

# Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



August 31, 2025 ~ 9:30AM

August 31, 2025

12<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM

**PRELUDE**

***Amazing Grace***

Organ – Betsy Lord

Arr. G. Shearing

**WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY**

Pastor J. C. Austin

**PASSING OF THE PEACE**

**INTROIT**

***Open the Eyes of My Heart***

Solo – David Merrill

P. Baloché

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Elder Ellen Oakes

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord!

**People: Let us shout with joy to the rock of our salvation!**

Leader: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving!

**People: Come, let us worship God!**

**\*HYMN 15**

***All Creatures of Our God and King***

Verses 1, 2, 3, 4

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Pastor Nancy Lincoln Reynolds

**Gracious and Loving God, it is so easy for us to fall into the trap of scarcity. We focus our attention on what we do not have; we strive for what others have that we want, and we overlook those who do not have enough. Forgive us, and help us to recognize the abundance of grace that you give to us. Give us the faith to share what we have with others, and to trust in your never-failing grace and love.**

**MUSICAL MEDITATION**

***We Fall Down***

Solo – Mary Jo Greenley

C. Tomlin

**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

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

Pastor J.C. Austin

Pastor Nancy Lincoln Reynolds

Elder Tom Lerario

**Laurence Arnold Thurman Ward**

Son of Gregory Ward and Chelsea Hudson

**\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (Apostles' Creed)

Pastor J. C. Austin

**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.**

**To the Congregation:**

Do you, as members of the church of Jesus Christ, promise to teach, guide, and nurture Laurence in his journey of faith as a follower of Jesus Christ? **We do.**

Will you be examples for Laurence by word and deed, with love and prayer, encouraging him to know and follow Christ and to be a faithful member of this church? **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 FOR ILLUMINATION**

Elder Ellen Oakes

**SCRIPTURE READING**

Psalms 112:1-10

**SERMON**

***"Will This Be On the Test?"***  
Luke 12:13-21

Pastor J. C. Austin

**\*HYMN 712**

***As Those of Old Their Firstfruits Brought***

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND OFFERING**

Elder Ellen Oakes

A portion of today's offering supports our Mission ministry in the area of housing assistance. This includes our donations to "HOPE for All," which provides necessities to those moving out of homelessness, to "Habitat for Humanity of the Chesapeake," and "Light House, Inc." assistance to the housing-insecure population.

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**

***Down By the Riverside***  
Solo – Sarah Thompson  
Family Summer Choir

M. McDonald

**\*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 Nancy Lincoln Reynolds

**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 645**

***Sing Praise to God Who Reigns Above***  
Verses – 1, 2, 4

**\*CHARGE AND BLESSING**

Pastor J.C. Austin

**\*CHORAL BENEDICTION**

**Threefold Amen**  
Family Summer Choir

M. Haugen

**\*POSTLUDE**

**Prelude in Classic Style**  
Organ – Betsy Lord

G. Young

\*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](http://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 Lauren Lohff

## Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church Staff

**The Reverend  
J.C. Austin**

Lead Pastor  
[jaustin@woodschurch.org](mailto:jaustin@woodschurch.org)

**The Reverend  
Nancy Lincoln Reynolds**

Associate Pastor  
[nreynolds@woodschurch.org](mailto:nreynolds@woodschurch.org)

**Maureen Adams**

Administrative Assistant  
for Pastoral Care  
[madams@woodschurch.org](mailto:madams@woodschurch.org)

**Roxann Bartone**

Director of Woods Child Development Center  
[rbartone@woodscdc.org](mailto:rbartone@woodscdc.org)

**Alec Green**

Sound Engineer  
[agreen@woodschurch.org](mailto:agreen@woodschurch.org)

**Kat Green**

Director of Children's Ministry  
[kgreen@woodschurch.org](mailto:kgreen@woodschurch.org)

**Jason Jackson**

Director of Operations  
[jjackson@woodschurch.org](mailto:jjackson@woodschurch.org)

**Cornell Johnson**

Custodian

**Jerome Keemer**

Custodian

**Sarah Kent**

Director of Contemporary Music  
[skent@woodschurch.org](mailto:skent@woodschurch.org)

**David Merrill**

Director of Music and Arts  
[dmerrill@woodschurch.org](mailto:dmerrill@woodschurch.org)

**Lindsey Miller**

Coordinator for Children and Youth  
[lmiller@woodschurch.org](mailto:lmiller@woodschurch.org)

**Jeffery Pack**

Custodian

**Oliver Page**

Director of Youth  
[opage@woodschurch.org](mailto:opage@woodschurch.org)

**Olivia Rivers**

Administrative Assistant  
for Property  
[orivers@woodschurch.org](mailto:orivers@woodschurch.org)

**Nancy Sullivan**

Coordinator Woods Counseling and Care Center  
[nancy.sullivan@woodsgccc.org](mailto:nancy.sullivan@woodsgccc.org)

**Pam Ward**

Office Administrator  
[pward@woodschurch.org](mailto:pward@woodschurch.org)

**Eric Willner**

Coordinator for Worship Technology  
[ewillner@woodschurch.org](mailto:ewillner@woodschurch.org)

**Sarah Wilson**

Interim Coordinator for Adult Education, Small Groups, & Pastoral Support  
[swilson@woodschurch.org](mailto:swilson@woodschurch.org)

**Parish Associate**

The Rev. Corinne Baker

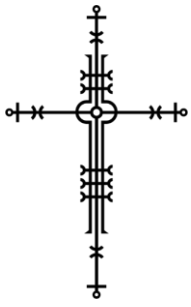


## WOODS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

611 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park, Maryland 21146

Telephone: 410.647.2550 · E-mail: [info@woodschurch.org](mailto:info@woodschurch.org) · Website: [www.woodschurch.org](http://www.woodschurch.org)





# Welcome to Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

**August 31, 2025**

**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.

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
<b>8AM</b> Men's Bible Study Women's Bible Study (1 <sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month only)	Room 208/Virtual Conference/Virtual
<b>9:30AM</b> Nursery 0-2-year-olds 2 & 3-year-olds All Ages	Room 110 Room 115 Room 155

## **Upcoming Events & Church News**

**"WoodsWords" continues** as we head into the weeks preceding Fall we begin to close out the mission of Stewardship that builds our budget foundation for the year. As you recall, our stewardship theme comes from Isaiah's encouragement to "perceive and believe" the new things God is doing (Isaiah 43:19). WoodsWords will take the form of a booklet that will include YOUR perceptions and experiences of God's "things" (old and new) so that others can be made aware of what you perceive as God springs forth. You will receive a copy of this collection of perceptions booklet when you contribute from \$1.00 to \$100,000! You may send your stories and perceptions to us by email at [WoodsWords@woodschurch.org](mailto:WoodsWords@woodschurch.org) or write them down and place them at the Information Booth or front desk. We know this is a large amount that we anticipate collecting...but so is the service, faithfulness and care that Woods Church provides to this congregation and to the community. You may make your WoodsWords pledge by placing your WoodsWords pledge card in the offering plate on Sundays or leaving it at the office front desk, or online at <https://onrealm.org/woodschurch/-/form/pledge/woodswords>.

**Kick-Off Sunday is Almost Here!** Join us on **Sunday, September 7** for a day of fun, fellowship, and celebration!  
**Ministry Mall** – Visit Fellowship Hall before or after Worship to explore opportunities to connect and serve.  
**Family Picnic** – From **11AM–1PM**, enjoy lunch and activities for all ages. **Fun for Kids (and kids-at-heart!)** – Pony rides and a petting zoo! Bring a lawn chair and join us as we kick off the new season together at Woods Church!

**Sign-ups for our 2025-2026 Confirmation class are open!** Our 8th grade confirmation class meets every **Sunday from 2-3PM**, starting September 14 and going through May. This class is designed for **8th Graders** to explore their relationship with God, recommit themselves to their walk with Christ, and take the step to join the church. In this class, you'll learn more about your faith, what it means to be the Church, and how to share your faith with others! Sign up on our website!

Woods is also offering a **New High School Confirmation Crash-Course** for any High School students interested in being confirmed and joining the church, but might be a bit old for our normal 8th grade class. This is also a great option for students who have been confirmed before, but are interested in taking a refresher class with Woods. This class will meet on **Sunday afternoons from 3:30-4:30PM, starting on September 14 and will only last one semester**. Sign up on our website!

**Interested in learning more about Woods Church?** Join us for our next Inquirers Class on **Sunday, September 14, at 10:45AM** in the Office Conference Room.

**Kick-off Sunday!** 2025 Holiday Bazaar Planning, **September 7**. It's never too early to start planning for the **Woods Holiday Bazaar!** Bring new or gently used board games and puzzles to Kick-off Sunday and get up to 2 free raffle tickets for a chance to win the Holiday Bazaar Gift Basket valued at over \$200! The Woods Holiday Bazaar table will also distribute cards for specific items to donate to the Sweet Shop for candy making. And... new this year! We will offer children's clothing sizes infant to youth 10. Please save your kids' outgrown clothing and bring them to the church beginning Sunday, September 7. There will be a large rolling blue bin in the lobby for drop-offs. **Save the Date** for the 2025 Holiday Bazaar on **Saturday, November 22** and plan to shop for the holidays!

**Adult Education is offering a new study Sundays at 11AM, Sept. 14 – Oct. 19**, featuring "Matthew: the Gospel of Promised Blessing" written by Prof. M. Skinner. Matthew portrays Jesus and his message as full of tender compassion and urgent warning. This six-part exploration of an enigmatic Gospel takes us into the themes, topics, and tensions at the heart of Matthew's story about the life and work of Jesus. Meeting in the Office Conference Room and on Zoom Meeting ID: 893 4801 6084 | Passcode: 031891. Books will be in the office.

**Cuba Mission Trip!** Please consider being part of a Woods trip to our partner church in Sancti Spiritus, Cuba. The dates are March 10 – 17, 2026 and approximate cost is \$1,800. Marty Clayton will be at the Missions table on Kick-off Sunday to answer any questions.

### **Our Music Ministry Programs are starting back up! Come Join Us!**

**Children's Choir - Grades 1 - 5 - Begins Sunday September 14.** Our Children's Choir is about to start! Wahoo! Any child in 1st – 5th grade is welcome to come sing! Our first rehearsal will be **Sunday, September 14, from 10:30 – 11AM** in the choir room. And yes, we have CANDY! For more information please email David Merrill at [dmerrill@woodschurch.org](mailto:dmerrill@woodschurch.org).

**SEEK Band - Grades 6 - 12 - Begins Sunday September 14.** Do you play an instrument, enjoy singing, or just love music... then come on out! Any Youth 6th grade – 12th grade can join our SEEK Band. The Seek band offers music for worship regularly, with many wonderful solo and musical opportunities. Our first rehearsal is Sunday, **September 14 from 12:15 – 1PM** in the choir room. For more information please email David Merrill at [dmerrill@woodschurch.org](mailto:dmerrill@woodschurch.org).

**Adult Choir - Begins Thursday August 28!** Come join us as we sing and lead worship through all styles of music. All are welcome to come and sing! We rehearse **Thursday evenings at 7PM** in the choir room. We look forward to having you with us! For more information please email David Merrill at [dmerrill@woodschurch.org](mailto:dmerrill@woodschurch.org).

**Praise Band** - Do you play an instrument, sing, or just love music? Then come on out and join our Praise Band! Our Praise Band leads worship at the **11AM** service, with rehearsals on Thursday Night's at 7PM. Please reach out to Sarah Kent with any questions [skent@woodschurch.org](mailto:skent@woodschurch.org).

**Open Dance Classes - Sundays 2 - 3:15PM, Fellowship Hall** - In order to bring the community together in a fun and movement-based way, join our Worship Ministry for a series of dance classes this fall! Professional teachers are set to offer a variety of dance styles including jazz, musical theater, contemporary, tap, yoga, and more! Open to anyone ages 12 and over in & outside the Woods community. All experience levels are welcome though classes will be taught at an intermediate level with options for beginners & advanced students. Our first class will be on Sunday, **September 21 from 2 - 3:15pm** in the Fellowship Hall. For more information please email Alyssa Barlis at [alyssabarlis@gmail.com](mailto:alyssabarlis@gmail.com).

**Free Watercolor Workshop Saturday, September 20** – Looking for a meaningful way to relax, create, and connect with your inner artist? Join our Watercolor Workshop and dive into a colorful world of self-expression; no experience needed! The workshop will be held in the Fellowship Hall from **10AM – 12PM**. Register at [www.woodschurch.org](http://www.woodschurch.org) or use the QR-code.

