

Now's Your Chance to be a Servant of God

If you've ever loved to read and dreamed of being a liturgist, love to teach a lesson to children, love to greet and meet people, pass the plate or children be enriched by learning how to become an acolyte... there will be sign-up sheets in the Narthex to volunteer for any of these enlightening activities.

We will begin taking volunteers from **Sunday, July 18th and beyond**. Please consider volunteering and being involved in our church. If there are questions, please reach out to Venetia Phillippe (morgansmom71@gmail.com) or Pastor Michael Cobb (pastormichael@woodburyumc.net).

Beginning **Sept. 5th** we would like to include college students, out of state viewers, and homebound viewers to take part remotely in our Worship service whether it be "Live" or pre-recorded by volunteering as a participant for liturgist or children's time. Email Kathy Craig at wumc@woodburyumc.net to have her add your name on the volunteer sign-up sheet. If you have any questions about the remote participation, please contact Theron Kissinger, our audio-visual tech at theronk@hotmail.com.

Thank you and God Bless!

Venetia, Worship Chair



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798

(203) 263-4775 • www.woodburyumc.net

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, July 11, 2021

REMINDER - our summer worship time is at 9:30 AM.

Please remember to pre-register if you are planning
on attending.

A Message from CRT. . .

Until further notice, please remember your mask to protect
yourself and others too!



Further changes with WUMC COVID Safety Protocols
are listed on the back of this bulletin

Please remember our Confirmands: *Cody Cordova, Zachary Cordova, James Levario, Matthew Shupenis*

Homebound members: *Florence Brown, Linda Bailey*

Please continue to remember: *Lawrence "Ed" Rockhill, father-in-law of Linda Rockhill (River Glen, Southbury); 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).*



Changes to WUMC COVID Safety Protocols

Issued - June 20, 2021

We are pleased to announce that WUMC's COVID Reopening Team recommended and Church Council approved changes to our COVID Safety Protocols, as summarized below. These changes, which will be introduced over the next several weeks, represent our next step toward normalcy. These changes are made possible by Connecticut's sustained positivity rate of well below 1%, continued drop in hospitalizations, and a vaccination participation of almost 60% fully vaccinated and almost 10% partially vaccinated. We also will ensure that each week our Pastor and worship team are fully vaccinated. However, due to the unknown vaccination status of our congregation and the fact that our children and youth under the age of 12 are not vaccinated, **we ask that all members of our congregation continue to wear a mask and maintain social distancing.**

- Return of Pastor greeting line (socially distanced)
- Transition to every other pew seating
- Congregation is allowed to sing while masked
- Plexiglas shields removed for vaccinated worship team members
- Allow praise band and ensemble of 3-4 singers, who are fully vaccinated
- Return of hymnals and Bibles to pews
- Return of bell choir
- Return of passing of the offering plate
- Return of candle lighting by an acolyte
- Return of more personal communication

On Communion Sundays, the Lord's Table is open to all who seek to follow Christ, regardless of age or denominational background. An offering plate is located at the entrance to the North Green seating area to receive donations to our church's benevolence fund.

Thanks to all those making special contributions to our worship service today: *Shannon Cobb, Liturgist, Reader and Communion Steward; Joann King, Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese, and Sherry Swanhall, Singers; Venetia Phillippe, Audio Visual Technician.*



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.

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: *Kinley Mae Drown-Burr*, infant daughter of *Bud Behlman's* cousin, *Jessamie Drown* (Yale-New Haven)

Outpatient rehabilitation: *Michael Etcheto*, grandson of *Barbara Etcheto*

Recovering at home: *Linda Rockhill; Carol Hennessey; Liam McGrath; Christian Echeveria*, friend of *Kelly Etcheto; Robert Mitchell*, brother of *Marci Lowman* (the daughter-in-law of *Marion Lowman*); *Amanda Eager* (friend of the *Temple* family); *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; Will Styblo*, nephew of *Jim Styblo* and *Catherine Mason* (Franklin, TN)

Woodbury United Methodist Church

July 11, 2021

7th Sunday after Pentecost

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE

The Lord is My Hope
Christopher Shay, organist

Ridge

GREETING

Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

*CALL TO WORSHIP

led by Shannon Cobb, Liturgist

The earth is God's and everything in it.

We belong to our God.

Lift up your voices in praise and thanksgiving.

We lift our voices in glory and honor to God.

Invited to be an honor to God's glory,

we can become reflections of God's glorious love and grace.

Invited to sing praise to God's glory,

we can become voices of God's hope for all the world.

Let us now gather in the presence of our risen savior.

Praise the Lord!

*OPENING PRAYER (unison)

led by Shannon Cobb

God of grace and glory, renew us with your presence this day. As we gather to bless your name and sing your praise, bless us with your glorious love and your guiding light. Strengthen us each and every hour, through the power of your Holy Spirit and the wisdom of your holy word. In hope and joy, we pray. Amen.

AN ORDER FOR THE CELEBRATION OF AN APPOINTMENT

Leader:

Dear friends, today we welcome the Rev. J. Michael Cobb, who has been appointed to serve as our pastor. We believe that he is well qualified and has been prayerfully appointed by our bishop, Thomas Bickerton.

Pastor Michael, you have been sent to live among us as a bearer of the Word of God; a minister of the Sacraments; and a sustainer of the love, order, service and discipleship of the people of God.

Pastor Michael:

Today I reaffirm this commitment in the presence of this congregation.

Leader to congregation:

Brothers and sisters in Christ, as a people committed to participate in the ministries of the Church by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, and your service, will you who celebrate this new beginning support and uphold Pastor Michael in these ministries?

Congregation:

We reaffirm our commitment to support you with our prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness.

Leader:

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger

Congregation:

who announces peace, who brings good news, who announces salvation.

Doxology #95:

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Leader:

Let us pray. Eternal God, strengthen and sustain us in our ministries together, with Rev. Cobb as our pastor. Give him and us patience, courage, and wisdom so to care for one another and challenge one another that together we may follow Jesus Christ, living together in love, and offering our gifts and talents in your service; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Almighty God, you still call us to go into your service and spread the message of the salvation of your Son. Bless richly, we pray, your servant's entrance into our fellowship. Fill him with the power of your Holy Spirit and let him find with us an open door for the Word. We also pray for your church on earth. Equip us all with a spirit of willingness that we with courage can witness about you by the profession of our mouths and through our way of living. Grant us all to partake in your strength and joy, so that we can enter into the anxiety and suffering of the world, to be radiating and make alive that hope which Christ gives. All this we dare to pray of you; for you are to us the Father of mercy and the God of all grace; you are the Son, the Savior and the Redeemer; you are the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the Helper and the Giver of life. Blessed be you. Amen.

Presenter to pastor:

Pastor Michael, accept this Bible, and be among us as one who proclaims the Word. **Amen.**

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

NOTE: Summer hours begin Tuesday, July 6 - will be Tues.-Thurs. 9 AM – 1 PM

Rev. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

Cell phone: 203-512-1059

Pastor's e-mail: pastormichael@woodburyumc.net

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 July 11, 2021

Visitors are warmly welcomed! If you wish to learn more about WUMC's ministries, please take a copy of our weekly newsletter, *The Messenger*, which is available on the table in the hallway at the top of the stairs.

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.

Welcome Pastor Michael and his Family

Please join us today to share in worship and Holy Communion with the *Reverend J. Michael Cobb*, our new pastor. Immediately following the worship service, we will host a "Meet and Greet" outside in the fenced-in area next to Fellowship Hall. Light refreshments will be served. This will be an opportunity for you to introduce yourself to Pastor Michael and his family. Look forward to seeing you in the courtyard. - Members of the Staff/Parish Relations Committee

Today is the 7th 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.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (unison)

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Cobb

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

CLOSING HYMN #536 (vs. 1, 3)

Take the Name of Jesus

BENEDICTION

Rev. Cobb

Brilliant children of light, go now to shine with God's glory and love.
We will shine brightly and love freely.

Honor God with all that you say and do.
We will make the world a better and a brighter place for all to live.

We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen!

POSTLUDE

We are Called

arr. Mark Hayes



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Pastor Michael, take this water, and baptize new Christians in this place.

Amen.

Pastor Michael, take this bread and cup, and keep us in communion with Christ and his Church. **Amen.**

Pastor Michael, receive this stole, signifying your ordination, and shepherd us as our pastor. **Amen.**

This yoke has been laid upon me, and I willingly take it upon myself. Let us pray.

Lord God, bless the ministries of your Church. We thank you for the variety of gifts you have bestowed upon us. Draw us together in one Spirit, that each of us may use our differing gifts as members of one body. May your Word be proclaimed with faithfulness, and may we be doers of your Word and not hearers only. As we who have died and risen with Christ in baptism gather at his table and then scatter into the world, may we be one in service to others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The pastor kneels, and the leader and others lay hands on his head. The congregation may join hands and unite in this blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

Congregation: **And also with you.**

*OPENING HYMN #383 *UMH*

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

(vs. 1, 2, 3, 5)

(Hymns led by Joann King, Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese, Sherry Swanhall)

WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING

Read by Shannon Cobb

*Gospel Reading: Mark 6:14-29 (*NRSV*)

Now King Herod heard about all this, because Jesus' reputation had spread everywhere. Some people were saying, "John the Baptist has come back to life! That is why he has this power to perform miracles." Others, however, said, "He is Elijah." Others said, "He is a prophet, like one of the prophets of long ago."

When Herod heard it, he said, "He is John the Baptist! I had his head cut off, but he has come back to life!" Herod himself had ordered John's arrest, and he had him tied up and put in prison. Herod did this because of Herodias, whom he had married, even though she was the wife of his brother Philip. John the Baptist kept telling Herod, "It isn't right for you to marry your brother's wife!"

So Herodias held a grudge against John and wanted to kill him, but she could not because of Herod. Herod was afraid of John because he knew that John was a good and holy man, and so he kept him safe. He liked to listen to him, even though he became greatly disturbed every time he heard him.

Finally Herodias got her chance. It was on Herod's birthday, when he gave a feast for all the top government officials, the military chiefs, and the leading citizens of Galilee. The daughter of Herodias came in and danced, and pleased Herod and his guests. So the king said to the girl, "What would you like to have? I will give you anything you want." With many vows he said to her, "I swear that I will give you anything you ask for, even as much as half my kingdom!" So the girl went out and asked her mother, "What shall I ask for?"

"The head of John the Baptist," she answered. The girl hurried back at once to the king and demanded, "I want you to give me here and now the head of John the Baptist on a plate!"

This made the king very sad, but he could not refuse her because of the vows he had made in front of all his guests. So he sent off a guard at once with orders to bring John's head. The guard left, went to the prison, and cut John's head off; then he brought it on a plate and gave it to the girl, who gave it to her mother. When John's disciples heard about this, they came and got his body, and buried it.

HYMN OF PREPARATION #378 (vs. 1, 2, 3, 6) *Amazing Grace*

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but now I'm found; was blind, but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved; how precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come; 'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun, we've no less days to sing God's praise than when we'd first begun.

SERMON *A Day of New Beginnings* Rev. Cobb

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison) Rev. Cobb

Gracious God, pour out your mercy on us. Where there is despair, fill us with hope. Where there is sorrow, fill us with comfort. Where there is sin, fill us with forgiveness. Where there is hatred, fill us with love. Where there is worry, fill us with assurance. Gather us in the arms of your grace and glory, that we may reflect your glory with honor and praise all the days of our lives. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.

SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Rev. Cobb

God, who saves, is amongst us now: filling our lives with grace, forgiving us and making us one, perfecting all of creation, through the mercy of God's steadfast love.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

Glory to God. Amen.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY HYMN #389 (vs. 1, 2) *Freely, Freely*

WE GATHER AT THE LORD'S TABLE

COMMUNION PRAYER

Great is God's name.

And great is the table of Christ.

As we approach this meal, we ponder the steadfast love of God.

We praise God's name in each corner of the earth.

In our times of victory or vulnerability, there are seats for us all. Regardless of our painful pasts, the thorns in our bodies, or the insults plunged into our souls, there are places for each of us at this meal. No matter which neighbor or kin have turned their backs on us, no matter how many tears have fallen from our eyes, we each are welcome here. At this meal, we once again find our strength. At the table of Christ, we renew our energy.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND CONSECRATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP