Gathering

Fughetta

by Alexandre Boley

Woodridge Congregational Church United Church of Christ

An Open & Affirming Congregation and A Caring & Welcoming Community

Worship at 10:00AM

August 25, 2024

woodridgechurchri.org

facebook.com/woodridgecongregational



As a caring and welcoming community, using the Bible as a resource and the teachings of Jesus as our guide, we joyfully welcome everyone into our Christian community, regardless of race, ethnicity, class, age, mental status, family structure, physical or mental ability, religious background or theological perspective, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression. As Christian disciples, we invite all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, worship, sacraments, blessings and joys of our congregation.

*All who are able, please stand

What's Happening at Woodridge?

Opening Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Almighty and everlasting God, You are always ready to hear us when we pray. You constantly give more that either we desire or deserve. Pour down upon us the abundance of Your mercy. Forgive us those things of which our conscience is afraid. Give us those good things, which we are not worthy to ask, except through the merits and meditation of Christ Jesus, your Son whom you sent to take our nature upon himself and to be for us a sign and Savior. We pray this saying together...

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Call to Worship: (responsive)

Leader: How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts!

People: My soul longs, indeed faints for the courts of

the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to

the living God.

Leader: Happy are those who live in your house, ever

singing your praise.

People: Happy are those whose strength is in you, in

whose heart are the highways of Zion.

ALL: For the Lord God is a sun and shield; he

bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk up rightly. O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who

trusts in you.

*Hymn What a Covenant NCH #471

Scripture: Psalm 84(NRSV)

¹How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! ²My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts of the Lord; my heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living God. ³Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God. ⁴Happy are those who live in your house, ever singing your praise. Selah ⁵Happy are those whose strength is in you, in whose heart are the highways to Zion. ⁶As they go through the valley of Baca they make it a place of springs: the early rain also covers it with pools. ⁷They go from strength to strength; the God of gods will be seen in Zion. 80 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; give ear, O God of Jacob! Selah 9Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed. ¹⁰For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere. I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than live in the tents of wickedness. ¹¹For the Lord God is a sun and shield: he bestows favor and honor. No good thing does the Lord withhold from those who walk uprightly. ¹²O Lord of hosts, happy is everyone who trusts in you.

Children's Message

Passing of the Peace

Sermon Text: Ephesians 6: 10-20(NRSV)

¹⁰Finally, be strong in the Lord and in the strength of his power. ¹¹Put on the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. ¹²For our struggle is not against enemies of blood and flesh, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the cosmic powers of this present darkness, against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly places. ¹³Therefore take up the whole armor of God, so that you may be able to withstand on that evil day, and having done everything, to stand firm. ¹⁴Stand therefore, and fasten the belt of truth around your waist, and put on the breastplate of righteousness. ¹⁵As shoes for your feet put on whatever will make you ready to proclaim the gospel of peace. ¹⁶With all of these, take the shield of faith, with which you will be able to guench all the flaming arrows of the evil one. ¹⁷Take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God. ¹⁸Pray in the Spirit at all times in every prayer and supplication. To that end keep alert and always persevere in supplication for all the saints. ¹⁹Pray also for me, so that when I speak, a message may be given to me to make known with boldness the mystery of the gospel, ²⁰ for which I am an ambassador in chains. Pray that I may declare it boldly, as I must speak.

Sermon: "Walking with Confidence"

Rev Tom Meyer

*Hymn Take My Life and Let It Be Pilgrim #404

Prayer concerns and celebrations

Offertory

Abide With Me

W. H. Monk

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow Praise God all creatures here below Praise God above ye heavenly hosts Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn

You Servants of God, Your Sovereign Proclaim NCH #305

Benediction

Benediction response



Postlude

To A Wild Rose

by Edward MacDowell arranged by Benton Price

Announcements

Pastor Tom's "Foodridge" Pot Luck on Sept. 1, 2024
Sign up sheet is in the Narthex. We hope to see you there to show him our heartfelt appreciation for his time with us as Bridge Pastor.

The Date is set for the Woodridge-Fred Malcolm Golf Outing Fund Raiser. It will be October 6, 2024, 12:30PM start time. Midville Golf Club, West Warwick RI. ALL AGES AND SKILL LEVELS ARE WELCOME The Fee for this event is \$75.00 per person payable in advance to Woodridge UCC please indicate on memo line: Golf Outing. Please send checks to the Church office: 30 Jackson Road Cranston, RI 02920 % Barbara Stifano by 09/29/24. Funds from this event go to Woodridge Church and the Leukemia Research Foundation. Call or email the office with questions, 401-942-0662 or woodridgechurch@verizon.net.

There will be a Holiday Market meeting on September 8th after Church. All are welcome to attend, we are always looking for new ideas and new helpers! We will be discussing signup sheets, baked goods list and outdoor signage. We may also need to revisit ticket prices and how to manage a 50/50 raffle where people who buy tickets may leave before the winner is drawn. We want to keep that simple!

If you have already purchased wine or a gift card for the Mystery Bags, please bring them in - we will store them, so you don't have to! I know I routinely have the problem of 'Why is this here?' and its corollary of 'Now where did I put that?'! Let us help you with that!

Pastor Aidan's first service with us as our new pastor will be 09/08/24.

Hope to see you there to give him a warm welcome.

Thank you for your continuing donations of non-perishable food items to the Interfaith Food Pantry – in the narthex basket or the box outside the Jackson Road office entrance.

The Grief Support Group will be taking the first four weeks in August off and will resume meeting on Aug 29. Thursday afternoons, 2:00 - 3:30 pm in the Conference Room.

This gathering is for those who have experienced the loss of a loved one. For more information, please contact the facilitator, Rev. Burton Bagby-Grose at bbagbygrose@vnacarenewengland.org

Prayer Requests

You are invited to share prayer concerns or celebrations during that time in this morning's service. The pastor will pass a microphone to those who raise a hand to speak. Please contact the church office with concern updates as necessary.

Ray Perrotta - Continued recovery.

Lou Giarusso - Is doing better and was transferred to Cedar Crest Nursing Home, 125 Scituate Ave. Cranston, RI 02920 Charlene & Dave Barrette - Prayers for daily struggles and his Cancer treatment.

Janelle Slepski - Prayers for continued recovery. Lorna (friend of Barbara Stifano) – Prayers as she was diagnosed with Cancer and is waiting for appointment with oncologist.

Keep in touch and stay informed . . .

We send a Thursday email with general information. Please contact the office if you would like to be added to our mailing list. Recorded Sunday services may also be found on our YouTube channel and through our website.

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Eric Van DerVort

Ushers: Debbie Scipione, Eileen Phaneuf, Lou Beneduce, Richard Jordan

Stewards: Deb Moretti, Nancy Quintiliani, Richard Therrien, Deborah Therrien

Beverage on the Terrace is provided by Adama Sarty

Our Staff:

Rev. Tom Meyer, Bridge Pastor revtom10@gmail.com

Eric Van Dervort, Music Minister ewvandervort1@gmail.com

Sandy Nolan, Organist sanolan00@gmail.com

Barbara Stifano, Administrative Assistant
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