

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



November 16, 2025 ~ 9:30AM

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23rd Sunday after Pentecost

9:30AM

PRELUDE

Blessed Assurance

J. Boyd

Violin – Laura Knutson, Cello – Özge Serçeler
Piano – Jung-Hoon Park

WELCOME AND NEWS OF THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

Pastor J. C. Austin

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT

Prelude to Quiet

M. Kellner

Violin – Laura Knutson, Cello – Özge Serçeler
Piano – David Merrill

CALL TO WORSHIP

Elder Laura Ivey

Leader: O magnify the Lord with me!

People: Let us exalt God's name together!

Leader: O taste and see that the Lord is good!

People: Happy are those who take refuge in the Lord!

ALL: Come, let us worship God!

***HYMN 409**

God Is Here!

Verses 1, 2, 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Pastor Nancy Lincoln Reynolds

Gracious and Loving God, you offer to fill us up with life and love, with purpose and peace. Yet too often we turn away from your gifts and hunger for things which do not last and leave us feeling more empty. We focus on what we want rather than what our neighbors need; we fear losing what we have. In your mercy, forgive us, Lord. Fill our hearts with your compassion, courage, and love, and use us as your ministers of grace to care for this broken world that you love.

MUSICAL MEDITATION

Quietness

M. Kellner

Violin – Laura Knutson, Cello – Özge Serçeler
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

Where He Leads Me/He Leadeth Me

Arr. B. Adams

Cello – Özge Serçeler
Piano – Jung-Hoon Park

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Elder Laura Ivey

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

SERMON

"Saving the Best for Last"

John 2:1-11

Pastor J. C. Austin

*HYMN 378

We Wait the Peaceful Kingdom

Verses 1, 2, 3

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (the Apostles' Creed)

Pastor Nancy Lincoln Reynolds

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 Laura Ivey

A portion of today's offering supports our Children's ministry with its rich array of programming for children up through fifth grade. This includes nursery and Sunday School classes, Vacation Bible School, and age-specific musical and educational offerings.

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

Peace I Give to You

C. Courtney

Violin - Laura Knutson, Cello - Özge Serçeler
Adult Choir

*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 80

You Shall Go Out with Joy

1st Time - David Merrill

2nd Time - Congregation

Violin - Laura Knutson, Cello - Özge Serçeler

*CHARGE AND BLESSING

Pastor J.C. Austin

*POSTLUDE

Our Eternal Home

T. A. Collins

Violin - Laura Knutson, Cello - Özge Serçeler
Piano - Jung-Hoon Park

*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 Bill Hadley

Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church Staff

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The Reverend

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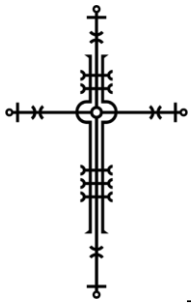
The Rev. Corinne Baker



WOODS MEMORIAL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Welcome to Woods Memorial Presbyterian Church PC(USA)

November 16, 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 Delia Edelmann and are given for the glory of God and
~ In memory of Douglas and Nancy Minton, from their loving family

We are glad you are worshiping with us today.
Join us for bagels, coffee, and fellowship after the service in Fellowship Hall.
~Bagels are given by Ralph Moore and family

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 Women's Bible Study (1 st Sunday of Month)	Room 208/Virtual Conference/Virtual	10:30AM Children's Choir	Choir Room
9:30AM Adult Bible Study Nursery 0-2-year-olds 2 & 3-year-olds 4, year-olds - Kindergarten 1 st - 5 th graders Middle & High School Mom's Strong	Conference/Virtual Room 110 Room 115 Room 107 Room 152 Room 208/212 Fireside Room	11AM Matthew Class Nursery 0-2-year-olds All Children	Conference/Virtual Room 110 Room 107
		12:15PM SEEK Band	Choir Room
		2PM Confirmation	Room 212
		3:30PM HS Confirmation	Room 212

Upcoming Events & Church News

"Urgent November Food Drive for SPAN: 1 in 9 Marylanders may no longer receive SNAP benefits due to impending stoppage of federal food aid. This will have an immediate effect on food requests above and beyond our typical need. Please donate canned vegetables, canned meats and fish, beans, pasta, rice, instant potatoes, broth, bouillon, canned fruit, laundry detergent, dish soap, deodorant, and toothpaste. Please place in SPAN bins behind Welcome Desk in the Church lobby."

Ways to sponsor a child for Christmas or gift a laundry basket to Pinewood Village

Sponsor Local Children: Buy toys or clothing for local children referred to us by SPAN (Serving People Across Neighborhoods). This year we hope to assist 35 children from 1-12 years-old have a few gifts to open Christmas morning. **Items are due back no later than Sunday, December 7 at 12PM.**

Elderly and Disabled from Pinewood Village: Provide a laundry basket for elderly or disabled adults in a low-income housing neighborhood in Glen Burnie. While there are many programs that support their rent and utilities, during the Christmas Season, we feel called to provide these residents with the basic necessities. **Baskets are due back December 7 at 12PM** and will be delivered on Saturday, December 13.

Calling All Artists! The Gallery at Woods is having their **Annual Advent and Christmas Exhibit on November 24.** Register your artwork for this exhibit (deadline 11/14) 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 to Pam Ward in the church office from **November 17 - 21 between 9AM - 4PM.**

Woods Christmas Concert: Wonder and Glory - This Is Our Story! Saturday, December 6 | Sanctuary | Free Admission Join us for *A Storybook Christmas!* Experience the joy of the season through music, dance, and storytelling

featuring the **Adult Choir, Praise Band, SEEK Band, Woods Dancers, Elysian Dance Theater**, guest musicians, and members of our Woods family sharing stories of their Christmas treasures. Enjoy favorite carols and the music of Christmas—a Christmas chapter not to be missed! Free admission, but registration is required at www.woodstix.org. For more information, contact David Merrill at dmerrill@woodschurch.org.

Adult Education is completing the study of **Matthew: The Gospel of Promised Blessing on Sundays, 11AM, November 16 and 23**. Matthew portrays Jesus and his message as full of tender compassion and urgent warning. This exploration of an enigmatic Gospel takes us into the themes and tensions at the heart of Matthew's story about Jesus. Meeting in the Office Conference Room and on Zoom.

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 and Elders 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.

Adult Education opportunity during Advent. Bound for Bethlehem: An Advent Journey. Mary and Joseph lived in a world riddled with political division and fear. Their journey was a fulfillment of prophecy and a representation of hope for humanity. The course follows Mary and Joseph on their journey and spiritual pilgrimage to Bethlehem. Sunday's **November 30 – December 21 from 5-6:30PM** with potluck supper in Founders Room. Facilitator Kathy Lohff. A Children's program will be provided by the Children's Ministry.

2025 Holiday Bazaar- Saturday, November 22, 9AM-1PM

Holiday Nut Orders - Fall has arrived, and it's time to place your holiday nut orders! Don't miss out on your seasonal favorites. You can **download the order form from the website or pick one up at the Welcome Desk**. 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. A portion of the proceeds will go to the Mission Ministry to assist various mission partners.

Sweet Shop - One of the favorite stations is the Sweet Shop offering famous "Buckeyes", candy trains, assorted chocolates, butter creams, fudge and many other delicious homemade treats just in time for your holiday festivities. 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 supports mission activities of our church.

Raffle - This year we have several wonderful themed filled baskets for raffle. Stop at the Welcome desk on your way in to purchase your raffle tickets (\$1 each or 6 tickets for \$5). You will find a basket full of goodies like games, dishes, music, decorations, cards, cookbooks, and surprises. The winner will be announced at the bazaar, but you do not have to be present to win. And be sure to stop by the **Silent Auction** in Fellowship Hall.

The Bazaar Holiday Greenery Station Needs your Donations! Please contact Jenny Henry about donating greens from your yard that can be used to create fresh greenery decorations for the annual bazaar on Saturday, November 22. We specifically need Pine branches, Eponymous, and Mountain Laurel. Sorry, but we can't use Holly or Boxwood. Jenny Henry: jennyhenry1188@comcast.net, 410.846.5493.

White Elephant Sale - We are collecting donations for the White Elephant Sale, costume jewelry, books, plus Christmas & holiday items. **Drop off times:** December 16 through 21. **Sunday 12:30 to 5PM, Monday & Tuesday 9AM to 5PM, Thursday 9AM to 8PM, and Friday 9AM to 12PM.** Please place donations on the stage in Zimmerman Hall. Books should be delivered to Room 155, Sunday through Thursday, only. 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.

Calling All Bakers! - Warm up your ovens and find your favorite recipes! Bring your favorite pies, cakes, brownies, cookies, cupcakes, and other treats to be sold at the Holiday Bazaar **Baked Goods Table. Drop off Friday, November 21 or Early Morning Saturday, November 22.**

Dinner Church Experience - Join us on **Monday, December 1, 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. The **Children's Ministry** will host our annual Advent Event full of resources and activities to prepare your home for the countdown to Christmas Eve! This year's preparation is as **Cute as a Button from 5-5:20PM** just before Dinner Church services in the Fellowship Hall.