

Woodbury  
United Methodist Church



Sunday, October 25, 2020

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**Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors**  
4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798  
(203) 263-4775 • [www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net)

# Woodbury United Methodist Church

**October 25, 2020**  
**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

\*Please stand as you are able.

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## **WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE**

PRELUDE *Piano Sonata in F* Mozart  
Christopher Shay, organist

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

\*CALL TO WORSHIP from Psalm 90  
Psalter reading for the 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

Lord, you have been our dwelling place from all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

Return, O Lord! How long? Have pity on your servants!  
**Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love, that we may rejoice and be glad all our days.**

Let your work be manifest to your servants, and your glorious power to their children.

**Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us, and establish the work of our hands.**

\*OPENING HYMN *Pass It On* Kurt Kaiser  
Sung by Laura Brush and Joann King

\*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Joann King, Liturgist  
from *The United Methodist Book of Worship*

**Almighty and all-loving God, through your Son Jesus Christ, you have reconciled the world to yourself. Help us now to be reconciled to one another, that again we might dwell in the warmth of your love.**

## **Midweek Bible Study Fellowship Updates**

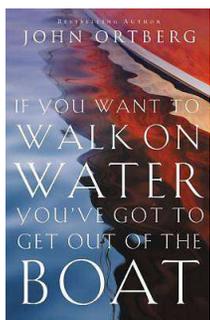
- 1) Books are available for \$11 each. You may purchase in the Narthex after Worship service; by calling the church office (203-263-4775); and by contacting Bud Behlman (203) 206-9276.
- 2) Bible Study/Fellowship started on Tuesday, October 20<sup>th</sup> @ (6:30 – 8:00 PM) and will continue on Tuesday nights through November 24.
- 3) Meetings are in-person in Fellowship Hall noting the usual safety protocols will be followed with masks being required. Please bring your own book and Bible.
- 4) Meetings are held simultaneously online and on the Phone.
  - Phone-in option: Call (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 838 4151 6435 and Passcode: 405251381
  - Online (Zoom) option: <https://zoom.us/join>, Meeting ID: 838 4151 6435 and Passcode: !WUMC2020
- 5) Contact Bud Behlman with any questions at 203-206-9276 or <mailto:budbehlman@charter.net>

## **Mid-Week Bible Study - Tuesdays at 6:30 PM**

Have you missed the self-reflection, spiritual nourishment, and Christian fellowship of our mid-week studies? Were you hoping to join a mid-week study for the first time this Fall?

If so, please plan to join the study based on John Ortberg's award-winning book,

***"If You Want To Walk On Water... You've Got To Get Out Of The Boat"***



### Chapters include:

- What's Water Walking?
- The Tragedy of The Unopened Gift
- Find Your Calling And Get Your Feet Wet!
- Facing Our Challenges, Conquering Our Fears
- Good News For Cave Dwellers
- Learning To Wait On Our Big God

THIS STUDY HELPS YOU ANSWER CHRIST'S CALL TO GREATER FAITH AND A NEW WAY OF KNOWING HIM. AS A RESULT, YOU WILL LEARN TO:

- Recognize God's presence
- Discern between faith and foolishness
- Not only expect problems, but field them when they come
- Reorient your thoughts about failure and see it as an opportunity to grow
- Wait on the Lord
- And, ultimately, connect more deeply with God

Understanding these are unpredictable times, we are planning to offer the series both online and in person (if State and Conference guidelines permit), each Tuesday at 6:30 PM until November 24<sup>th</sup>.

Inspire us through your Holy Spirit to put aside the cloak of pride and put on Christ, that we might forgive and be forgiven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## **WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER**

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Thomason

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**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

read by Joann King

Lessons for the 21<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
from *The Revised Common Lectionary*

Epistle Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8 (NRSV)  
*Paul's Ministry in Thessalonica*

You yourselves know, brothers and sisters, that our coming to you was not in vain, but though we had already suffered and been shamefully mistreated at Philippi, as you know, we had courage in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in spite of great opposition. For our appeal does not spring from deceit or impure motives or trickery, but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the message of the gospel, even so we speak, not to please mortals, but to please God who tests our hearts. As you know and as God is our witness, we never came with words of flattery or with a pretext for greed; nor did we seek praise from mortals, whether from you or from others, though we might have made demands as apostles of Christ. But we were gentle among you, like a nurse tenderly caring for her own children. So deeply do we care for you that we are determined to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you have become very dear to us.

\*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 22:34-40 (NRSV)  
*The Greatest Commandment*

When the Pharisees heard that Jesus had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?” He said to him, “‘You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.’ This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: ‘You shall love your neighbor as yourself.’ On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets.”

HYMN OF PREPARATION      *Crown of Thorns*      Todd Purcell

SERMON      *May We Not Love Alike?*      Rev. Thomason

### **WE RESPOND IN FAITH**

SILENT REFLECTION

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY      *This I Swear*      Todd Purcell

### **WE GO FORTH IN JOY**

BENEDICTION      Rev. Thomason

POSTLUDE      *Thy Word Is a Lamp*      Amy Grant



## **Woodbury United Methodist Church**

4 Church St., Woodbury, CT, 06798

Church phone: 203-263-4775

Web Site: [www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net)

Church e-mail: [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto: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](mailto: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.*

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## **Week of October 25, 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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: *Joann King*, Liturgist; *Laura Brush*, *Joann King* and *Todd Purcell*, Singers.

**Please note:** WUMC's worship services are recorded and archived on the church's website, [www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net).

**Altar flowers** are given this week by *Joann King*, "In loving memory of her father *Ed Jenusaitis* and her brother *Bill Jenusaitis*, whose birthdays were the same day, October 27."

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