

*Welcome to*

Woodridge Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

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

Worship at 10:00 AM

December 7, 2025

[woodridgechurchri.org](http://woodridgechurchri.org)

[facebook.com/woodridgecongregational](https://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

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel  
with Born That We May Have Life

arr. Carol Tornquist  
Sandy Nolan - piano

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship & Advent Candle Lighting

One: In a world full of fear, where do you see glimmers of peace?

**All: We see glimmers of peace in the quiet of early morning, when people shake hands, when loved ones say they're sorry, and when the church acts together.**

One: You are right. Even in a fearful world, peace is all around us. Today we light the candle of peace as a reminder of this good news. May this flicker of light help us remember that even in a fearful world, peace is present. We only have to look for it. *(Peace candle is lit)*

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

Advent Response

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel (vs. 7)

NCH #116

Opening Prayer (unison)

**God of Peace in this season of Advent as we prepare our hearts and souls for the birth of the Christ Child take hold of us and lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth. Take hold of us, and lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust. Take hold of us, and lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe.**

\*Hymn:

We Hail You God's Anointed

NCH #104

Scripture: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19<sup>NRSVUE</sup>

Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to a king’s son. <sup>2</sup> May he judge your people with righteousness and your poor with justice. <sup>3</sup> May the mountains yield prosperity for the people, and the hills, in righteousness. <sup>4</sup> May he defend the cause of the poor of the people, give deliverance to the needy, and crush the oppressor. <sup>5</sup> May he live<sup>[a]</sup> while the sun endures and as long as the moon, throughout all generations. <sup>6</sup> May he be like rain that falls on the mown grass, like showers that water the earth. <sup>7</sup> In his days may righteousness flourish and peace abound, until the moon is no more. <sup>18</sup> Blessed be the LORD, the God of Israel, who alone does wondrous things. <sup>19</sup> Blessed be his glorious name forever; may his glory fill the whole earth.

Amen and Amen.

Psalter NCH page 667

Passing of the Peace

Children’s Message

\*Sending Hymn: Go, My Children, with My Blessing (v. 1) NCH #82

Scripture: Romans 15:4-13<sup>NRSVUE</sup>

<sup>4</sup> For whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. <sup>5</sup> May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, <sup>6</sup> so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup> Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. <sup>8</sup> For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised-on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the ancestors <sup>9</sup> and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess

you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name”; <sup>10</sup> and again he says, “Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people”; <sup>11</sup> and again, “Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; <sup>12</sup> and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope.” <sup>13</sup> May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Sermon Mike Corey

\*Hymn: O for a World NCH #575

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 Christmas Time Is Here

Vince Guaraldi  
& Lee Mendelson  
Bob Ryan – trombone  
Sandy Nolan - piano

\*Doxology

## Advent Doxology

Sussex Carol - English

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow, Praise God all crea - tures

5 here be-low, Praise God a-bove ye heav-en ly host, Praise Fath - er, Son\_ and

9 Ho - ly Ghost. Glo - ry to God\_ and peace to all,

13 Now and for - - ev - er more\_ A - men!

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**Abundant God, your blessings and righteousness are bountiful in our lives. May these gifts bear good fruit as they go forth, that peace may come, that creation may be healed, and that those who cry for justice may be heard. Amen.**

\*Hymn:

## Comfort, Comfort O My People

NCH #101

## Benediction

\*Benediction Response:

Wait for the Lord  
Taize

sung 2 x

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

5

Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!

## Postlude

Album for the Young Op. 68, No. 12

Robert Schumann  
Sandy Nolan - piano

## 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.

**Worshiping with children/youth or new to our church?** Welcome! Scan this QR code to find our Child and Family Information page to learn about things like worship resources, Sunday School/nursery, and where to find bathrooms/changing tables.



**The Service Team** is in need of help with food distribution at the Cranston Interfaith Food Pantry next Saturday. Please see the sign-up sheet in the Narthex if you can give just a couple of hours to help. Also there is a tremendous need for donations. Please consider the following items when you donate: cereal - cold & hot, peanut butter, tuna fish, canned chicken, all soups, mac & cheese, hot cocoa and tea.

**Advent Mission Project** hosted by Christian Education Team and the children of Woodridge are accepting donations of new unopen diapers and children's new and slightly used book now through Dec. 28, 2025. Please place your donations in the box in the Narthex. Thank you.

## Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Bob Cole

Ushers: Carmen Steinbrecher, Les Steinbrecher,  
Sharon Albert, Rebecca Rotondo

Stewards: Courtney Lombardi, Carmen Steinbrecher,  
John Chin, Rebecca Rotondo

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are provided by  
Gail Pendergast in loving memory of her  
mother, Mildred Hansen and brother, Kenneth Hansen

Coffee, Juice, and snacks in Fellowship Hall  
following Worship are provided by the  
Service Team

### Our Staff:

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley, Pastor  
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