through the perspective of those who witnessed the crucifixion.

And in an optional seventh session, he moves beyond the cross to Jesus' words to the disciples on the road to Emmaus and to those who were witnesses to the Resurrection. (excerpt from *Christianbook.com*)

Sessions include:

- ❖ "Father Forgive Them."
- ❖ "Today you will be with me in paradise."
- ❖ "Behold your son"" Behold your mother".
- ❖ "My God, My God why have you forsaken me."
- ❖ "I thirst."
- ❖ "It is finished" ..." Into your hands I commit my spirit."

Please join this compelling discussion/fellowship, which will parallel Pastor John's sermon series.

DAY: Tuesdays (beginning February 23rd)

TIME: 6:30 PM – 8:00 PM

PLACE: Fellowship Hall (in person)
Online via Zoom (link available on the church website)
By phone (link and information on the church website)

Books are available through the church office or online through usual booksellers.

Contact Bud Behlman for additional information:

budbehlman@charter.net

203-206-9276

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#.

The Prayer Corner:

In the hospital: *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto* (in ICU at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford following an auto-pedestrian accident).

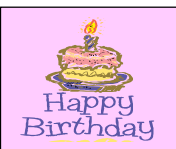
Please remember our Confirmands: *Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, Matthew Shupenis*; their teachers: *Catherine Mason, Meg Temple, John Thomason*; and their mentors: *Mike Boisseau, Mollie Cole, Rev. Paul Hibbard, Carolyn Shay*.

Recovering at home: *Amber Craig; Lynn Cullen; John Fleming; Josh Harwood; 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: *Dave Brencher, Bob Asman, 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*).



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.

of hate to cloud our souls, hiding the light from our unseeking eyes. We have said unpleasant and hurtful things to our brothers and sisters when they have failed to live up to our expectations. Grant that we might find that spark of love that ever burns within us, the love that you have shown to us even when we have failed you. Fan the embers of that love until it roars again in flames of love, peace, and reconciliation. Forgive us our sins and help us to forgive those who have sinned against us. Lead us into new life through your Son Jesus Christ, who died for the sins of all. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

from *The United Methodist Hymnal*

Hear the good news:

Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves God's love for us. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

led by Mike Boisseau

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. Thomason

THE CHURCH AT PRAYER

Joann King

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

*GOSPEL READING

Luke 23:26-27, 32-38 (NRSV)

Read by Joann King

The Crucifixion of Jesus

As they led him away, they seized a man, Simon of Cyrene, who was coming from the country, and they laid the cross on him, and made him carry it behind Jesus. A great number of the people followed him, and among them were women who were beating their breasts and wailing for him.

Two others also, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

HYMN OF PREPARATION *Wonderful Words of Life*
Barb and Jeff Hunt, Bells

SERMON *Final Words from the Cross:* Rev. Thomason
Father, Forgive Them

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT OF REFLECTION from *Final Words*, by Adam Hamilton

Take a moment to think about people who have wronged you. Perhaps even write their names on this page. Would you be willing now to join in the prayer that Jesus prayed for those who crucified him?

Father, forgive them. Father, you know their heart, and you know my pain. I pray for those who hurt me. Forgive them, and heal me. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Spirit Song*
Sung by Joann King and Paul Beavers, Sr.

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

BENEDICTION Rev. Thomason

POSTLUDE *In Thee, Lord, Have I Put My Trust* J. C. 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 February 21, 2021

Visitors are warmly welcomed! We invite you 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 vestibule.

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 1st Sunday in Lent on the Christian calendar. Lent is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, beginning on Ash Wednesday and ending on Holy Saturday. Lent serves as a season of spiritual preparation for celebrating Easter. The liturgical color is purple, symbolizing penitence and royalty.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: *Joann King*, liturgist; *Paul Beavers, Sr.*, and *Joann King*, singers; *Mike Boisseau*, Children's Time leader.

The flowers in the chancel today are given by *Rynn Naylor*, "to the glory of God and remembrance of those we've lost to Covid-19."

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.