Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



November 8, 2026 ~ 9:30 AM

November 8, 2026 | 24th Sunday After Pentecost | 9:30 AM

PRELUDE — **The Heaven's Are** Telling — L. Beethoven

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY — Pastor J. C. Austin

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT — *Let the Lower Lights Be Burning* — P. Bliss
Solo – Phil Hope

CALL TO WORSHIP — Elder Lee Laque

Leader: With what should we come before the Lord?
People: With what shall we bow ourselves down before God on high?
Leader: God has told you, mortals, what is good. What does the Lord require of you?
People: To do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God.
ALL: Come, let us worship God!

*HYMN 360 — *Christ Is Coming!*
Verses – 1, 2, 3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION — Pastor Ashley Brown

Holy God, in Jesus Christ you promise to come to us again, and you call us to keep watch. But we confess that we grow drowsy in our discipleship. We have assumed there would always be more time: time to forgive, time to make amends, time to love the neighbor in front of us. Forgive us, Lord; awaken us and help us to keep ready, not by our strength but by your grace, so that we may rise with joy to meet you and enter the feast that you have prepared. Through Christ our Lord we pray.

MUSICAL MEDITATION — *Keep Watch!* — D. Merrill
Piano – David Merrill

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 — *Give Me Oil in My Lamp* — Arr. K. Pederson
Child – Everett Clarke
Guitar – James Robertson, Bass – Don Counts,
Drums – Ed Lambert

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION — Elder Lee Laque

SCRIPTURE READING — Amos 5:18-24

SERMON "Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning" Pastor J. C. Austin
Matthew 25:1-13

*HYMN *Will Jesus Find Us Watching?* W. Doane
1st Time – Choir
2nd & 3rd - Congregation

1. When Jesus comes to reward His servants,
Whether it be noon or night,
Faithful to Him will He find us watching,
With our lamps all trimmed and bright?
[Refrain]

Refrain
O can we say we are ready, neighbor?
Ready for the soul's bright home?
Say, will He find you and me still watching,
Waiting, watching when the Lord shall come?

2. If, at the dawn of the early morning,
He shall call us one by one,
When to the Lord we restore our talents,
Will He answer you, "Well done?"
[Refrain]

3 Blessed are those whom the Lord finds watching,
In His glory they shall share;
If He shall come at the dawn or midnight,
Will He find us watching there?
[Refrain]

SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION OF ELDER and DEACONS

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

Susan Bohlman, Elder *Ruth Dunham, Deacon* *Wendy Irminger, Deacon*

*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 Ghost, 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 Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE OFFICERS-ELECT

CONSTITUTIONAL QUESTIONS TO THE CONGREGATION

Do we, the members of the church, accept Susan Bohlman, Ruth Dunham, and Wendy Irminger as elder, and deacons, chosen by God through the voice of the congregation to lead us in the way of Jesus Christ? We do.

Do we agree to encourage them, to respect their decisions, and to follow as they guide us, serving Jesus Christ who alone is Head of the Church? We do.

PRAYER OF ORDINATION

WELCOME TO ELDERS AND DEACONS

PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND OFFERING Elder Lee Laque

A portion of today's offering supports our Mission 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 *Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning* P. Kern
Adult Choir
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 363 Rejoice, the Lord Is King!
Verses 1, 2, 4

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

*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

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)

November 8, 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 Jenny Henry 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		10:30AM	
Men's Bible Study	Room 208/Virtual	Children's Choir	Choir Room
9:30AM		11AM	
Spiritual Exploration Group	Conference/Virtual	Improbable Gratitude	Room 208/Virtual
Nursery 0-2-year-olds	Room 110	Nursery 0-2-year-olds	Room 110
2 & 3-year-olds	Room 115	All Children	Room 107
4, year-olds – 5th graders	Room 107	12:15PM	
1st – 2nd graders	Room 150	SEEK Band	Choir Room
3rd – 5th graders	Room 152	2PM	
Middle & High School	Room 208/212	Confirmation	Room 212

Upcoming Events & Church News

Congregational Meeting – Sunday, November 8 following the 9:30AM service. The meeting is for the purpose of nominating the members to serve on the Nominating Committee. Janna Kintzley (Elder Chair), Steve Tidwell (Elder), Kirk Greubel, Beth Hadley, and Sally Sachse.

11AM Adult Formation Bible study "Improbable Gratitude" November 8 - 22. Sometimes it seems difficult, if not altogether unlikely, to see how gratitude might emerge from difficulty. Looking at the example of how early missionaries spread the good news about Jesus, we will see how their difficulties gave way to gratitude. The focal texts will be Acts 16 and Paul's letter to the Philippians. Hopefully, we can find our way to thanksgiving by Thanksgiving. Meeting in room 208. Meeting ID: 892 7920 7241 | Passcode: 173053

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.

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 of the church lobby.

Want to know more about Woods Church? Come join us for our New Member info class on November 15 at 10:45AM in the Founders Room. We'll look at the many pieces of the Woods community and how they work together in service to God. We'll learn about the different types of fellowship groups at Woods, special missions and activities, Presbyterian church polity and how the Session and its committees work. If you feel called to membership, you will be welcomed into the congregation the following Sunday, November 22. If you aren't ready to join, but still want to know more, please come and learn with us! We look forward to knowing you better.

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, jennyhenry1188@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.

Annual Holiday Bazaar, Saturday, November 21 from 9AM to 1PM! All proceeds go to Outreach our Partners.

Holiday Fun Raffle and Silent Auction - Stop by the raffle table in Fellowship Hall while at the Bazaar to purchase your raffle tickets! Tickets are $1 each or 6 for $5. The raffle basket is filled with baked goods, games, decorations, jewelry, books, and other surprises. The winner will be announced at the bazaar, but you do not need to be present to win. The Silent Auction in Fellowship Hall will feature fun themed gift baskets, such as Family Game Night or Taco Tuesday, paired with local gift cards. All winners will be announced at noon on November 21.

Baked Goods – Calling All Bakers! - Bring your pies, cakes, brownies, cookies, cupcakes, and other treats to be sold at the Baked Goods Table. Drop off Friday, November 20 or Early Saturday morning. Mark your calendars and bring your children, your neighbors, and yourself for a day of shopping and socializing. 100% of the proceeds from the Bazaar support mission activities of our church.

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 News rack in the Welcome area of the church lobby 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.

Dinner Church Experience - Join us on Monday, November 30, 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.

Call for Nominations - the Congregational Nominating Committee is beginning its work, looking for members in the congregation whom they believe may be called to service as Deacons, Elders, Trustees and other important leadership roles. If you think that you or someone you know may be called to one of these ministries, please submit names to Nominating@WoodsChurch.org or use the Nominations cards that can be found at the Welcome Desk in the Lobby.

The Carols of Christmas: A contemplative Christmas Concert with Harp, Choir, and Soloists. Join us on Friday and Saturday, December 4 and 5, 7PM, for our annual Christmas concert, *The Carols of Christmas*. Through the angelic sounds of the harp – and the light of flickering candles – this concert is about reflection and finding peace. Accompanied only by the harp, we will spend an hour bringing beloved carols to life, through harp solos, vocal duets, and choral anthems, including our main piece, *A Ceremony of Carols* by Benjamin Britten. We kindly ask that you register for this Free concert at www.woodstix.org. For questions please email David Merrill at dmerrill@woodschurch.org.



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.