

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

*An Open & Affirming Congregation and
A Caring & Welcoming Community*



a just
world
for all
ucc.org

Worship at 10:00 AM

January 28, 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.

Gathering Music

What's happening at Woodridge? *(see the bulletin inserts)*

Opening Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

Eternal God, you have called us to be members of one body. Join us with those who in all times have praised your name, that, with one heart and mind, we may show the unity of your church and bring honor to our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ who taught us to pray together saying...

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: The God who created us, is calling us.

People: Let us listen to God's voice.

Leader: The God who loves us, wants to prepare us for his Kingdom.

People: Let us enter God's gates with open hearts and open minds.

Leader: The God who loves the Church is asking us to be one.

People: Let us stand together in unity and love to the praise of our God!

Hymn

All Creatures of Our God and King, verses 1, 3 & 5

Pilgrim Hymnal #64

Scripture Reading: Psalm 111 (NRSV)

¹Praise the LORD! I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

²Great are the works of the LORD, studied by all who delight in them.

³Full of honor and majesty is his work, and his righteousness endures forever.

⁴He has gained renown by his wonderful deeds; the LORD is gracious and merciful.

⁵He provides food for those who fear him; he is ever mindful of his covenant.

⁶He has shown his people the power of his works, in giving them the heritage of the nations.

⁷The works of his hands are faithful and just; all his precepts are trustworthy.

⁸They are established forever and ever, to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

⁹He sent redemption to his people; he has commanded his covenant forever. Holy and awesome is his name.

¹⁰The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. His praise endures forever.

Prayer of Confession (*responsive*):

One: Merciful God, help us examine our hearts so that we may be convinced of sins and shortcomings through the ministry of your Holy Spirit within us.

All: Hear our Prayer, O Lord.

One: We come to you in the name of Jesus, your son and our High Priest, we confess that there are times when we go against your hopes for us as your people.

All: Hear our Prayer, O Lord.

One: In Silence hear us as we confess those things we have done, and those things we have neglected to do; times when we have failed you and each other.

All: Hear our Prayer, O Lord.

One: Loving God, we ask you once again to receive us into your compassionate, forgiving arms that we might find favor with you for all the days of our lives. Empower us to serve you fully, to share the Good News with others around us, to share resources we have with those who have less, to weep with those who weep, and to laugh with those who laugh.

All: Hear our Prayer, O Lord.

Assurance of God's love and forgiveness

God Loves us and forgives us. God gives us the chance to begin again. Thanks be to God, Amen.

Children's Message

Passing of the Peace

Sermon Text: Mark 1: 21-28 (NRSV)

²¹They went to Capernaum; and when the sabbath came, he entered the synagogue and taught. ²²They were astounded at his teaching, for he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes. ²³Just then there was in their synagogue a man with an unclean spirit, ²⁴and he cried out, “What have you to do with us, Jesus of Nazareth? Have you come to destroy us? I know who you are, the Holy One of God.” ²⁵But Jesus rebuked him, saying, “Be silent, and come out of him!” ²⁶And the unclean spirit, convulsing him and crying with a loud voice, came out of him. ²⁷They were all amazed, and they kept on asking one another, “What is this? A new teaching—with authority! He commands even the unclean spirits, and they obey him.” ²⁸At once his fame began to spread throughout the surrounding region of Galilee.

Sermon “Making lists” Rev. Tom Meyer

Hymn *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* Pilgrim Hymnal #272

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

Offering

Offertory Anthem *All Are Welcome* M. Haugen
Woodridge Choir

Doxology

Thomas Ken Old 100th
Genevan Psalter

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow: Praise God all creatures here be-low, Praise

5
God a-bove ye heav-'nly host, Cre - a - tor, Christ and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men

Hymn *How Great Thou Art*

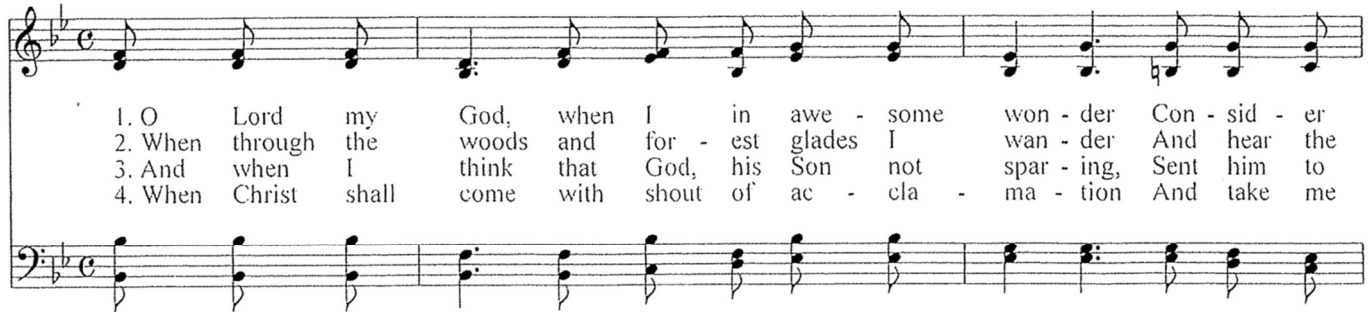
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How Great Thou Art


Stuart Wesley Keene Hine, 1953

Swedish Folk Melody

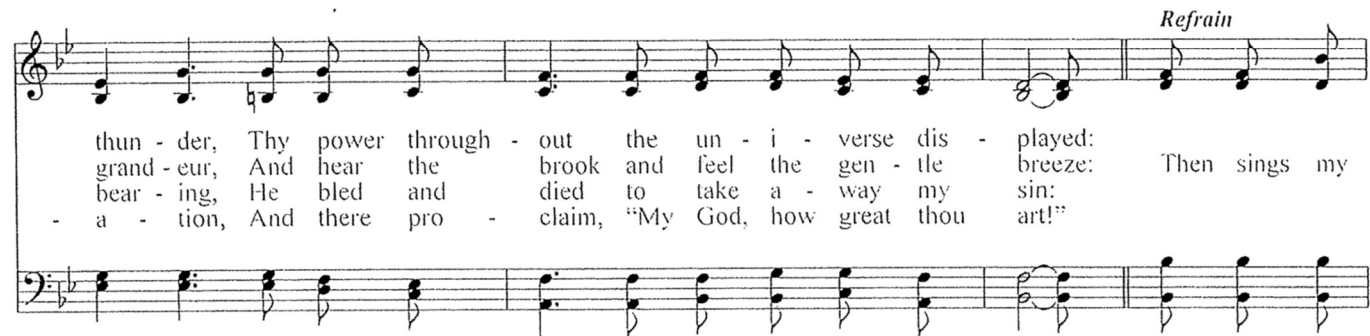
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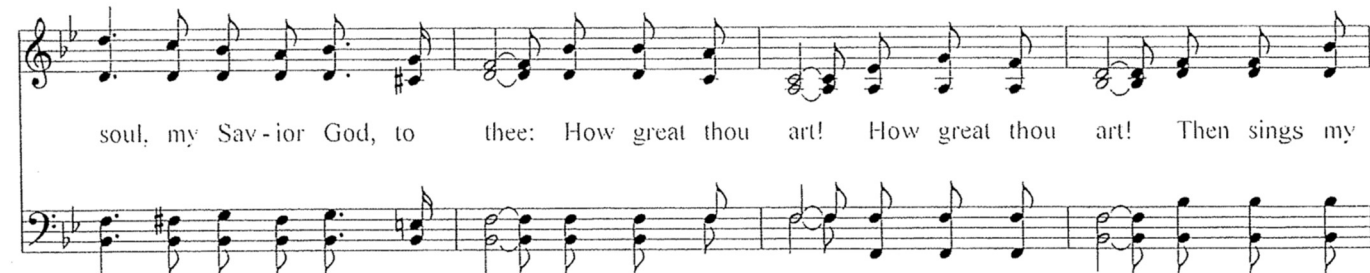
1. O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der Con - sid - er
2. When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der And hear the
3. And when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, Sent him to me
4. When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



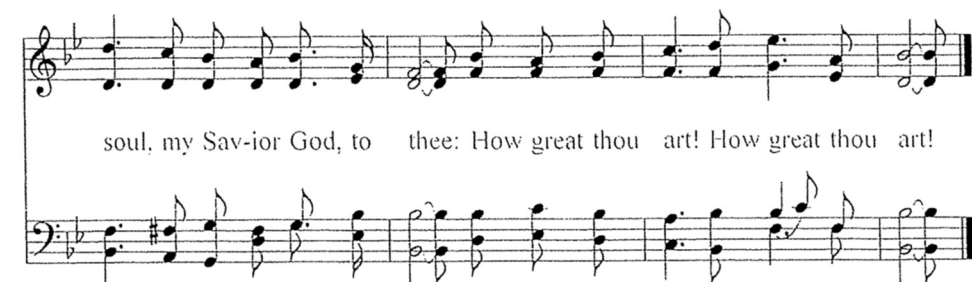
all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the roll - ing
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees, When I look down from loft - y mount - ain
die, I scarce can take it in, That on the cross, my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble a - dor -



Refrain
thun - der, Thy power through - out the un - i - verse dis - played:
grand - eur, And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze: Then sings my
bear - ing, He bled and died to take a - way my sin:
- a - tion, And there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"



soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my



soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee: How great thou art! How great thou art!

Benediction

Benediction response

God Be with You

New Century Hymnal #81

Postlude

♦ ♦ ♦

Announcements

The annual meeting will be held on January 28 (Sunday) immediately after worship in the sanctuary. We hope everyone can stay for a relatively brief meeting that will cover any questions about team reports; vote on the 2024 church budget; and any other business to come before the meeting. Annual reports are available in hard copy (in limited numbers) and via email.

We want to thank the congregation again for all your support through the years and for the wonderful worship service and celebration on Sunday. And thank you for the beautiful and very meaningful book of pictures that was put together on behalf of the community. We were so honored to be a part of Woodridge and wish for continued blessings in the years to come. And as my brother said, *God's speed!*

Scott and Barbara Spencer

Ash Wednesday service

Our season of Lent will begin on February 14 @ 7 pm ... a service of communion and ashes ... once again we will celebrate with our brothers and sisters of the First Korean Church of RI.

The **Grief Support Group** meets Thursday afternoons,

2:00 - 3:30 pm in the Conference Room. Contact for info:

Rev.Burton.Bagby.Grose@gmail.com

Wintertime worship advisory

If church services have to be changed to "live stream" or "zoom" due to snow and bad weather ... an email will go out to explain our plans no later than 8 am on Sunday morning (or earlier if a decision can be made). As always, we urge people to use caution and please do not attend worship if you feel it is not safe to do so.

COVID advisory

Although many symptoms are mild, COVID cases are at high levels. If you have symptoms or don't feel well, please stay home and join in Sunday worship via our live-stream. If you attend in person and would feel more comfortable wearing a mask, please do so. We try to have masks available for anyone who would like one. And we continue to encourage all who are eligible, and in consultation with their healthcare provider, to get appropriate vaccines. Please stay safe!

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Martha Ryan

Ushers: Nancy Quintiliani, Martha Ryan, Lenny Wahl, Lori-Jo Wahl

Stewards: Dianne Cavanaugh, Carol Kionoian, Gale MacDonald, Eileen Phaneuf

The flowers this morning are given by Martha and Bob Ryan
as a birthday remembrance for her dad, Bill Schad.

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.

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.

Our Staff:

Rev. Tom Meyer, Bridge Pastor

revtom10@gmail.com

Eric Van Dervort, Music Minister

ewvandervort1@gmail.com

Sandy Nolan, Organist

sanolan00@gmail.com

Dan Blackford, Administrative Assistant

Office hours 9 am-1 pm M-F woodridgechurch@verizon.net

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