

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Eric Van Dervort

Ushers: Grant Southard, Marsha Southard,
Robert Cole, Marianna Sarty

Stewards: Marsha Southard, Grant Southard,
Ellen Hunt, Bob Cole

The flowers this Sunday are given by Rebecca Rotondo
in memory of her Mother,
Candida Rotondo

Communion Preparation
Pastor Tom Meyer

Our Staff:

Rev. Tom Meyer, Bridge Pastor
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Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

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

Worship at 10:00 AM

July 07, 2024

woodridgechurchri.org

facebook.com/woodridgecongregational



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

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*



Gathering

What's happening at Woodridge?

Gathering Music

Opening Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

God our protector and comforter, our shield and defender, hear our glad praises as we boast of your goodness. We gather as witnesses to your redeeming graciousness; we worship in response to your encompassing love. The birds start to sing before the sun rises, proof that you promise the dawn of new life while it is yet dark. Let your light shine on our darkness, that we may discern your will for us, giving You the honor due your glorious name.

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:

One: The earth shakes and the water quivers

All: The wind whistles and the sun listens

One: The beauty of creation mingles with the power of creation.

All: Awed in wonder and trembling with fear, we seek a safe place.

One: A place to voice our awe in song

All: And welcome God's love that conquers our fear.

*Hymn

This Is My Song

NCH #591

Scripture Reading:

Psalm 48 (NRSV)

¹Great is the Lord and greatly to be praised in the city of our God. His holy mountain, ²beautiful in elevation, is the joy of all the earth, Mount Zion, in the far north, the city of the great King. ³Within its citadels God has shown himself a sure defense. ⁴Then the kings assembled; they came on together. ⁵As soon as they saw it, they were astounded; they were in panic, they took to flight; ⁶trembling took hold of them there, pains as of a woman in labor, ⁷as when an east wind shatters the ships of Tarshish. ⁸As we have heard, so have we seen in the city of the Lord of hosts, in the city of our God, which God establishes forever. Selah ⁹We ponder your steadfast love, O God, in the midst of your temple. ¹⁰Your name, O God, like your praise, reaches to the ends of the earth. Your right hand is filled with victory. ¹¹Let Mount Zion be glad, let the towns of Judah rejoice because of your judgments. ¹²Walk about Zion, go all around it, count its towers, ¹³consider well its ramparts; go through its citadels, that you may tell the next generation ¹⁴that this is God, our God forever and ever. He will be our guide forever.

Prayer of Confession

UNISON: Let us seek the forgiveness of God and of each other for the divisions that hindered Christian witness: Lord we have sinned against you and each other. Creator God, let us no longer live beside each other as strangers. Satisfy the longings of our hearts, grant our rightful requests, and unite us soon in one holy church through your Son Jesus Christ who with you in the communion of the Holy Spirit lives and reigns.

Brief Silence

Assurance of Pardon (unison)

Do not loose heart! God is merciful and just and forgives us our sins. Renounce disgraceful, underhanded ways. Refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word. Be open to the truth of God's graciousness. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

Passing of the Peace

Sermon Text: Mark 6: 1-13 (NRSV)

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. ²On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! ³Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. ⁴Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." ⁵And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. ⁶And he was amazed at their unbelief. Then he went about among the villages teaching. ⁷He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. ⁸He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; ⁹but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. ¹⁰He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. ¹¹If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." ¹²So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. ¹³They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

Sermon "Getting to know Jesus " Rev. Tom Meyer

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

(The pastor will pass a microphone to those who raise a hand to speak.)

Speaker response: "This is my prayer." Congregation response: "This is our prayer."

Offertory

Blessings

J. Brickman
Eric Van Dervort

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

*Communion Hymn

As We Gather at Your Table

NCH #332

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Our communion table is open to all who wish to receive, regardless of church membership or affiliation. We welcome all ages to receive communion today and leave the decision to parents at what age their children should participate. We are now offering bread and juice separately or both contained in the combined cup; please take either bread or the combined cup when it is served.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

The Words of Invitation

This table is open to all who confess Jesus the Christ and seek to follow Christ's way. Come to this sacred table not because you must, but because you may. Come not because you are fulfilled, but because in your emptiness you stand in need of God's mercy and assurance. Come not to express an opinion, but to seek a presence and to pray for a spirit. Come to this table, then, sisters and brothers as you are. Partake and share. This table is spread for you and for me that we might again know that God has come to us, shared our common lot, and invited us to join the people of God's new age.

The Communion Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts,

People: We lift them up to God,

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

By eating this bread and drinking this cup, we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again and we say what we believe:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Gracious God, we ask you to bless this bread and cup and all of us with the outpouring of your Holy Spirit. Through this meal, make us the body of Christ, the church, your servant people, that we may be the salt, and light, and Leven for the furtherance of your will in all the world.

The Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west, north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen

*Hymn What a Friend We Have in Jesus Pilgrim #335

Benediction

Benediction response God Be With You (verse 1) NCH #81

Postlude

Announcements

The enclosed envelope may be used to make a gift to the **Deacon's Fund**, assisting Woodridge family and community members with emergency needs. Thank you.

Looking for golfers...We would like to know who would be interested in participating in a golf tournament by bringing back the Fred Malcolm fund raiser golf event. This usually takes place late September or early October. We are looking to have 4-5 teams of 4 players. It will be held at the Midville course in West Warwick which is a nine hole course. Tee off is approximately noon with dinner to follow. Please contact Barbara Stifano in the church office by phone or email. 401-942-0662 or woodridgechurch@verizon.net. Lets dust off those clubs!!!

Membership and Fellowship are seeking: Volunteers to provide Beverage on the Terrace, which starts June 23 and goes through early September.

Please use the signup sheets on the Narthex bulletin board.

We are still looking for people to help with the Livestream Team! If you are interested in sitting in the balcony during worship once a month and would like to learn how to operate the camera and computer and generate our livestream of the worship service, please contact Bob Ryan (bobby.ryan@verizon.net or see him at church) or Jay Bombardier (firebombjr@gmail.com or see him at church). Thank you very much!

Membership and Fellowship has posted the schedule of events for **Theatre By the Sea** and **The Terris Theatre** in Fellowship Hall, along with interest sheets. If you are interested in attending an event please sign up on the appropriate sheet. Please list your name and phone number. As you see others sign up for something you are interested in, reach out to them and make your plans!

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