

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



August 9, 2026 ~ 9:30 AM

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11th Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

Aria and Fughetta
from Komm, Jesu, Komm, BWV229

J. S. Bach

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY Sarah Wilson, Interim Pastoral Associate

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 67)

Elder Violet Thompson

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us and make God's face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth.

People: Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Leader: The earth has yielded its increase; God has blessed us.

People: May God continue to bless us; let all the ends of the earth revere our God.

***PRAISE SONG**

Sing Sing Sing

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (from Romans 11, Isaiah 56)

Sarah Wilson

Merciful God, your world cries out. The fruits of our disobedience are harming your creation. You tasked us to be good stewards of your creation and we have fallen short. You challenged us to love God and love our neighbor, and we have failed to show that love. You promise to bring all people joyfully together in a house of prayer on your holy mountain. We find ways to stay apart. Bring us together, O Lord. Empower us with a spirit of love for you and love for all our neighbors. Help us live lives of service to you so that all your children will know your peace. Forgive us when we fall short, Lord. Continue to move within and among us, transforming your world, leading us to your promised kingdom. In Jesus' name, Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

TIME WITH CHILDREN

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

***PRAISE SONG**

Open the Eyes of My Heart

P. Baloché

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Violet Thompson

SCRIPTURE READING

Psalm 133

SERMON

"Dogged Persistence"
Matthew 15:21-28

Sarah Wilson

***HYMN 317**

In Christ There is No East or West

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (from The Confession of 1967, inclusive language ed.) Elder Violet Thompson

God's sovereign love is a mystery beyond the reach of the human mind. Human thought ascribes to God superlatives of power, wisdom, and goodness. But God reveals divine love in Jesus Christ by showing power in the form of a servant, wisdom in the folly of the cross, and goodness in receiving sinful men and women. The power of God's love in Christ to transform the world discloses that the Redeemer is the Lord and Creator who made all things to serve the purpose of God's love. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND OFFERING

Elder Violet Thompson

A portion of today's offering supports our Outreach and Service committee in the area of children and family life. This includes our donations to the "Start the Adventure in Reading" (STAIR) second-grade tutoring program, and the Parenting for a Different World support network.

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

Abide With Me

M. Maher, D. Crowder,
J. Ingram, M. Redman

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.

***SONG**

Be Glorified

L. Giglio, C. Tomlin,
J. Reeves

***CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Sarah Wilson

***POSTLUDE**

Postlude in C

E. Thayer

*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. 9:30 AM Gale Gillespie

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church Staff

The Reverend**J.C. Austin**

Lead Pastor

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The Rev. Corinne Baker

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Prayer Requests



Pledge Card

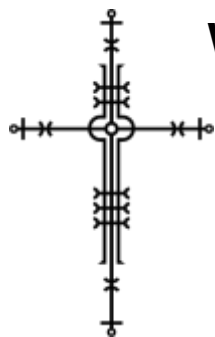


Giving

WOODS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Welcome to Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

August 9, 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

Flowers today were arranged by Sue Hannahs and are given for the glory of God.

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
9:30 AM Nursery 0-3-year-olds 4, year-olds – 5 th graders	Room 115 Room 150

Upcoming Events & Church News

Coed Softball! Today's game is at **2PM**, against College Parkway Baptist, on **Elvaton #1**. Interested? Contact Andrew Wiley at wileyas1@gmail.com or call 443.867.8803

Family Summer Choir - Are you around over the summer and interested in singing, then come on by and sing with us! The Family Summer Choir sings on: **August 16 and September 6**. We will meet at 8:45AM in the Sanctuary Choir Loft and learn the piece that morning. Not to worry all the tunes are recognizable, and a quick learn! If you have any questions, please email David at dmerrill@woodschurch.org. Looking forward to hearing you sing!

Woods Youth FroYo meet-ups! All throughout August, any youth grades 6th-12th are invited to join us at The Froyo House on Tuesdays at 5PM. This will be our fun way of keeping in touch until Youth Group starts back up. Just tell them you're with Woods and you'll get 15% off! See you there!

Save the Date – August 30, 11AM – Learning Opportunity with our own Kat Green – **"Neurodiversity and Inclusivity in the Local Church"** A more just, faithful, and compassionate church and world will seek to include typical and atypical neurodiverse folks. As understanding evolves in the educational and social systems of our world, the church must evolve and transform the ways diversity is welcomed, embraced, and included in the life of the church and the mission of church. How will we nurture communities of faith and equip leadership in ways that are accessible and meaningful for post global pandemic traumatized demographic?

On Sunday, September 20 at 2PM in the Sanctuary, join Junghoon Park for his piano recital - Americana 250: A Pianorama! Jung will play works by Bernstein, Beach, Horowitz, Gershwin and more! This concert is **free** and no ticket is required. A love offering will go to support the Woods music program. For questions please email David Merrill at dmerrill@woodschurch.org

Woman's Priscilla Circle Bible Study – Our Bible study starting in September 2026, is based on **Paul's First Letter to the Corinthians**. **"Love is patient; Love is kind"** ... Stop by the table in Fellowship Hall and pick-up

a study guide based on Paul's Letters. The Priscilla Circle **meets once a month on the 2nd Tuesday at 10:15AM in room 212**. The cost of the book is \$14.00 and our first study lesson will be **September 15**. Books will be available on Sundays, August 9, 16, 30. We hope to have you join us this year. Contact Bev Haines 410.511.8412.

Hope for All is in need of donations! We're currently collecting the following items:

Liquid & dry measuring cups	Measuring spoons
Cooking tongs	Vegetable peelers
Whisks	Pizza cutters
Meat forks	Pasta servers/grabbers
Children's socks and underwear (new)	Toasters
Mops	Brooms

Every donation, big or small, makes a difference and helps support those in need in our community. Thank you for your generosity and for helping Hope for All serve others!

Woods Children's Ministry Pop-Up Days are now open for registration. Join us on Monday, September 21, and October 26, from 9AM to 4PM for children in grades K-5. Space is limited, so please email Lindsey Miller, Coordinator for Children and Youth, lmiller@woodschurch.org to secure a spot.

Cuba is currently experiencing chronic energy, food and fuel shortages with **rolling blackouts** for anywhere between a few hours to **up to 70 hours**. The country **imports 66% of its total energy supply**, leaving limited domestic sources and infrastructure to support over **10 million people**. Our partner church in Cuba, **Sancti Spiritus, is experiencing all these shortages**: electricity blackouts, food, medicines and fuel. Woods Church is participating with two other churches - Graceway in Florida and First Presbyterian in Springfield, Illinois, in sending supplies of medicines and food. Please continue to pray for this faithful congregation and the whole country of Cuba. If you would like to support this Outreach and Service partner please contact Marty Clayton, martyclayton1973@gmail.com or Delia Edelmänn, dedelmann@gmail.com. Woods is planning a trip to Sancti Spiritus **January 4 - January 11, 2027**.

Malawi is currently experiencing overwhelming hardship amongst a regional drought, public budget crisis, rampant inflation, supply shortages, and extreme weather. Through our 25 years of partnership, Woods has supported thousands of orphaned children, youth and adults with Ministry of Hope in their mission to provide Christ-centered support to six rural communities across Central Malawi. Collaboration between U.S. and local stakeholders allows the NGO to provide meals and education to orphans, fund mobile medical clinics, provide for infants and nannies at the crisis nursery, and facilitate spiritual development. You can donate through the Ministry of Hope website: <https://www.ministryofhope.org/ways-to-help>

Kick-Off Sunday! Join us on **Sunday, September 13** as we celebrate the start of a new ministry season with a day of worship, fellowship, and fun!

🕒 **Family Picnic | 11AM–1PM**

🍔 Enjoy lunch together

🎲 Activities and games for all ages

☐ Bring a lawn chair and spend the afternoon with your Woods Church family!

There's something for everyone—kids, adults, and kids-at-heart! We can't wait to celebrate with you. **Please Note:** This will be our **last blended worship service of the summer**. Beginning **Sunday, September 20**, we will return to our regular schedule of **two worship services**. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors—we'll see you at Woods Church!