

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



March 15, 2026 ~ 9:30AM

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4th Sunday of Lent

9:30AM

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance
Piano – Jung-hoon Park

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Pastor J. C. Austin

PASSING OF THE PEACE

SOLO INTROIT

The Lord Is My Shepherd
Solo – David Merrill

D. Merrill

CALL TO WORSHIP (WSB 35)

Elder Violet Thompson

Leader: In Christ, the God of heaven has made his home on earth.

People: Christ dwells among us and is one with us.

Leader: Highest of all creation, he lives among the least.

People: He journeys with the rejected and welcomes the weary.

Leader: Come now, all who thirst,

People: and drink the water of life.

Leader: Come now, all who hunger,

People: and be filled with good things.

Leader: Come now, all who seek,

People: and be warmed by the fire of love.

*HYMN 649

Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound
Verses – 1, 2, 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (WSB 15)

Pastor J. C. Austin

Gracious God, our sins are too heavy to carry, too real to hide, and too deep to undo. Forgive what our lips tremble to name, what our hearts can no longer bear, and what has become for us a consuming fire of judgement. Set us free from a past that we cannot change; open to us a future in which we can be changed; and grant us grace to grow more and more in your likeness and image; through Jesus Christ, the light of the world. Amen.

MUSICAL REFLECTION

Sheep May Safely Graze, BWV208

Arr. Jung-hoon Park

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 – PIANO SOLO

Sinfonia to Cantata
(We Give Thanks to Thee, God) BWV 29

J. S. Bach
Arr. Jung-hoon Park

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Violet Thompson

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Samuel 16:1-13

SERMON**"Solace"** Sarah Wilson, Interim Pastoral Associate
Psalm 23***HYMN 450*****Be Thou My Vision******AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from The Scots Confession, 1560)

Pastor J. C. Austin

We confess and acknowledge one God alone, to whom alone we must cleave, whom alone we must serve, whom only we must worship, and in whom alone we put our trust. Who is eternal, infinite, immeasurable, incomprehensible, omnipotent, invisible; one in substance and yet distinct in three persons, the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. By whom we confess and believe all things in heaven and earth, visible and invisible, to have been created, to be retained in their being, and to be ruled and guided by God's inscrutable providence for such end as God's eternal wisdom, goodness, and justice have appointed, and to the manifestation of God's own glory.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND OFFERING

Elder Violet Thompson

A portion of today's offering supports our Property ministry that is tasked with maintaining and improving the entire Woods church facility and campus. This ministry also oversees our gardens with native plantings, and works to decrease our energy usage and carbon footprint.

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***God So Loved the World***
Adult Choir

J. Stainer

***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

Pastor J. C. Austin

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 853**We Are Marching in the Light of God***1st Time – Choir
2nd Time - Congregation***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Sarah Wilson

CHORAL BENEDICTION**Threefold Amen***
Adult Choir

M. Haugen

POSTLUDE**Chaconne for Organ in E Minor, BWV 160***

Buxtehude

*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 | 11AM Bill Hadley

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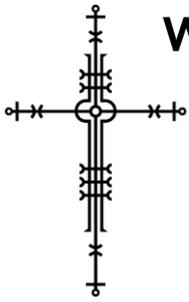
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WOODS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Telephone: 410.647.2550 · E-mail: info@woodschurch.org · Website: www.woodschurch.org



Welcome to Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

March 15, 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 Sally Sachse and are given for the glory of God and
~In memory of Charlie Schauble, from his loving family

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 Nursery O-2-year-olds 2 & 3-year-olds 4, year-olds – 5 th graders 1 st – 2 nd graders 3 rd – 5 th graders	Conference/Virtual Room 110 Room 115 Room 107 Room 150 Room 155	11AM The Power of Community Nursery O-2-year-olds All Children 3:30PM H.S. Bible Study	Room 208/Virtual Room 110 Room 107 Room 212

Upcoming Events & Church News

Congregational Meeting – On Sunday, March 22 following the 9:30AM service. The meeting is for the purpose of electing new church officers.

The Prince of Egypt – Tickets | Performance Dates: 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.

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. 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.

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**.

Have your kids join us for a drop-in **"Pop Up Bible Study" from 9AM- 2PM on March 27** when AACPS are closed for Teacher In-Service. K-5th grade are invited to register. Mixed age group classes of led by Kat Green, Director of Woods Children's Ministry. Morning snack and Lunch Provided. Questions? Contact Lindsey Miller, lmiller@woodschurch.org.

There will be a Service of Wholeness on Wednesday, March 25, at 6:15PM in the Sanctuary. A service of prayer, laying on of hands and anointing by the pastors and elders for those experiencing emotional or physical concerns. If you would like to attend, please contact Maureen Adams at 410.647.2550 or email her at madams@woodschurch.org

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, 55 blue bags have been returned so far, this Lent season. Thank you for your continued support of SPAN!

Palm Sunday, March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday is a day of drama and paradox, of a crowd gathering to shout “Hosanna” (Hebrew for “Save us”), wanting to crown Jesus as king, but who later will call for this same king to be crucified outside the city walls. The triumphal entry into Jerusalem was celebrated with waving palm branches as Jesus entered humbly on a donkey.

Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026 – Informal Gathering at 6PM service begins at 6:30PM in Fellowship Hall. This service will be centered around sharing a real meal together, interwoven with a contemplative-style worship in Scripture, music, prayer, and reflection, as well as sharing the sacrament of Communion.

Good Friday, April 3, 2026, service at 7:30PM. The Good Friday service moves the story of the last days of Jesus' earthly life forward from the early morning hours when Jesus was condemned to be crucified to the dark early evening hours when Jesus died on the cross and was laid in a borrowed tomb. The last words Jesus spoke from the cross will be remembered.

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.

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. 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. Registration is limited.

VBS Express 4-6PM, July 13-17 - 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 15 & March 19-21, 2026 – The Prince of Egypt Musical

March 29, 2026 – Palm Sunday

April 2, 2026 – Dinner Church and Communion

April 3, 2026 – Good Friday

April 5, 2026 – Easter Sunday

May 23, 2026 – A Night on Broadway

June 6, 2026 – Spring Concert