

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

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

Worship at 10:00 AM

March 23, 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

Just a Closer Walk with Thee

arr. Jack Gale

Traditional Gospel Song
Rhode Island Sax Quartet

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: Worship is a place to rest.

All: We breathe deeply here. We still our aching bones. We sit in the quiet. We surround ourselves with music. Worship is a place to rest.

One: Worship is a place to grow.

All: We listen for God's word. We invite it to challenge us. We lean in with curiosity. We ask questions. Worship is a place to grow.

One: So come into this space. Come rest and grow here.

All: For where two or more are gathered, God is always there. Let us worship our gracious God.

Opening Prayer

Creator God, your Word is like soil, something we can root ourselves in. Your Word is like the sun, big enough to touch everything with its warmth. And your Word is like a gardener, a love that prunes and encourages, waters and delights, seeds and tends. So, as we turn to your Word today, warm our bones, tend to our broken pieces, and show us how to grow. With hope we pray, Amen.

Hymn:

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Pilgrim #93

Scripture:

Psalm 63:1-8(NRSV)

O God, you are my God, I seek you, my soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water. ²So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory. ³Because your steadfast love is

Lenten Small Group : “Follow Jesus” from “Follow Me” : Biblical Practices for Faithful Living You are invited to join an adult (teens and young adults welcome as well!) Lenten study group as we explore what it means to “follow Jesus” as a practice of our faith. We will gather over a series of four one-hour sessions to learn about this practice of faith: finding the practice in the bible, finding the practice then and now, and practicing the practice. We will meet following worship at 10:45 AM in the Music Room on Sunday, March 23rd, and 30th.

Lenten Book Read : *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor

All are invited to read and be in conversation around Barbara Brown Taylor’s lovely book, *An Altar in the World: A Geography of Faith*. New and used copies of the book are easily found in bookstores and the Rhode Island Library system also has a number of copies in circulation. We will come together to share our reflections on the book following worship on Sunday, April 6th at 11:45 AM in the Music Room.

We are still looking for people to help with the Livestream Team! If you are interested in sitting in the balcony during worship once a month and would like to learn how to operate the camera and computer and generate our livestream of the worship service, please contact Bob Ryan at bobby.ryan@verizon.net or see him at church or Jay Bombardier at firebombjr@gmail.com or see him at church. Thank you very much!

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).

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: Carol Kinoian

Ushers: Nancy Quintiliani, Martha Ryan
Lori-Jo Wahl, Lenny Wahl

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

For the month of March coffee and pastry is supplied
by Stewardship, buildings & Grounds Team

Our Staff:

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

Eric Van Dervort, Music Minister
ewvandervort1@gmail.com

Sandy Nolan, Organist
sanolan00@gmail.com

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

