

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

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

Worship at 10:00 AM

July 06, 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*



Prelude

Fanfare for the Common Man

Aaron Copland
arr. Roger Brison
Susan Hodgins - piano

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: All are welcome here. Whether you are heavy-hearted, wondering if there is power to make you well or feel weighed down by many demands,

All: The kingdom of God has come near.

One: Whether you are burdened by rules others have imposed or you are a keeper and maker of rules.

All: The kingdom of God has come near.

One: Whether you feel at home in this place or you long to be accepted,

All: The kingdom of God has come near.

One: Come and worship God, the One who writes our names in the book of life and dares us to become new creations in Jesus.

All: The kingdom of God has come near.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Merciful God, in all our celebration, fireworks, parades, and gatherings we have proclaimed liberty and freedom. Yet our hearts are chained by anger, doubt, terror, and fear. We live in those chains, often not knowing that there is really any other way. We have become accustomed to our imprisonment. Forgive us when we turn away from your freeing love. Help us to place our trust in you and serve you by working with others for peace and hope for all. These things we ask in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn:

O Christ the Healer we have Come

NCH #175

Passing of the Peace

Children’s Message

Scripture: Luke 10: 1-11,16-20(NRSVUE)

10 After this the Lord appointed seventy-two^a others and sent them two by two ahead of him to every town and place where he was about to go. ² He told them, “The harvest is plentiful, but the workers are few. Ask the Lord of the harvest, therefore, to send out workers into his harvest field. ³ Go! I am sending you out like lambs among wolves. ⁴ Do not take a purse or bag or sandals; and do not greet anyone on the road. ⁵ “When you enter a house, first say, ‘Peace to this house.’ ⁶ If someone who promotes peace is there, your peace will rest on them; if not, it will return to you. ⁷ Stay there, eating and drinking whatever they give you, for the worker deserves his wages. Do not move around from house to house. ⁸ “When you enter a town and are welcomed, eat what is offered to you. ⁹ Heal the sick who are there and tell them, ‘The kingdom of God has come near to you.’ ¹⁰ But when you enter a town and are not welcomed, go into its streets and say, ¹¹ ‘Even the dust of your town we wipe from our feet as a warning to you. Yet be sure of this: The kingdom of God has come near.’ ¹² “Whoever listens to you listens to me; whoever rejects you rejects me; but whoever rejects me rejects him who sent me.” ¹³ The seventy-two returned with joy and said, “Lord, even the demons submit to us in your name.” ¹⁴ He replied, “I saw Satan fall like lightning from heaven. ¹⁵ I have given you authority to trample on snakes and scorpions and to overcome all the power of the enemy; nothing will harm you. ¹⁶ However, do not rejoice that the spirits submit to you, but rejoice that your names are written in heaven.”

Meditation Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

*Hymn: Send Me Jesus (Thuma Mina) NCH #360

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 Leaning on the Everlasting Arms Anthony J. Showalter
Susan Hodgin - piano

*Doxology: Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow (Old 100th) NCH #780

Prayer of Dedication (unison prayer)

Generous God, you share your kingdom with all humanity, drawing closer to us than our very breath. May our offering this day support your holy work and may all come to know that your kingdom has truly come near. Amen.

*Hymn of Preparation: Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ NCH #347

Holy Communion

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

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Your abundance, O God, has overflowed into the world with an everlasting love. As we give thanks for the gifts of earth and the way in which you have given it so graciously through the life of Jesus, we pray that your Holy Spirit would come upon us. May we be nourished by your gifts and encouraged by your promise to care for us and for all creation through the presence of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: "How Beautiful, Our Spacious Skies" NCH #594

Benediction

Benediction Response God Be With You (vs 1) NCH #81

Postlude From a Distance Julie Gold
arr. Pamela Schultz
Susan Hodgins - 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.

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 Kionoian for more information.

Holiday Market Anyone interested in helping this year please come to the meeting on July 13, 2025 following worship in the Conference Room to discuss plans for the 2025 **Holiday Market**.

New Member Sunday will be July 27th. If you are new to the church or would like to learn more about what it means to be a member of Woodridge, join Pastor Aidan for a brief information session on July 13th in the Music Room after worship.

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 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).

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 will continue through the summer meeting on the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month 6-9pm. Cost is \$5.00 to attend applied to annual dues. All experiences WELCOME, New or Advanced. For questions contact: RPloettner@gmail.com

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

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 daughter
Emma's 8th birthday.

Communion is prepared by
Pastor Aidan

Our Staff:

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley, Pastor
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Sandy Nolan, Organist
sanolan00@gmail.com

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