

# Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday, May 3, 2026

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Fifth Sunday of Easter

10:30 AM Worship

# Woodbury United Methodist Church

4 Church Street, Woodbury, CT 06798 203-263-4775

[www.woodburyumc.net](http://www.woodburyumc.net) Church e-mail: [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto:wumc@woodburyumc.net)

## May 3, 2026

\*Please stand as you are able.

### WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

"Prelude in C"

J.S. Bach

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Psalm 31:1-2, 4-5, alt.

Barb Hunt, Liturgist

L: In you, O Lord, we seek refuge: let us never be put to shame; in your righteousness, deliver us.

P: *Incline your ear to us; rescue us speedily! Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress to save us.*

L: Take us out of the net hidden for us, for you are our refuge.

**ALL: INTO YOUR HAND WE COMMIT OUR SPIRITS; YOU HAVE REDEEMED US, O LORD, FAITHFUL GOD.**

\*HYMN

"A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

UMH #110

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Book of Worship, 1964

*Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION *(by the pastor)*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(unison)*

*God of grace and glory, we thank you that you judge us not by the perfection of our actions but by our readiness to live boldly by faith. Forgive us when imperfection impedes love of you, self and neighbor. Help us as a congregation to trust you and follow where you lead, that in Christ your name may be glorified in all the earth. Amen.*

SILENT CONFESSION AND WORDS OF PARDON

## WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

THE EPISTLE		I Peter 2:2-10
*THE GOSPEL		John 14:1-14
*HYMN	<i>"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation"</i>	UMH #559
THE SERMON	<i>"The Bislett Effect"</i>	Pastor Brian Bodt

## WE RESPOND IN FAITH

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH	<i>"The Apostles' Creed"</i>	UMH #881
*THE GLORIA PATRI		UMH #70

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS                      THE PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER    UMH #895

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

TESTIMONY    Karen Fimmano

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING AND OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY *"A Channel of God's Love"* from *Two Prayers of Blessing*  
The Chancel Choir    Wilkinson/Harlan

\*RESPONSE OF PRAISE    UMH #588  
*"All things come of thee, O Lord; and of thine own have we given thee.*

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

SETTING A    UMH pp. 17-18  
*(All are welcome to receive. Please follow the ushers' direction.  
You may leave a gift for the pastor's discretionary fund if desired.)*

## WE GO FORTH IN JOY

\*HYMN    *"The Church's One Foundation"*    UMH #546

\*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE    "Sonata in A"    Mozart  
+ + +

**THE WORSHIP IS ENDED: THE SERVICE BEGINS.**

## **Woodbury United Methodist Church**

*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.*

*The Rev. Dr. Brian R. Bodt, Pastor      Jeff and Barbara Hunt, Lay Leaders  
Christopher Shay, Director of Music      Matti Paparazzo, Admin. Assistant*

### **TODAY AT WOODBURY UMC**

**WELCOME TO WOODBURY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH!**  
**IF YOU ARE A VISITOR PLEASE COMPLETE A VISITOR'S CARD AND PLACE IT IN THE OFFERING.** Our desire is that you experience the warmth of Christ's welcome and ours in this church.

**FELLOWSHIP TIME** follows worship downstairs. Invite someone new to you to join you!

#### **WE THANK TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS**

Liturgist and Communion Assistant: Barb Hunt

A.V. Tech: Christine Shupenis and Dan Guinipero

Ushers and Greeters: Meg Temple and JoAnn Behlman

Fellowship Time Host: Christine Shupenis and Cathy Riefenhauser

**VISION 2025 EMPHASIS TODAY** is "*Evangelism.*" Emphases are Evangelism, Missions, Affirmation and Inclusion, Communications, Youth and Young Adults and Congregational Vitality and Growth (Spiritual Wellness, Financial Health, Inviting Facilities).

**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE** meets at 11:45 a.m. in the Wesley Room.

**"CROSSROADS" FORUM** on "A Faithful Response to Immigration" will be held **TONIGHT in Fellowship Hall.**

Gathering and light refreshments at 6 p.m., including the chance to meet two special guests. Program start at 6:30 p.m., adjournment at 8 p.m. All are welcome to attend.

**A MEMORIAL SERVICE IN HONOR** of the Rev. Stuart Brush will be held on May 16 at 11a.m. at the UCC in Southbury (283 Main St N. Southbury). His wife Laura asked that if there was anyone who wanted to say anything at the service that they contact her to let her know so that she can put their name(s) in the program. Her phone number is 203-405-1448.

## NOTICES

**SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS** are due TODAY, May 3<sup>rd</sup>. **THE NAMES OF ALL SCHOOL GRADUATES** are due THIS Friday, May 8<sup>th</sup> for recognition at our May 17<sup>th</sup> Christian Education worship. We will recognize WUMC graduates of eighth grade, high school, post-secondary training, college, or graduate programs; and present the WUMC Scholarship during worship on May 17<sup>th</sup> as we celebrate Education Sunday. Parents or graduates please let us know of your graduation via this online form <https://forms.gle/juJaSqieg2LhiQ35A> or by emailing the graduate's name, school, degree type, & program of study &/or major to [communications@woodburyumc.net](mailto:communications@woodburyumc.net). To ensure inclusion in the Graduate Recognition Bulletin insert, please let us know of grads no later than May 8.

The **scholarship form must be submitted TODAY**. Please also **email a photo of the graduating senior to** [communications@woodburyumc.net](mailto:communications@woodburyumc.net). We include the photo and biography portion of the scholarship form in our worship bulletin for Education Sunday.

For questions or assistance with either form, please contact Catherine Mason at 203-707-6571 or [catherine.mason02@outlook.com](mailto:catherine.mason02@outlook.com).

**Lantern Coffeehouse: Music That Inspires Hope** will be held **THIS FRIDAY, May 8, 6 - 9 p.m.** in Fellowship Hall. All ages are welcome to come share an evening of music, creativity, and community.

This open-mic gathering welcomes musicians, singers, and poets to share music and words that inspire hope and joy. This is no cost to participate, but a free will offering will be taken for those who wish to give. Musicians are encouraged to bring their own instruments. A keyboard, microphones and basic PA system will be provided. If you plan to take a turn at the mic, please help us by signing up in advance at <https://forms.gle/HCCQtehUvt2ZJZgP8>.

Event Coordinator Keri Lavish is excited to have the community share their talents. *"Whether you come to perform or simply listen - bring a friend, and come enjoy some coffee and treats with us. Let the music lift your spirit"*. To learn more, please contact Keri at [Keri.riefenhauser@gmail.com](mailto:Keri.riefenhauser@gmail.com) or 203-819-3208.

**VISITING MISSIONARY** Hannah Reasoner will be in the New York Annual Conference on May 18 - 24. Ms. Reasoner is from New York and is currently serving in Columbia. She will be sharing her story at the Watertown UMC on Tuesday, May 19th at 12:00 noon and at the Great Hill UMC is Seymour at 6:30 pm on the same day. All are welcome to attend either event, and will surely be blessed by hearing how God is working through Hannah in Columbia and the greater region.

**MIRACLE SUNDAY** is a denomination-wide initiative to support higher education for our United Methodist clergy in the Philippines, Africa and Europe. Today, 71% of U.S. UMC clergy have graduate degrees. Outside the U.S., it is 5%. This is not from lack of interest, but from lack of funding for advanced education. The 30,000 United Methodist congregations will receive a special offering on *Sunday, May 17<sup>th</sup>*. Please prayerfully consider making this "second mile" gift.

**PASTORAL TRANSITION NOTES:** Pastor Brian's last Sunday will be May 31<sup>st</sup>. After worship a light luncheon will be held from 11:45 a.m. - 1 p.m. to recognize him and Carol Galloway. Pastor Bill Florin begins July 1<sup>st</sup> with his first Sunday on July 5<sup>th</sup>. June worship and pastoral coverage will be offered by the Reverends Thomason, Walkup and Hibbard as scheduled. If you desire more information about the transition, contact any member of Staff-Parish Relations. Their contacts may be obtained through the church office (203.263.4775 or [wumc@woodburyumc.net](mailto:wumc@woodburyumc.net))

### THE WEEK AHEAD....

#### SUNDAY, MAY 3

9:45 a.m. Chancel Choir warm-up

10:30 a.m. Worship

11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time

11:45 a.m. Christian Education, Wesley Room

#### WEDNESDAY, MAY 6

**BELL CHOIR REHEARSAL**, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary

**CHANCEL CHOIR REHEARSAL**, 7:15 p.m., Sanctuary

#### THURSDAY, MAY 7

**OFFICE HOURS**, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., Church

**EVANGELISM COMMITTEE**, 6:30 p.m., Assembly Room

#### FRIDAY, MAY 8

**TRANSITION ACADEMY**, 9:15 - 10:45 a.m., Church Grounds

**LANTERN COFFEE HOUSE**, 6 - 9 p.m., Fellowship Hall

## NEXT SUNDAY, MOTHER'S DAY, MAY 10

Acts 17:22-31 and John 14:15-21 are the basis of a Mother's Day sermon entitled "*Companionship.*" Special remembrances will be given each woman in attendance. Our liturgist will be Wesley Shay.

## LOOKING AHEAD

**MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST**, *Saturday, June 6, 8 – 10 a.m.*, Naugatuck UMC, 208 Meadow Street. See flier for details.

## OUR PRAYER INTENTIONS

For Kelly Shay and family in the passing of her mother Maureen.

For a cessation of political violence.

For the violence at the Correspondent's Dinner on April 25th.

Prayers for peace in Iran and for civilians, as well as our troops, in harm's way.

Gabriele, widow of the Rev. Ed Carll, friends of Pastor Brian and Carol

Bud's cousin, Eric, who is awaiting cardiac surgery.

Young people in our church and community.

People in Michigan affected by tornadoes and flooding.

For a successful surgery and full recovery for Nancy Ossewaarde.

Healing for Eileen Bennett's brother-in-law after surgery and while receiving chemotherapy.

Healing for Eileen Bennett's friend Sonya after a car accident.

Healing for Mike Boisseau's father Norman after heart surgery.

Healing for Mike Boisseau's co-worker who is battling cancer and trying out a new treatment.

For Pastor William Florin, appointed as Woodbury's new pastor effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, and his family.

For Michelle, friend of Christine Shupenis, being treated for breast cancer.

For Ben, Ken Burke's friend, being treated for cancer.

For Eileen Bennett's brother-in-law, Skip, recovering from surgery.

For the continued violence around immigration enforcement.

Thanksgiving for Carol Quinby's eyesight improvement.

For Sarah Schivera’s former student, a single mother, with cancer.  
 Debbie Eisemann, friend of Sandy Purdy, recovering at the Lutheran Home from a fall  
 For Carolyn Shay, being treated for a medical condition.  
 For those facing life’s difficulties and medical challenges, especially Carol Hennessey, Eni Mucco (friend of Jane Hutter) and Jean Lilly (Meg Temple’s mother).

**ON-GOING MINISTRY**

**CURRENT WOODBURY FOOD BANK NEEDS** Chicken Rice Soup, applesauce, Cookie Mix, Canned Olives and Toilet Paper. Thank you in advance for your donations! *“I was hungry and you gave me food...”* Jesus, Matthew 25:3

Valley Cooperative Parish & A Few Good Men Ministries (AFGM) Invites You To  
**Christian Fellowship Breakfast and Car Rally**

*What's Under Your BROTHER  HOOD?*



Featuring Keynote Speaker  
**Thomas McMillan**  
*Author and Men's Ministry Leader*

Thomas always provides an inspirational message that is purposeful to men and delivered with an engaging style.  
 On Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> his theme will be:

**Brotherhood: The “Guardrail” that keeps you on the road and in your lane!**

*Learn more about Thomas McMillan at: <http://www.afewgoodfellowsministries.com/>*

**Saturday June 6<sup>th</sup> at 8-10AM**

**Naugatuck United Methodist Church**  
 208 Meadow Street  
 Naugatuck, CT 06770

**This is a free event, but donations will be accepted.**  
*(\$20 suggested)*

**Please sign up at:**



For more information (or to sign up) contact:  
**Bud Behlman (203-206-9276)**  
[AFGM.Ministry@gmail.com](mailto:AFGM.Ministry@gmail.com)

**SPECIAL FEATURE**



Do you have a car, truck, motorcycle, or tractor at least 20 years old?  
 Whether classic, restored, or “project” bring it to the event  
 and show it off to be entered into a *special drawing*.

**8:00** Vehicle Line up and Coffee    **8:30** Full Breakfast    **9:00** Keynote Speaker    **10:00** Door Prizes