

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



February 22, 2026 ~ 9:30AM

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1st Sunday in Lent

9:30AM

PRELUDE

Adagio from Concerto in D Minor, BWV 974

J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Pastor J. C. Austin

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT

Seek Ye First

S. Decesear

Duet – Tom Magette, David Merrill

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Bill Daniel

Leader: Jesus calls us to journey with him, following wherever he leads us.

People: Jesus calls us to journey into the wilderness of faith, trusting in God to sustain us.

Leader: Jesus calls each of us to go and take up our cross, to trust the One who bears it with us.

ALL: Let us worship God, who always walks with us, this and every day.

*HYMN 41

O Worship the King, All Glorious Above!

Verses – 1, 2, 5

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Sarah Wilson, Interim Pastoral Associate

Gracious and Loving God, Jesus braved the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry, facing its dangers and challenges. He was faithful and constant to your purposes, even when tempted to go astray. We confess that we struggle with the wilderness; we crave the comforts and companions that we have, and we are easily tempted to abandon your call in order to keep them close. Forgive us, and help us to know that we do not live by bread alone, but by the power of your love and grace that never fails.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

I Surrender All

J. Deventer

Solo – Tom Magette

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*GLORIA PATRI HYMN 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Kathryn "Kat" Green, Director of Children's Ministry

ANTHEM

Pie Jesu

G. F. Fauré

Solo – Marty Clayton

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Bill Daniel

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalms 32

SERMON

"Conversations on the Way: Standing at the Crossroads"

Pastor J. C. Austin

Matthew 4:1-11

***HYMN 166**

Lord, Who throughout These Forty Days

B. Farrell

Verses – 1, 2, 4

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Sarah Wilson

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (the Apostles' Creed)

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; the holy catholic Church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Congregational Vows

Do you promise to guide and nurture these new members as they seek to know and follow Christ? **We do.**

Will you listen to their voices, hopes and ideas for the future as we partner with them to help the church grow and change to the glory of God? **We will.**

Welcome and Promise

With joy and thanksgiving, we welcome you into Christ's church to share with us in his ministry, for we are all one in Christ.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND OFFERING

Elder Bill Daniel

A portion of today's offering supports our Mission ministry in the area of mentorship. This includes our donations to "Drink at the Well", which empowers women recovering from trauma.

To give: text **Woods** to 73256 or go to **"Give"** on **woodschurch.org** or use the **QR-Code** on the back of the bulletin.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley

Spiritual

Solo – David Thompson
Adult Choir

***DOXOLOGY HYMN 607**

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE CONGREGATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Sarah Wilson

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

***HYMN 65**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Pastor J. C. Austin

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Threefold Amen

Adult Choir

M. Haugen

***POSTLUDE**

Organ Toccata in D Minor

G. Bélair

*Please stand if you are able

Woods Church services are live streamed and available for public viewing via YouTube on our website (www.woodschurch.org). Current church activities and events are also available for viewing. Check us out!

A Stephen Minister will be available, to the side of the chancel by the Stephen Minister banner, at the end of the service to listen and to pray with you. 9:30AM Betsy Stewart

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church Staff

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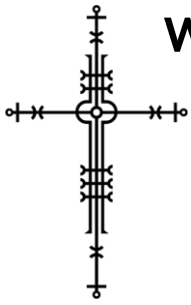
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WOODS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Welcome to Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

February 22, 2026

Our Vision: To be a voice of faith transforming lives and society through Jesus Christ

Our Mission: Welcoming all to grow and serve in Christ

The flowers today were arranged by Delia Edelmann and are given for the glory of God.

We are glad you are worshiping with us today.

Join us for bagels, coffee, and fellowship after the service in Fellowship Hall.

Christian Education/Sunday School Classes

Children's Sunday School Registration Forms are Located on the Welcome Desk

Time	Location		
8AM Men's Bible Study	Room 208/Virtual	9:30AM Middle & High School	Room 208/212
9:30AM Adult Bible Study	Conference/Virtual	10:30AM Children's Choir	Choir Room
Nursery O-2-year-olds	Room 110	11AM The Power of Community	Room 208/Virtual
2 & 3-year-olds	Room 115	Nursery O-2-year-olds	Room 110
4, year-olds – 5 th graders	Room 107	All Children	Room 107
1 st – 2 nd graders	Room 150		
3 rd – 5 th graders	Room 155		

Upcoming Events & Church News

Coffeehouse Concert - Saturday, February 28 at 7:30PM - Join the Praise Band and friends in the Fellowship Hall for a night of acoustic music, featuring popular songs from a range of artists from James Taylor to Taylor Swift. This is a free event. No tickets required.

The Prince of Egypt – Tickets | Performance Dates: March 13–15 and March 19–21, 2026, **Cost:** \$20.00 per ticket **woodstix.org**. Woods Church will be presenting **The Prince of Egypt**, a sweeping, epic musical featuring music and lyrics by Grammy and Academy Award winner **Stephen Schwartz**, with a book by **Philip LaZebnik**. This powerful story follows two brothers—one destined to rule as Pharaoh, the other called to rise up and free his true people. Both must confront a destiny that will change history forever.

Important Notes: 1. Due to the inability to fully blackout all windows in the performance area, **matinee performances will have ambient sunlight** entering the space. 2. **Content Advisory** – This production includes strobe lighting effects, loud noises, and scenes depicting fighting and stage combat. 3. **Disclaimer** – This show depicts intense situation and thematic elements adapted from the book of Exodus. While children are welcome to attend, parental guidance is suggested.

Adult Ed. "Offering Passed Our Limitations: The Power of Community." *I'll Push You* is the story of two friends who embark on a spiritual journey across the Camino de Santiago. What makes their pilgrimage remarkable is that one friend pushes the other who is confined to a wheelchair. Their book provides insights into friendship and community while exploring spiritual truths that remind us to embrace life even when we experience limitations. Like the themes in the book, the emphasis during Lent is self-reflection, simplicity and spiritual discipline. Join us **Sunday at 11AM in room 208 February 22 - March 22** as we explore spiritual disciplines that push past our limitations and draw us closer to God. Meeting ID: 892 7128 0049 | Passcode: 269356.

Opportunities to serve during Lent: The Missions Ministry is encouraging two possibilities to serve our local and international communities.

- **Serving People Across Neighborhoods (SPAN):** Continue to fight hunger during Lent by stopping by the Missions Table behind the Welcome Desk on Sundays from 2/22/26-3/22/26 and pick up a blue SPAN bag with an attached list of needed items. Fill and return your blue SPAN bag on or any time before 3/22/26. The attached list also has a QR-code to order from Amazon and ship directly to SPAN. Thank you for your continued support of SPAN!
- **Cuba UPDATE:** Please pray deeply for the people of Cuba during this Lenten season. Unfortunately, the planned Missions Trip to Cuba has been canceled due to a severe fuel crisis that has led to the suspension of international flights. As a result, Cuba will no longer be receiving the much-needed supplies that were to be delivered during this trip.

Save the Date! Woods Adult Mission Trip, April 20 – 25, 2026. We will travel to Richmond, VA and work with the Richmond Metropolitan Habitat for Humanity affiliate. We are looking for 10+ volunteers for this mission trip. For more information go to news and upcoming events at woodschurch.org and click on the flyer. Contact Tom Lerario (txlerario@gmail.com) or Scott Rundle (srundle69@gmail.com) with questions and/or to sign up.

Immersive Spiritual Experience on Sundays in Lent, March 1 – 29, 2026 – Join us for an intergenerational spiritual formation which incorporates contemplative walking, experiential lessons and spiritual practices to synchronize body and mind, enabling self-reflection which can draw us closer to God. The journey begins in Founders Room at 3:30PM on March 1.

Art & the Bible - I Am Who I Am: God in Scripture and the Arts, July 6-10 9-4PM; K-5th grade. Children will participate in an innovative approach to Bible Study to explore Biblical images and names of God through the Bible paired with their creativity and artistic expression. An Art Reception will take place Friday at 2:30PM sharing the children's work with their friends and family. The week-long day camp will include two snacks; participants will bring their own lunch. Water will be provided. **Cost is \$425/child.** Scholarships are available. Contact Children's Ministry children@woodschurch.org if you have questions. Registration is limited.



Vacation Bible Study Day Camp - Be Strong and Courageous Joshua 1:9, July 13-17, VBS DAY CAMP 9-4PM K-5th grade. Children will learn how God helps us to be strong and courageous. How does God encourage us? How is God with us? We will explore the sights, sounds, feels, and joys of Joshua 1:9 "Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." What does this look like in our community, in our times? The week-long day camp will include two snacks; participants will bring their own lunch. Water will be provided. **Cost is \$425/child.** Scholarships are available. Contact Children's Ministry children@woodschurch.org if you have questions. The program was developed by Kat Green, Director of Children's Ministry at Woods Church. Registration is limited.

VBS Express 4-6PM - 2yr - 5th grade. All aboard to travel through Bible Stories with songs, movement, art, and fun. You've got wings! **Cost is \$50/child with \$100 family max.** VBS Day Camp registration includes participation in VBS Express. No meal will be served, snack included.

Looking ahead...mark your calendar:

March 13-15 & March 19-21, 2026 – The Prince of Egypt Musical

March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday

April 5, 2026 – Easter Sunday

May 23, 2026 – A Night on Broadway

June 6, 2026 – Spring Concert

New Members

Jessica Bohonek

Jessica was raised in Severna Park and grew up going to Woods. She was active in the choir, youth group and participated in WoodsWork. Currently, she and her husband live in Churchton, Maryland. Jessica is a Senior Sales Consultant for the Sub-Zero Group. She enjoys many hobbies including cooking, reading and exercising. Welcome Jessica!

Emily Bonner

Emily was born in Stroudsburg, Pennsylvania and now lives in Severna Park. She and her husband, Drew, have two children. Madison is four years old and Savannah is two years old. Emily is an ER nurse at the Anne Arundel Medical Center. Motherhood is her main interest, but she also likes reading, skiing, and exercising her dogs. Emily also is trained in Wellness Education. Emily found Woods through her neighbor, Bill Brooks. Welcome Emily!

Mary Anne Barcellona Collins and Michael Collins

Mary Anne and Michael live in Arnold, Maryland. Michael is originally from New York, New York and Mary Anne is from Chicago, Illinois. However, Michael spent most of his life in Europe. They both enjoy singing in our Woods' choir. They have been involved in musical careers both teaching and performing. Mary Ann has also worked as a Classical/Opera Singer. Michael has taught in both BCPS and AACPS. In their spare time, Michael loves sports and reading besides his great interest in music. Mary Anne loves the performing arts, hiking and gardening. Michael has a broad view of Christianity and Mary Anne wants to best serve Christ in meaningful ways during these turbulent times. Welcome Mary Anne and Michael!

Bonnie McCann and Steve Eastman

Although Bonnie was born in Juneau, Alaska, she has spent most of her life in Maryland, West Virginia and Pennsylvania. She and Steve now live in Pasadena. Bonnie has worked in Community Engagement and Public Relations. Steve is now retired but prior to that he was an Electrical Engineer for the DoD. Outdoor activities are favorites of both, including boating and kayaking. Steve loves to bicycle and Bonnie loves music and community service. Steve found Woods to be a good home for both he and Bonnie. In addition, Rev. Tom Sweet from Market Square Presbyterian Church in Harrisburg recommended Woods Church when Bonnie was still in Pennsylvania. Welcome Bonnie and Steve!

Natalie Green

Natalie was born in Florida, however her family moved to Maryland when she was ten. Natalie has a strong faith background as her dad and many others in her family were Baptist ministers. Growing up, she and her family were at church many times a week. A special memory is being baptized by her dad on Easter Sunday. Natalie is an Elementary School Music teacher and she loves music, and spending time with her children. She also enjoys gardening, learning about language and different cultures. Natalie was looking for a church that shows love and care to all, has a traditional service, robust children's programs and excellent music. She found Woods! Welcome Natalie!

Randy Habeck

Randy moved to Severna Park in 1974 and joined Woods with wife Anne. Three children came along and attended Sunday school at Woods. Randy and Family moved to Annapolis and were members of First Presbyterian church. Anne and Randy moved to South Carolina returning in 2021. Randy served as Head of the Trustees at First Presbyterian and is hoping to help with the finance work at Woods. Randy, now back at Woods, is looking forward to being involved in mission service as well. Wood's strong local mission and family centered congregation is an important part of the attraction to becoming a Woods member. Welcome Randy!

Terry and Charles Mello

Terry and Charles live in Severna Park. Charles is originally from Massachusetts and Terry grew up in Annapolis. They have three daughters: Anna, Katherine, and Julia who enjoy participating in Wood's youth group activities

and confirmation class, but they love spending time together as a family. Charles works in IT sales and volunteers with the Green Hornets as a coach and as a Blue and Gold Officer with the Naval Academy. Terry is involved in consulting work; and they both spend their free time cheering for their kids on the athletic field. They learned about Woods from community members who shared their interests in Woods. Welcome Terry and Charles!

Chris Williams

Chris lives in Glen Burnie with his wife, Cori, their son Calvin, and their twin girls, Charlotte and Cassidy. After years of living out West across the states of Utah, California, and Colorado, their family moved to the East Coast in 2023 to be close to his parents in North Carolina, where Chris was born. Chris's family chose to settle in Maryland because of the quality of disability services here, services which meet Cassidy's support needs as a non-speaking autistic person. They are thrilled Cassidy is enrolled in a program here where she is learning to communicate by spelling through letter boards. Chris's traditional occupation is managing equity compensation plans for employees of corporations, Chris also works for a local nonprofit which serves the rights and protections of people with communication disabilities. He loves being a dad and a husband, playing video games, going for walks with his dog and singing in the Woods Choir. He has been attending Woods since December and has been attending Wednesday Bible Study and Men's Bible Study and the Woodsmen group that meets on Saturdays. Welcome Chris!