

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Woodbury United Methodist Church
Reverend John Thomason, Pastor
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www.woodburyumc.net

Sunday, April 11, 2021

Woodbury United Methodist Church

April 11, 2021
2nd Sunday of Easter

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *Gaelic Blessing* John Rutter
Christopher Shay, organist

GREETING Rev. John Thomason

*CALL TO WORSHIP led by Joann King, Liturgist
from *Worship and Song: Worship Resources*

This is the good news – the grave is empty, Christ is risen.

Hallelujah!

This is the good news – the light shines in the darkness, and the darkness can never put it out.

Hallelujah!

This is the good news – once we were no people, now we are God's people.

Hallelujah!

Christ is our peace, the indestructible peace we now share with each other.

Hallelujah!

*OPENING HYMN *We Walk by Faith* *Gather* hymnal
Hymns sung by Venetia Phillippe

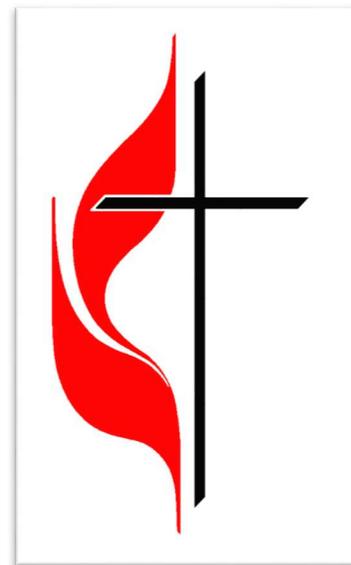
*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Joann King
adapted from *Worship and Song: Worship Resources*

Blessed are you, Creator God. Your love endures forever; your holy light pierces the cold darkness of death and chaos; you made a covenant of life with your creatures which no evil can overcome. May

A Reminder about our Special COVID-19 Support Fund

The Church Council has created a support fund to assist persons who have been severely impacted by the economic shutdown related to the pandemic.

- If you **need financial assistance**, please contact Pastor John (845-707-5152). Requests and donations will be kept strictly confidential.
 - If you would like to **make a donation** to the fund, you can mail a check to the church office (write "COVID-19 Support Fund" on the memo line); or you can donate online through the Breeze link on our church's website (write "COVID-19 Support Fund" in the message box). Thank you!
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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.

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: *Liam McGrath* (surgery on April 7 at New York Presbyterian Hospital, New York City); *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto* (Gaylord, Wallingford); *Christian Echeveria*, friend of *Kelly Etcheto* (VA Hospital, West Haven).

In rehabilitation: *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto* (Gaylord, Wallingford)

Home from the hospital: *Amelia Eager*, friend of the Temple family (heart surgery on March 24 at Children's Hospital, Boston)

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: *Brett Toomes* (fiancé of *Lindsey Behlman*); *John Fleming*; *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*).

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*).



the glorious radiance of resurrection dispel the shadows in our lives and conform us more closely to your risen Christ, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and praise and glory. Amen.

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

CHILDREN'S TIME

led by Meg and Sam Temple

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 2nd Sunday of Easter, Year B
from *The Revised Common Lectionary*

New Testament Lesson: Acts 4:32-35 (NRSV)
The Believers Share Their Possessions

Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.

*Gospel Lesson: John 20:19-31 (NRSV)
Jesus Appears to the Disciples and Thomas

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said

this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained."

But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *We Have Been Told* Gather hymnal

SERMON *An Unexpected High on Low Sunday* Rev. Thomason

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Open Our Eyes, Lord* *The Faith We Sing* hymnal

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

BENEDICTION Rev. Thomason

*POSTLUDE *O Hail This Brightest Day of Days* J. S. Bach

Woodbury United Methodist Church

4 Church St., Woodbury, CT, 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 April 11, 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. 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 2nd Sunday of Easter on the Christian calendar. The Easter Season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset on Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. It focuses on Christ's resurrection and ascension and on the givings of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20:22-23) and the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). The liturgical colors are white and gold, which are used on special days and seasons specifically honoring Christ.

Altar flowers are given this week by *Rynn Naylor*, "to the Glory of God and in celebrating all who care, teach and support our children."

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: *Joann King*, Liturgist and Reader; *Meg* and *Samuel Temple*, Children's Time, *Venetia Phillippe*, Singer.