

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

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

Worship at 10:00 AM

Aug 3, 2025

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*



Gathering

Canzonetta

Georges Bizet
arr. George Blake
Sandy Nolan - organ

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: Give thanks to God,

All: for God's steadfast love lasts forever.

One: God accompanies us in our distress,

All: as we cross the threshold to worship's blessings.

One: Give thanks to our God,

All: for God's steadfast love abides with us.

One: Let us enter this space for worship,

All: celebrating God's works for humankind.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Loving God, Divine Guide, may we not turn away from you as our desires take hold. When we are drawn to the sparkle around us, draw us back to the holy glow of your realm. When we focus on the divisions that divide us, lead us to share your steadfast love with those we separated from. When we fixate on how to get ahead, move us to share your bounty with our neighbors. Draw us back to you, Holy Beacon of Hope that we might all be made well. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn:

Sing Praise to God, Our Highest Good

NCH #6

Passing of the Peace

Children’s Message

Scripture: Luke 12:13-21^(NRSVUE)

¹³ Someone in the crowd said to him, “Teacher, tell my brother to divide the family inheritance with me.” ¹⁴ But he said to him, “Friend, who set me to be a judge or arbitrator over you?” ¹⁵ And he said to them, “Take care! Be on your guard against all kinds of greed, for one’s life does not consist in the abundance of possessions.” ¹⁶ Then he told them a parable: “The land of a rich man produced abundantly. ¹⁷ And he thought to himself, ‘What should I do, for I have no place to store my crops?’ ¹⁸ Then he said, ‘I will do this: I will pull down my barns and build larger ones, and there I will store all my grain and my goods. ¹⁹ And I will say to my soul, Soul, you have ample goods laid up for many years; relax, eat, drink, be merry.’ ²⁰ But God said to him, ‘You fool! This very night your life is being demanded of you. And the things you have prepared, whose will they be?’ ²¹ So it is with those who store up treasures for themselves but are not rich toward God.

Meditation Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

*Hymn: We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky NCH # 563

Pastoral Prayer – Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

Lord’s Prayer

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, forever. Amen.

Offertory Prelude in E Minor, Op. 28, No. 4 Frederic Chopin
Sandy Nolan – piano

Doxology Doxology NCH #779

Prayer of Dedication (unison prayer)

God of Goodness, thank you for your steadfast love and your wonderful works. Today we stand in front of you with our riches in hand: our treasures, time, and talents. May our giving reflect the faithfulness of our spirits. And may our offering be clothed with your visions and dreams. Amen.

*Hymn of Preparation Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken NCH #346

Holy Communion

The Sacrament of the Lord’s Supper
Invitation to the Table
Prayer of Consecration
Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Eternal God, we thank you for your presence in this holy feast. May we know the presence of Jesus among us. Take us from this table, renewed and restored, ready not to be served but to serve, in the power of the Spirit. Amen.

*Hymn: God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending NCH #565
(vs. 1-3)

Benediction

*Benediction Response Amen NCH #812

Postlude Sonatina, Op. 36, No. 1 M Clementi
Sandy Nolan - organ

Announcements

The Church office will be closed for vacation Aug. 7, 2025 through Aug. 12, 2025. Pastor Aidan will be on vacation from August 4th through August 11th. For Pastoral emergencies Pastor Aidan can be reached at: aidan@woodridgechurchri.org

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.

Beverage on the Terrace. Please see the signup sheet in the Narthex. This involves setting up the card table outside the entry doors with refreshments usually juice or ice tea and maybe some cookies or brownies. See Courtney Lombardi or Carol Kinoian for more information.

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. **Thank you** also to the folks who have signed up to help distribute the food collected. **The sign up sheet to help distribute food** at the Interfaith Food Pantry on the second Saturday of each month 9:15AM – noon will be ongoing. 5-6 people are needed to make this a smooth process. See the sign-up sheet in the Narthex on the bulletin board. Any questions call Lori-Jo and Lenny Wahl: 401-261-3916

Please consider donating the following items during the warm months of summer: cereal (individual packs in boxes), soups, canned veggies, canned fruit or individual fruit packs and juice. Also, there is a low supply of peanut butter, jelly, Instant mashed potatoes, and Boxed milk, (liquid and powder).

Summer Book Read : “Braiding Sweetgrass: Indigenous Wisdom, Scientific Knowledge and the Teachings of Plants” by Robin Wall Kimmerer This summer you are invited to read “Braiding Sweetgrass” by Robin Wall Kimmerer. This is a book about our relationship to the earth and the wisdom and gifts it holds for us. The book is beautifully written and offers many thought-provoking illustrations for how the natural world can teach us to live more abundantly. We will read the book independently and gather for a discussion in the Music Room after worship on **Sunday, August 24th**. “Braiding Sweetgrass” is widely available in bookstores and in wide circulation in the Rhode Island library system.

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Deb DiChiara

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

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

The flowers on the altar are given by
Laura and Tom Dillon in celebration of
their son, Tommy's 11th birthday

Beverage on the Terrace is provided by:
Carmela & Mateo

Communion is prepared by
Pastor Aidan

Our Staff:

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley, Pastor
aidan@woodridgechurchri.org

Sandy Nolan, Organist
sanolan00@gmail.com

Barbara Stifano, Administrative Assistant
Summer Office hours 8:30am – 1:30pm M-Thrs woodridgechurch@verizon.net
401-942-0662 or 401-942-0654