



WUMC Helping Hands Ministry

Vision Statement:

Provide an extended network of community volunteers for helping those with critical short-term needs, but without sufficient resources and families to whom they can turn.

Examples of Types of Services:

- Handyman projects (e.g., carpentry, painting, simple plumbing/electrical/car repairs, computer troubleshooting)
- Home upkeep (e.g., spring/fall cleanup)
- Transportation and delivery
- Family crisis support (e.g., child/elder/respite care, meals)
- Friendly visitor

Nominal Constraints:

- Short-term crisis support: 4-8 hours; 1-2 days
- Work projects: Ideally done in 1 day; up to \$200 for material cost
- Application approval predicated on resource availability and schedule

Please Contact: Woodbury United Methodist Church (WUMC) at WUMC@WoodburyUMC.net.



Woodbury United Methodist Church





Sunday, September 26, 2021



Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798

(203) 263-4775 . www.woodburyumc.net

Find us on /woodburyumc & /woodburyumc

Woodbury United Methodist Church

September 26, 2021
18th Sunday after Pentecost

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

PRELUDE *His Eye is On the Sparrow* Martin/Gabriel
Sarah Kate Walkup

GREETING Pastor Michael Cobb

*CALL TO WORSHIP led by Bud Behlman
I come today, just as I am, with tears and laughter. I come to you, Jesus, Healer and Life-giver.

We are gathered today as a community of peace and love.

Is anyone here today suffering?

We will pray with you.

Is anyone here today rejoicing?

We will rejoice with you.

Is anyone here today longing for healing?

We will anoint you with oil.

You are welcome to this house of peace and love.

We come as we are, joyful and hurting. We come to you, Healer, Life-giver.

*OPENING HYMN #126 *Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above* (see insert)

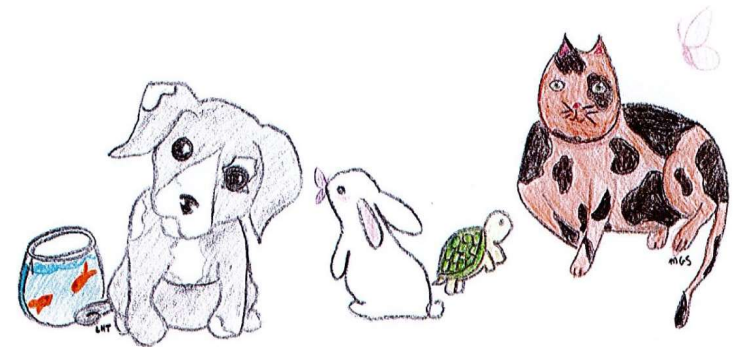
WE SEEK GOD'S PRESENCE IN PRAYER

*OPENING PRAYER (unison) led by Bud Behlman

Blessed are you, O Lord our God. Our help is in your blessed Name, O you who have made heaven and earth. We have been entrusted with the way of life, for your Word has dwelt among us. Deliver us from judgement and forgive our sin that we may live forever in your presence and sing your praises for eternity.

By the gift of your Spirit, help us to see that we share your task of evangelism with many people from many different places. May our work be done for the common purpose of spreading the gospel of Christ.

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



WOODBURY NORTH GREEN OCTOBER
3PM SUNDAY 10

Join Us as we celebrate our animal companions!
All people and their pets are welcome!
Stuffed animals and pet photos are also very welcome!

We will have snacks for pets and people. *Pets must be on a leash, or in a carrier.*
Please join us even if you do not have a pet of your own.
This is a wonderful experience that everyone will enjoy!
Pet food collection to benefit the Woodbury Community Food Bank

More information at WoodburyUMC.net or at facebook.com/WoodburyUMCCT

Woodbury United Methodist Church
4 Church Street Woodbury, CT. 06798

Children & Youth Ministry News



Beginning this **Sunday, September 26th**, we will be holding a Sunday School class at the back end of the North Green on the 4th Sunday of the month (September 26, October 24, November 28) while the weather remains good. Drop off will be at the check in on the Green. Beginning on Sunday, October 10th we

will be doing a short local hike with a children's message beginning at 12:15 pm on the 2nd Sunday of the month (October 10, November 14, December 12) through December. Meet to caravan on the church lawn or meet us at our destination parking lot. Our first hike will be to the fire tower in Woodbury at the base of Orenaug Park.

News from the Worship Ministry

Calling all that want to usher for Sunday morning worship...If interested, please contact Kathy in the church office (wumc@woodburyumc.net) or Venetia at (918) 706-2637 or (morgansmom71@gmail.com). We are looking for two ushers for each Sunday starting October 3rd.

Have you even tried to understand a scripture that you've never heard mentioned from the pulpit?

Are there issues or topics you wish your pastor would address in a sermon?

Now is your chance! Email your questions and requests to Pastor Michael or slide them under his door (anonymous is fine) **before October 5**. If he thinks it is a subject that would interest the congregation, he will preach on it.

We life up before you this day our brothers and sisters who are in distress. We have confidence that, as your will directs, you will deliver them from evil, preserve them in all goodness, and bring them to everlasting life. We are most grateful that you make yourself known to us through the healing and saving power of Jesus Christ, our Leader and Friend. Hear and answer us, for we pray in the name of our Lord. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Anthem

Days of Elijah

Robin Mark

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 (NRSV) read by Bud Behlman

So the king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, "What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled." Then Queen Esther answered, "If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me—that is my petition—and the lives of my people—that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king." Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, "Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?" Esther said, "A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!" Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, "Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high." And the king said, "Hang him on that." So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

HYMN OF PREPARATION #3022 *Peace of Our Praying* (see insert)

SERMON

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

The generosity of Christ calls us to lives of gratitude and generosity. In Jesus Christ we are given new life. Let us celebrate this life by giving generously to the work of God's redeeming love.

THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *Had it Not Been for the Lord* Douroux

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Giving God, we can never match your generosity. When we are in need, you are at our side, present to us even in our darkest moments. You rescue us from harm. Make us into a people who celebrate your goodness, drawing others into the celebration of your many blessings. Receive our offerings, even if they are as small as a drink for someone who thirsts. Transform them into the mystery of your reign here and now on earth, in the name of Jesus, your greatest gift, Amen.

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

WE GO FORTH IN JOY

CLOSING HYMN # 428 *For the Healing of the Nations* (see insert)

BENEDICTION

O God, our guide and help in alien and contentious places: as Esther prayed faithfully and worked courageously for the deliverance of your people, strengthen us to confront the oppressor and free the oppressed, so that all people may know the justice and unity of your realm. We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,

In the name of Christ. Amen!

POSTLUDE *Rock a My Soul* Traditional

Elements of this service may be taken or adapted from UMC Discipleship.org, reworship.blogspot.com, or the Abingdon Worship Annual 2021, copyright 2021 by Abingdon Press. Used by permission.

- **Audio only by phone:** dial 425-436-6391, enter pin with hash sign 2431819#.

Save the Dates

Sunday, September 26 – Sunday School will resume. (see next page)

Sunday, October 10 – **Blessing of the Animals** will be held from 3:00-5:00 PM on the North Green. Many details are being planned for this event and more information will follow very soon.

Sunday, October 17– **Laity Sunday** - News to come regarding opportunities for youth

Saturday, November 13 – **Fall Clean-Up Day at WUMC** – please see your Messenger. Great way for students to get community service hours for school.

Sunday, November 28 - **UMC Student Day** - - News to come regarding opportunities for you & college student participation

THE PRAYER CORNER

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

Recovering at home: *Gary McClendon; Pat Kurtz; Lynne Brencher; Carol Hennessey; Liam McGrath; Robert Mitchell*, brother of *Marci Lowman* (the daughter-in-law of *Marion Lowman*); *Amelia Eager* (friend of the *Temple* family); *Steve Thomas; Dominic Vaiuso*, father of *Karen Williams* (Newtown); *Carl Hinkle*, father of *Toby McGrath* (Greensburg, PA); *Donna Louise Burke*, friend of *Kathy Craig; Lou Calabrese* (husband of *Lynn Ramsden-Calabrese*)

Outpatient treatments: *Dave Brencher; Bob Asman; Dave Davison*, father-in-law of *Gary McClendon; Will Styblo*, nephew of *Jim Styblo* and *Catherine Mason* (Franklin, TN)

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

Homebound members: *Florence Brown, Linda Bailey*



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.

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. J. Michael Cobb, Pastor

Cell phone: 203-512-1059

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

Mark Davis, Lay Leader

Kathy Craig, Office Administrator

Chris Shay, Director of Music

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 September 26, 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 at the registration area.

If you would like to become a member of the Woodbury United Methodist Church, please speak to Pastor Michael. Inquirers are asked to attend a two-session Membership Orientation class before joining the church.

Today is the 18th 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: *Bud Behlman*, Liturgist and Reader, *Christine Smith*, Greeter and Usher; *Sarah Kate Walkup* and the *WUMC Voice Choir*, Singers.

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.

THE GLORY OF THE TRIUNE GOD

126 Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above

1. Sing praise to God who reigns a-bove, the God of all cre-
2. The Lord is nev-er far a-way, but through all grief dis-
3. Thus, all my toil-some way a-long, I sing a-loud thy
4. Let all who name Christ's ho-ly name give God all praise and

a - tion, the God of power, the God of love, the God of
tress - ing, an ev - er pres-ent help and stay, our peace and
prais - es, that earth may hear the grate-ful song my voice un-
glo - ry; let all who own his power pro-claim a - loud the

our sal - va - tion. With heal-ing balm my soul is filled and
joy and bless - ing. As with a moth-er's ten-der hand, God
wea - ried rais - es. Be joy - ful in the Lord, my heart, both
won - drous sto - ry! Cast each false i - dol from its throne, for

ev-ery faith-less mur-mur stilled; To God all praise and glo - ry.
gent-ly leads the cho-sen band; To God all praise and glo - ry.
soul and bod-y bear your part; To God all praise and glo - ry.
Christ is Lord, and Christ a - lone; To God all praise and glo - ry.

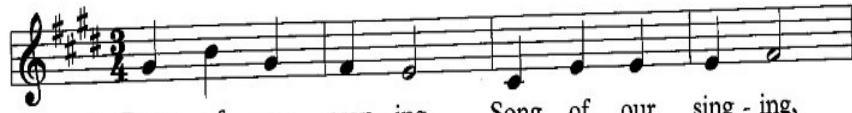
WORDS: Johann J. Schütz, 1675; trans. by Frances E. Cox, 1864 (Dt. 32:3)

MUSIC: Bohemian Brethren's *Kirchengesänge*, 1566; harm. by Maurice F. Bell, 1906

MIT FREUDEN ZART
87.87.887

Peace of Our Praying

3022



1. Peace of our pray - ing, Song of our sing - ing,
 2. Peace of our pray - ing, Christ of our cry - ing,
 3. Peace of our pray - ing, Faith of for - giv - ing,



Truth of our tell - ing, Love of all loves,
 Strength of our striv - ing, Heart of our heart,
 Way of our walk - ing, King of all kings,



Health of our heal - ing, Gift of our giv - ing,
 Bread of our break - ing, Wine of our wait - ing,
 Breath of our breath - ing, Cour - age of car - ing,



Life of our liv - ing, Light of all lights.
 Blood of our boast - ing, Death of all death.
 Hope of our hop - ing, Life of all life.

WORDS: Terry W. York
 MUSIC: C. David Bolin

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SANCTIFYING AND PERFECTING GRACE

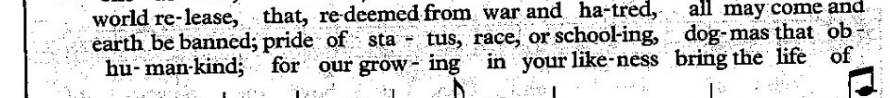
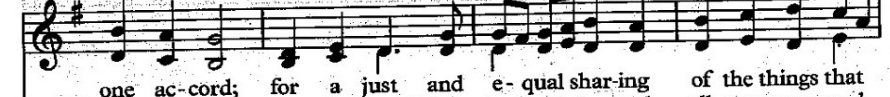
428 For the Healing of the Nations



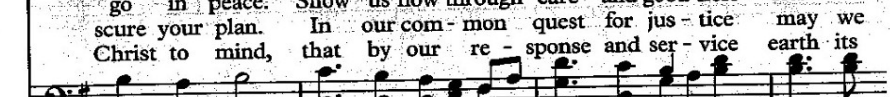
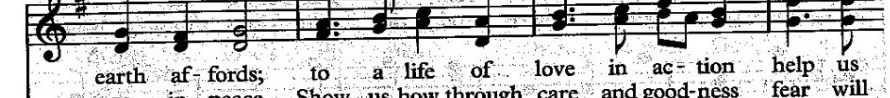
1. For the heal - ing of the na - tions, Lord, we pray with
 2. Lead us for - ward in - to free - dom; from de - spair your
 3. All that kills a - bun - dant liv - ing, let it from the
 4. You, Cre - a - tor God, have writ - ten your great name on



one ac - cord; for a just and e - qual shar - ing of the things that
 world re - lease, that, re - deemed from war and ha - tred, all may come and
 earth be banned; pride of sta - tus, race, or school - ing, dog - mas that ob -
 hu - man - kind; for our grow - ing in your like - ness bring the life of



earth af - fords; to a life of love in ac - tion help us
 go in peace. Show us how through care and good - ness fear will
 sure your plan. In our com - mon quest for jus - tice may we
 Christ to mind, that by our re - sponse and ser - vice earth its



rise and pledge our word, (pledge our word) help us rise and pledge our word.
 die and hope in - crease, (hope in - crease) fear will die and hope in - crease.
 hal - low life's brief span, (life's brief span) may we hal - low life's brief span.
 des - ti - ny may find, (may find) earth its des - ti - ny may find.

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1965 (Rev. 21:1-22:5)
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

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CWM RHONDDA
 87.87.87