

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

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



Worship at 10:00 AM

February 22, 2026

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*

Prelude

How Deep the Father's Love for Us, with

I Stand Amazed in the Presence

Carol Tornquist

Shyanne Slinko – piano

Welcome and Church Life

Call to Worship

One: Come into God's presence, you who imagine and you who seek, you who disrupt and you who repair.

All: By the Spirit, we gather in hope.

One: Come into God's presence, you who live in this wide and wild world, navigating beauty and uncertainty, temptation and trial.

All: In Christ, we gather as children of God.

One: Come into God's presence, singing for joy and for justice; bringing prayer and worship, your most faithful acts of resistance.

All: To God be the glory! We gather to praise!

Opening Prayer (unison)

God of the wildness, you claim us and embrace us in love: we are yours. When we face uncertainties and temptations that cause us to question your provision, doubt our belovedness, or exploit our faith for worldly gain, lead us back, again and again, to words of scripture, and to the living Word, Jesus Christ. May we hold fast in faith and serve you with our whole hearts, this day and always. Amen.

Hymn:

Lord Jesus, Who Through Forty Days

NCH #211

Scripture:

Psalms 32 NRSVUE

¹ Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. ² Happy are those to whom the LORD imputes no iniquity and in whose spirit there is no deceit. ³ While I kept silent, my body wasted away through my groaning all day long. ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up

as by the heat of summer. *Selah* ⁵ Then I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not hide my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD," and you forgave the guilt of my sin. *Selah* ⁶ Therefore let all who are faithful offer prayer to you; at a time of distress, the rush of mighty waters shall not reach them. ⁷ You are a hiding place for me; you preserve me from trouble; you surround me with glad cries of deliverance. *Selah* ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you the way you should go; I will counsel you with my eye upon you. ⁹ Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you. ¹⁰ Many are the torments of the wicked, but steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. ¹¹ Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, O righteous, and shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

Passing of the Peace

Children's Message

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

Scripture: Matthew 4:1-11^{NRSVUE}

4 Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. **2** He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. **3** The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." **4** But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'" **5** Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, **6** saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they

will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.’ ”⁷ Jesus said to him, “Again it is written, ‘Do not put the Lord your God to the test.’ ”⁸ Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory,⁹ and he said to him, “All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.”¹⁰ Then Jesus said to him, “Away with you, Satan! for it is written, ‘Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.’ ”¹¹ Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Sermon

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

*Hymn: Not My Brother, nor My Sister NCH #519

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.

Anthem We're Heaven-Bound Russell Mauldin
Shyanne Slinko -piano

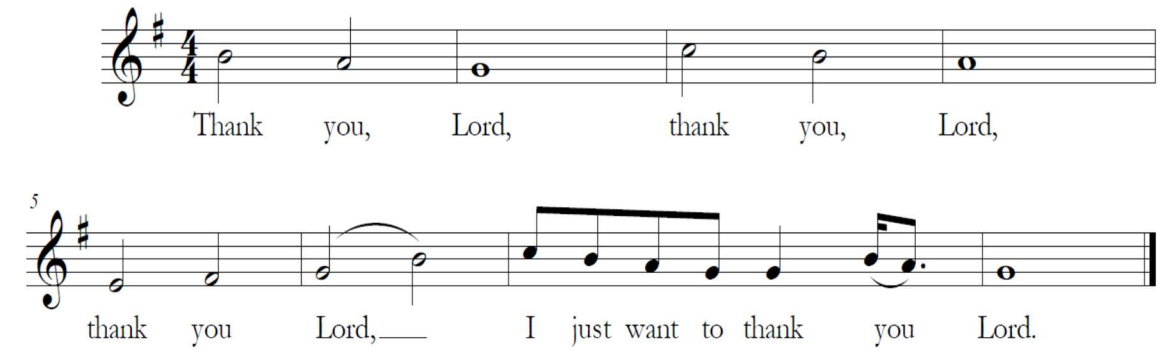
*Doxology

Thank You, Lord

African American Melody

(vs. 1)

sing 2x



Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Generous God, we bring our gifts before you and your church like tiny seeds from a dandelion. Send out these gifts on the mighty wind of your Spirit, bringing growth, bearing fruit, and nourishing both our faith community and our neighbors. May each gift of every size bloom with your holy imagination. Amen.

*Hymn:

Be Still, My Soul

NCH #488

Benediction

*Benediction Response

(3x)

Amen

African American Spiritual



Postlude

They'll Know We Are Christians by Our Love

Peter Scholtes

Shyanne Slinko - piano

Announcements

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. **Please** consider donating the following items during the cold months of winter: Hot instant cereal individual packs in boxes, Oatmeal, Hot soup individual packs (Lipton or store brand), Tea, and Hot chocolate. Also there is a low supply of Peanut butter, Instant mashed potatoes, and Boxed milk, (liquid and powder), canned chicken, canned tuna, Pancake complete mix (only needs water) and syrup.

Eat Out & Raise Money for Woodridge Church Dine for Donations for 2026.

The following restaurants have designated one day as Woodridge Church day and will donate to Woodridge Church a percentage of the total checks paid by diners who give or show our flyer to their server that day.

Save the date for the next Dine for Donations:

March 10 - Texas Roadhouse at 99 Garfield Ave Cranston

Flyers for Texas Roadhouse are available in the Narthex

April 22 - The Big Cheese and Pub at 606 Reservoir Ave Cranston

Looking to fill a spot on Usher Team D if you are interested in being an usher please see team captain Nancy Quintiliani.

Looking to fill a spot on Steward's Team A. If you have interest in being a steward please see Rick Therrien.

The Grief Support Group Meets Thursday afternoons, 2:00 – 3:30 pm in the Conference Room of the church. Access is via the Jackson Road entrance. 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

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Barbara Gloria

Ushers: Nancy Quintiliani, Martha Ryan,
Carmen Steinbrecher

Stewards: Gale MacDonald, Dianne Cavanaugh,
Eileen Phaneuf, Deb DiChiara

Chimes and Choir are providing coffee, juice, and pastry
for the month of February

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are provided
By family and friends of Rev. Dr. Bill Comeau

Our Staff:

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

Shyanne Slinko, Minister of Music
Shyanne@woodridgechurchri.org

Barbara Stifano, Administrative Assistant
Office hours 9am – 1pm M-F woodridgechurch@verizon.net
401-942-0662 or 401-942-0654