

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



October 18, 2026 ~ 9:30 AM

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21st Sunday after Pentecost

9:30 AM

PRELUDE

Come, Thou Almighty King

M. Hayes

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Pastor J. C. Austin

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT

I Will Give My Heart to the Lord
Children's Choir

M. Patterson

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Patt Haun

Leader: O sing to the Lord a new song;

People: sing to the Lord, all the earth!

Leader: sing to the Lord, and bless God's holy name;

People: tell of God's salvation every day!

*HYMN 365

God Reigns! Let Earth Rejoice

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Pastor Ashley Brown

Holy God, you have given us your Spirit to lead us into truth, yet we confess that we are quick to believe what is loud and attractive over what is just and true. We have turned to voices that flatter our fears, indulge our biases, and promise us security apart from you. Forgive us when we have chosen the easy answer over the faithful one, when we have known the truth of Jesus Christ come in the flesh and have not let it change how we treat our neighbors. Make us people who listen carefully, who weigh every word against the Word made flesh, and who know that the test of every spirit is your love. Through Christ we pray.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Lord Have Mercy
Adult Choir

S. Lim

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

Somebody's Knocking at Your Door
Solo – Mary Anne Barcellona Collins
Adult Choir

African Spiritual

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Patt Haun

SCRIPTURE READING

1 Kings 3:5-15

SERMON

"Being Human in an AI Age: Unconventional Wisdom"
1 John 4:1-6

Pastor J. C. Austin

*HYMN 459

O Word of God Incarnate

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (the Apostles' Creed)

Pastor Ashley Brown

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.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND OFFERING

Elder Patt Haun

A portion of today's offering supports our Welcome committee and Board of Deacons, who strive to grow and nurture the body of Christ that is Woods Church. This includes offering regular new member classes, coordinating pastoral care, Stephen Ministers, fellowship activities, and supportive outreach to people in times of need, grief, or loss.

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

The Lord Now Send Us Forth
Spanish Solo – Marty Clayton
Adult Choir

P. Infante

Guitar – Alec Green, Percussion – Ed Lambert

*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 Ashley Brown

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 463

How Firm a Foundation
Verses 1, 2, 5

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Pastor J.C. Austin

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Amen
Adult Choir

P. Harling

*POSTLUDE

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

M. Hayes

*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 | 11AM Betsy Stewart

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church Staff

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Prayer Requests



Pledge Card

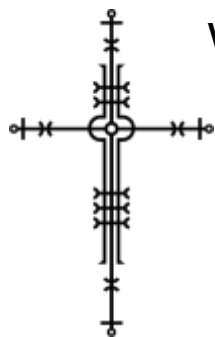


Giving

WOODS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

611 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard, Severna Park, Maryland 21146

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



Welcome to Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church (PCUSA)

October 18, 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	Time	Location
8AM Men's Bible Study	Room 208/Virtual	11AM Genesis	Conference Room/Virtual
9:30AM Spiritual Exploration Group	Conference/Virtual	Nursery 0-2-year-olds	Room 110
Nursery 0-2-year-olds	Room 110	All Children	Room 107
2 & 3-year-olds	Room 115	12:15PM SEEK Band	Choir Room
4, year-olds – 5 th graders	Room 107	2PM Confirmation	Room 212
1 st – 2 nd graders	Room 150		
3 rd – 5 th graders	Room 155		
Middle & High School	Room 208/212		

Upcoming Events & Church News

Did you know: Our purple hymnbook was published in September 2013. It features 853 hymns, psalms, and spiritual songs. It includes songs from six continents, 35 African American/Gospel hymns, Taizé chants, and it has multiple languages. It also weighs 2 pounds 3.5 ounces. In celebration of its 13th birthday, other than the introit, the music this Sunday at 9:30AM are all selections from our hymnal. A huge round of applause for our purple musical sidekick!

Adult Formation Class 11AM Sundays, through October 25 **Genesis: A Beginner's Guide to the Beginning**. This study invites readers into the foundational stories of the Old Testament with clarity, depth, and imagination. Meeting in Conference Room and on Zoom Meeting ID: 827 4541 2791 | Passcode: 50 0840.

Inside the Belhar Confession - As we celebrate the fortieth anniversary of the Belhar Confession, you are invited to a special Lunch and Learn, led by Pastor J.C. Austin on Reformation Sunday, October 25 from 12:30-1:30PM in Room 208. Learn more about the history and meaning of this Confession in the wake of Apartheid in South Africa, and why the PC(USA) voted to adopt it into our Book of Confessions years later. The **Children's Formation Committee** will provide a special Worship Education Program for children during this time frame.

A Broadway Afternoon: From Golden Classics to Today - October 25 at 2PM in the Sanctuary – FREE. Join us for a fun filled, Broadway Afternoon on Sunday October 25 at 2PM! The concert features renowned singers - Andrew Fowler, Jennifer Cooper, Shouvik Mondle, Tabitha Popernack, David Merrill, and pianist Sandy Daelemans. We'll take you on a journey through some of the most beloved Musical Theater songs ever written! This event is free, but a registration is required, please register at www.woodstix.org. For more information please email David Merrill at dmerrill@woodschurch.org. (Original concert concept created by Shouvik Mondle)



Register QR-Code

Woods Young Adults – Back from college? New to the area? Looking for your people? We're gathering young adults, ages 21 -late 30s together to reconnect, meet new people, and talk about the future of young adults at Woods could look like. Join us and Pastor Ashley for dinner and fellowship at Vida Taco Bar (Severna Park location) on Thursday, October 22, 6PM. Email or text Pastor Ashley to RSVP at abrown@woodschurch.org or 512.210.9330.

Meet and Greet Pastor Ashley! Interested in participating in an in-home gathering with Pastor Ashley? Please email Karen Lerario at apnc@woodschurch.org for more information.

Youth Summit Retreat! – Woods Fall Overnight Retreat at West River Retreat Center, for all youth 6th-12th grade! "The Youth Summit" is a coming together of all the various programs that make up Woods Youth. Join us for team building, fireside worship, fun and fellowship! The retreat is October 23 & 24 at West River Retreat Center. Drop off at West River between 5-5:30 PM, and pick-up the next day at 2PM. The retreat costs \$50 per person sign up on the Website or use the QR-Code.



Dinner Church Experience - Join us on Monday, October 26, in Fellowship Hall for our Dinner Church Experience! We'll begin with a gathering time at 5PM, followed by Dinner Worship at 5:30PM, concluding around **6:30PM**. This will be a **family-friendly, multi-generational evening** of food, faith, and fellowship in a comfortable, casual setting. We'll gather around tables as dinner becomes part of the worship service.

On All Saints Sunday, November 1 we will gather as one community for one worship service at 9:30 AM. This special service gives us an opportunity to pause, remember, and give thanks for the lives of those who have died over the past year. Together, we will honor their memory, celebrate the love they shared, and hold their families and loved ones in prayer.

Family Fellowship time All Saints Day. Picnic on the Playground following our one worship service. Chicken and biscuits are provided. Come welcome Pastor Ashley to our family.

Save the Date! Picnic Table Build Day, Saturday, November 14 from 9AM – 3PM. For more information pick up a flyer from the Woods News Rack in the Welcome area.

Outreach and Service Partner SPAN is in critical need of canned meats, oatmeal, sides of all kinds, basic toiletries of all kinds, cleaning supplies and diapers sizes 4 and up. Please place your items in the SPAN boxes. Thank you for your kindness and caring by supporting our neighbors in need.

Holiday Bazaar Jewelry Donations and Sale. Our jewelry table will be loaded with costume jewelry of all types - with most prices ranging from \$1.00 to \$5.00. Start gathering your unbroken costume jewelry now to donate but wait until the week of November 15 to bring it to Zimmerman Hall. Then shop on Saturday, November 21 from 9AM to 1PM!

Pet Lovers Station - Holiday Bazaar on Saturday, November 21, is collecting donations of tennis balls and chew toys! Look for the Pet Lovers Station in Fellowship Hall. You'll find gifts for pets and the people who love and care for them. Find a special gift for your pet sitter, dog walker, and your dog, bird, and cat!

Holiday Nut Orders - Fall has arrived, and it's time to place your holiday nut orders! Don't miss out on your seasonal favorites. Download the order form at woodschurch.org or pick one up at the Woods New rack in the Welcome area or church office. Return your completed form to Woods Church by mail or drop it off at the office with your check made out to Woods Church (note *Nut Order* on the memo line). If you have any questions, please contact Kay Mitchell at 410.757.7103.

Calling All Artists! The Gallery at Woods is having their Annual Advent and Christmas Exhibit on November 23. Register your artwork for this exhibit (deadline 11/18) by providing your name, art title, and contact information to Jenny Henry, jennyhenry188@comcast.net or Pam Ward, pward@woodschurch.org. Your artwork must be framed and ready to hang (wire on back), there is a three-piece limit. Artwork will be dropped off in the office conference room from November 18 - 20 between 9AM – 4PM.

It's that time of year for SPAN's Turkey Trot! This year's 5k and 1-mile walk will be on Saturday, November 7 at Kinder Farm Park! This is SPAN's primary annual fundraiser to meet the extremely high levels of need for emergency food and financial assistance. Not interested in running or walking? You can also sponsor the event or donate to SPAN directly! Sign up for the run: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MD/Millersville/SPANTurkeyTrot>

The Baltimore Presbytery is hosting a spring intercultural encounters trip with our Guatemala Partnership, CEDEPCA. This trip is designed to facilitate reflection, dialogue, and mutual service between people of the US, Canada and Guatemalan communities in search of a more just, tolerant and equitable world. Applications and a \$500 deposit are due on October 31! Questions can be submitted to contact Tanya Morrel at tmorrel@gmail.com <https://baltimorepresbytery.org/spring-guatemala-trip-2027/> or use the QR-Code.

