Woods Memorial
Presbyterian Church PC(USA)



November 22, 2026 ~ 9:30 AM
Christ the King/Reign of Christ Sunday

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PRELUDE — Prelude to Te Deum — M. Charpetier
Trumpet – Jeremy Meeks
Organ – Junghoon Park

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

PASSING OF THE PEACE

INTROIT — *Sheep May Safely Graze* — J. S. Bach
Trumpet – Jeremy Meeks
Organ – Junghoon Park

CALL TO WORSHIP — John Dunham

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord!
People: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Leader: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving!
People: Let us make a joyful noise to the Lord, singing songs of praise!

*HYMN 263 — ***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!***

PRAYER OF CONFESSION — Pastor Ashley Brown

Gracious and loving God, in Jesus Christ you come as those who are hungry and thirsty, who are strangers, who are sick, who are imprisoned, and too often we do not know or recognize you. We have passed by people with needs we did not want to see. We have measured out mercy as if it were ours to ration, giving where it was easy and holding back where it might cost us. We have asked who deserves our help, when you ask only that we help. Forgive us, merciful God. Sharpen our eyes to see you in one another and all our neighbors; soften our hearts to the needs around us; and strengthen our hands to show the mercy you have shown us, so that when you come in glory, we may be found among those who loved you without even knowing it. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

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 Ashley Brown
Elder Carolann Marone

Lorenzo Robert Lerario
Son of Peter and Samantha Lerario

*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.

To the Congregation:

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

Will you be examples for Lorenzo 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 John Dunham

SCRIPTURE READING Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

SERMON "Mercy Buckets" Pastor J. C. Austin
Matthew 25:31-46

*HYMN 275 *A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*
Verses 1, 2, 4

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS Pastor Ashley Brown

Congregational Vows

Do you, the members of Woods Church, promise to guide and nurture these new members as they seek to know and follow Christ? We do.

Will you listen to their voices, hopes and ideas for the future as we partner with them to help the church grow and change to the glory of God? 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 OF DEDICATION AND OFFERING John Dunham

A portion of today's offering supports our Outreach and Service committee 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," 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 — *Thou Art The King of Glory* — G. F. Händel
(Dettingen Te Deum)
Solo – Michael Collins
Adult Choir
Timpani – Ed Lambert, Trumpet – Jeremy Meeks

*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 268 — Crown Him with Many Crowns
Verses – 1, 2, 4

*CHARGE AND BLESSING — Pastor J. C. Austin

*CHORAL BENEDICTION — *Threefold Amen*
Adult Choir

*POSTLUDE — *Trumpet Tune in D* — H. Purcell
Trumpet – Jeremy Meeks

*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 Gale Gillespie | 11AM Betsy Stewart

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 22, 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

Upcoming Events & Church News

Time	Location	Time	Location
8AM		9:30AM	
Men's Bible Study	Room 208/Virtual	Middle & High School	Room 208/212
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	2PM	
1st – 2nd graders	Room 150	Confirmation	Room 212
3rd – 5th graders	Room 152		

11AM Adult Formation Bible study "Improbable Gratitude" November 8 - 22. 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

Join the Youngish Adults for "Nowhere Else to Wear it" Friendsgiving on Sunday, November 22, from 6-8PM at Boone Station Hall. Wear that one item that's sitting in the back of your closet gathering dust? Old bridesmaid dress/ Halloween costume from 2017/ amazing Goodwill thrift find… anything you have nowhere else to wear it! Bring a side to share. Text Pastor Ashley for more details: 512.210.9330.

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.

Give the Gift of Giving this Christmas! Share the love of Christ, and buy Christmas gifts that will change the lives of people who are in the heart of God, while warming the hearts of those on your gift list. Sunday, November 22 through December 20, join us in Fellowship Hall for a Season of Giving at Woods for you and your family.

Ways to **Participate in this Year's Outreach and Service Marketplace**

Sponsor Local Children: Gifts are due back no later than Sunday, December 6 at 12PM.

Elderly and Disabled from Pinewood Village: Baskets are due back December 13 at 12PM and will be delivered on Saturday, December 19.

Alternative Gift Drive – Make a gift donation to a Woods' Partner organization. Receive a Christmas card to give as a gift to a friend or loved one and change a life. Alternative Gift Catalogs are available in Fellowship Hall or online at woodschurch.org (use the upcoming events Alternative Gift Icon link.) For those making on-line donations your gift cards can be picked up on Sundays or in the church office. Gift donations will be taken until December 20.

Purchasing a product from one of our many mission Partners!

- Cuba Partnership – November 29 and December 6, 13, and 20
- Hope for All – November 29
- Annapolis Immigration Justice Network (AIJN) December 6
- Hon's Honey – December 20

Poinsettias in Honor or Memory of a Loved One - Each Christmas, the Woods sanctuary is beautifully decorated with poinsettias donated by members and friends in honor or memory of loved ones. If you would like to participate in this meaningful tradition, the suggested donation is $25 per plant. Donations may be made **online beginning November 30** or **in person in Fellowship Hall on December 6, 13, and 20**. Poinsettias will be available to take home on **Sunday, December 27**. Help us share the beauty and joy of the Christmas season while honoring or remembering someone special.

An Adult Formation Advent Class at 11AM from **November 29 – December 20 in Room 208**. A new Advent study featuring *Voices of Advent* by Rev. Dr. Matthew L. Skinner. Through a variety of biblical texts, this study explores the voices that shape our understanding and celebration of Christmas. We'll listen to Jesus' promise to return, John the Baptist's call to prepare the way, the faithful who anticipated Christ's birth, and the visionaries who praised God as Christmas dawned. Together, we'll discover the hope woven throughout these biblical stories and explore how Advent is more than the beginning of the Christian year—it is the powerful overture to the incredible story of Jesus. Books will be available in the church office. Zoom Meeting ID 831 4688 7500 and passcode 921205. Come explore the voices of Advent and discover the hope they bring to our lives today!



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.

MINIS-TREES - Sometimes, the ministry of our church looks like…evergreen trees. Visit the 150-wing to see and know what the mission of Woods Church looks like in action. Check the gift tag to reach out to each committee for more information about how YOU can be part of telling the Good News!

Calling all shepherds and angels! Join us as part of our Family Christmas Eve Pageant Thursday December 24 at 3 and 4PM. Children of all ages are welcome to sign up to be angels or shepherds. One practice will be held Thursday December 17 from 5-6:30PM. Email Lindsey Miller at lmiller@woodschurch.org to sign up.

Christmas Eve Services – December 24 and Sunday Worship on December 27:

3 & 4PM	Family Christmas Pageant
6PM	Contemporary Candlelight Service*
8PM	Traditional Candlelight Service*
10PM	Traditional Candlelight Communion Service
9:30AM – 12/27/25	One Sunday Worship Service Only

*Childcare Available

LES MISÉRABLES - auditions January 8 & 9, 2027 at Woods Church in Severna Park. Show Dates- May 14-16 & 20-22 (8 shows). Les Misérables tells an enthralling story of grace, redemption, mercy, and hope - a timeless testament of finding salvation. Please email performingarts@woodschurch.org with any questions. Please go to **www.wmpcauditions.com** for more information and to sign up!

LES MISÉRABLES behind the scenes - Interested in being a part of the show behind the scenes? It truly takes a village to create a musical, and we would love to have your help! Please email performingarts@woodschurch.org with your interest!

Winter Relief is coming Monday, January 18, 2027 through Monday, January 25, 2027. Sign-ups start Sunday, December 13, 2026 at 9AM. You will be able to sign up to help after each Service in Fellowship Hall or online in Sign-Up Genius on the Church website. Sign-ups will continue live until we start. There are opportunities for meal prep, brown bag lunch prep, evening and overnight chaperones, drivers, shower escorts, Stephen Ministers, laundry support, youth volunteers, and snack donations. Note, we will be driving the guests every morning and evening this year like we did years ago so will need lots of drivers. Please help us help the unhoused. If you want more information about Winter Relief and how you can help, please contact Scott Wiley at 410.353.1491 or email wilecoy2us@gmail.com. Thank you for helping with this important Mission.

Pop-Up Day, January 19, from 9AM-4PM. The Pop-Up immersive Bible Study is a STEAM (science, technology, engineering, arts, and math) intensive jump into scripture. Children see, hear, taste, and feel what the story and its elements are like. Registration is limited. For more information, contact Kat Green or Lindsey Miller through children@woodschurch.org.

Welcome New Members

Laura Goodrich:
Laura is from Arlington, Virginia and she and her spouse, Chris, live in Severna Park. She has three adult children. One of her daughters lives in Stuttgart, Germany with her family and one daughter lives in New York City. Her son was confirmed here at Woods. Laura has been attending Woods off and on for over 30 years. She has currently become involved by volunteering at the Front Desk and working with Finance. She is retired but her career was focused on finance- a CPA, tax accountant, and working with a Private Equity Company in Ophthalmology. Laura loves to travel and hopes to do more in retirement. Welcome Laura!

Andy and Lynn Jerdal:
Andy and Lynn are both from the West. Andy comes from Tacoma, Washington and Lynn from Boise, Idaho. As Andy says, he followed his girlfriend 35 years ago to Maryland. They have 5 children ranging in age from 15 to 25: Kaylie, Drew, Peter, Nate and Jesse. Nate and Jesse are here in high school. Andy is a financial planner and found Woods when Randy Busch was here as Interim Pastor. He loves golf, traveling, hiking, and sailing/boating. Lynn is a writer and editor. Professionally, she is the Editor for the Maryland General Assembly (Department of Legislative Services). Lynn loves reading, writing, dancing with our dance group, and pickle ball. They attended one of the Christmas services with their kids and that started their journey with Woods. Welcome Andy and Lynn!

Daniel Mathis and Beth Friend (Mathis):
Daniel and Beth have a 3-year-old son, Sullivan and are currently expecting their second child. Daniel is originally from Abingdon, Maryland. Beth is from Crofton, Maryland and now they live in Severna Park. Daniel and Beth have also lived in South Carolina and Georgia. Her faith background is Methodist and Daniel's is Catholic. They found Woods through Beth following the community involvement of Woods and the family started attending. Daniel is the Chief Operating Officer of a Logistics company and also loves to volunteer and being involved and active. Beth is a Pathologist's Assistant and enjoys gardening and art. Welcome Daniel and Beth!

Diane McLellan:
Diane was born in Massachusetts and grew up in New Hampshire. She currently lives in Pasadena. Diane has three adult children: Michael, Amy and Jon. Diane is retired but her career was as a RN (registered nurse). She enjoys reading, writing and the theater. Diane is also a dog trainer, kennel owner and lover of dogs. Diane found Woods online and found that it met her spiritual needs and started attending. Welcome Diane!

Nathan and Janelle Bounds:
Nathan and Janelle Bounds live in Severna Park, Maryland, with their two children, Braxton (4) and Piper (2). Nathan works in the quantitative financial strategy field, and Janelle is an elementary school guidance counselor. In their free time, they enjoy spending time together as a family, traveling, golfing, and staying active. They are excited to become part of the Woods community, grow in their faith, and build relationships with fellow members. Welcome Nathan and Janelle!