

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

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

Worship at 10:00 AM

January 4, 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*



Gathering Music

Kuhlau

Sandy Nolan - organ

Welcome and Church Life

Call to Worship

One: In this holy season of Christmas,

All: Christ comes to us again.

One: In this quiet after the harried days of December,

All: God invites us to pause and reflect.

One: Our journey has led us here.

All: The Spirit is with us now.

One: Let us bow down as sages of old,

All: and worship Christ our King.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Ever-loving God, we long for Christmas to usher in a season of peace and joy. However, we know that is not how the world works. Even just days after Christmas, we find ourselves face to face with fear once again. So today we pray—forgive us when we allow fear to stop us in our tracks. Forgive us when our own fear prevents us from following your call. Forgive us when fear is louder than love. Show us how to turn our fear into action. Show us how to live like the magi who searched for you in a fearful world. With hope we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn:

What Child is This

Pilgrim #140

Passing of the Peace

Children’s Message

Scripture: Isaiah 60:1-6NRSVUE

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses’ arms. ⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

Meditation Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

*Hymn: We Three Kings of Orient Are Pilgrim #143

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 A Child is Born Thad Jones
Bob Ryan – trombone
Sandy Nolan - piano

*Doxology (sung to tune of Old 100th)

*To God, all glorious heavenly Light,
to Christ revealed in earthly night,
to God the Spirit now we raise
our joyful songs of thankful praise. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Gracious God, bless these gifts, that they may be as impactful as the gold, frankincense, and myrrh given to the Christ child long ago. May our treasures bring honor to your name and support justice in your world. May our worship bring humility to our hearts, and may our time and talents bring love to life in all that we say and in all that we do. Amen.

*Hymn of Preparation Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face NCH #336
(vs. 1&2)

Holy Communion

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

God of open horizons and open roads, like the Magi so many years ago, we are here, seeking you. Step by step, we have wandered into this space with the hope of feeling you in our midst. Step by step, you have claimed us, loved us, and fed us. We offer our deep gratitude for the ways in which you have been present with us at your table. Together we pray, with the saints before us. Amen.

*Hymn: As With Gladness Those of Old NCH #159

Benediction

*Benediction Response: Love Came Down at Christmas (vss 1&3) NCH #165

Postlude Kuhlau Sandy Nolan - organ

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.

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

Quilty pleasures Quilt Guild Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday of the Month 6-9pm. Cost is \$5.00 to attend applied to annual dues. All experiences WELOCOME, New or Advanced. For questions contact: RPlottner@gmail.com

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Barbara Gloria

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

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

Communion is provided and prepared by
Martha Ryan and Eileen Phaneuf

The flowers on the altar this Sunday are provided by
members, friends, and family of Woodridge Church

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

Our Staff:

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley, Pastor
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Sandy Nolan, Organist
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