

# Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church  
United Church of Christ

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

woodridgechurchri.org    facebook.com/woodridgecongregational

March 15, 2026

Worship at 10:00 AM



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.

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*\*All who are able, please stand*

Prelude

Granted

Josh Groban  
Shyanne Slinko - piano

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: Come into the light of God.

**All: Christ's brightness will guide our way.**

One: Come into the wisdom of God.

**All: The Spirit's insight will reveal new truths.**

One: Come into the praise of God,

**All: Worship opens new doors in our hearts.**

Opening Prayer (unison)

**Shepherd of love, guide our steps, open the eyes of our hearts, and fling wide the doors of our minds to perceive as you perceive. Open our lives to love as you love. Open our world to become the world you envision for your creation. In the light of your love, we pray. Amen.**

\*Hymn:

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

NCH #252

Scripture

Psalms 23 NRSVUE

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want. <sup>2</sup>He makes me lie down in green pastures; he leads me beside still waters; <sup>3</sup>he restores my soul. He leads me in right paths for his name's sake. <sup>4</sup>Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. <sup>5</sup>You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies; you anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows. <sup>6</sup>Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life, and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD my whole life long.

## Passing of the Peace

### Children's Message

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

Scripture:                            John 9:1-41<sup>NRSVUE</sup>

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. <sup>2</sup> His disciples asked him, "Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?" <sup>3</sup> Jesus answered, "Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God's works might be revealed in him. <sup>4</sup> We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. <sup>5</sup> As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world." <sup>6</sup> When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man's eyes, <sup>7</sup> saying to him, "Go, wash in the pool of Siloam" (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. <sup>8</sup> The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, "Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?" <sup>9</sup> Some were saying, "It is he." Others were saying, "No, but it is someone like him." He kept saying, "I am he." <sup>10</sup> But they kept asking him, "Then how were your eyes opened?" <sup>11</sup> He answered, "The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, 'Go to Siloam and wash.' Then I went and washed and received my sight." <sup>12</sup> They said to him, "Where is he?" He said, "I do not know." <sup>13</sup> They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. <sup>14</sup> Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. <sup>15</sup> Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, "He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now see" <sup>16</sup> Some of the Pharisees said, "This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath." Others said, "How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?" And they were divided. <sup>17</sup> So they said again to the blind man, "What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened." He said, "He is a prophet. <sup>18</sup> The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called

the parents of the man who had received his sight <sup>19</sup> and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see <sup>20</sup> His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, <sup>21</sup> but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." <sup>22</sup> His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. <sup>23</sup> Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him." <sup>24</sup> So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." <sup>25</sup> He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." <sup>26</sup> They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" <sup>27</sup> He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" <sup>28</sup> Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. <sup>29</sup> We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." <sup>30</sup> The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. <sup>31</sup> We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. <sup>32</sup> Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. <sup>33</sup> If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." <sup>34</sup> They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out. <sup>35</sup> Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him, he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" <sup>36</sup> He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." <sup>37</sup> Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." <sup>38</sup> He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. <sup>39</sup> Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." <sup>40</sup> Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" <sup>41</sup> Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Sermon

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

\*Hymn: Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound (vss. 1-3) NCH #547

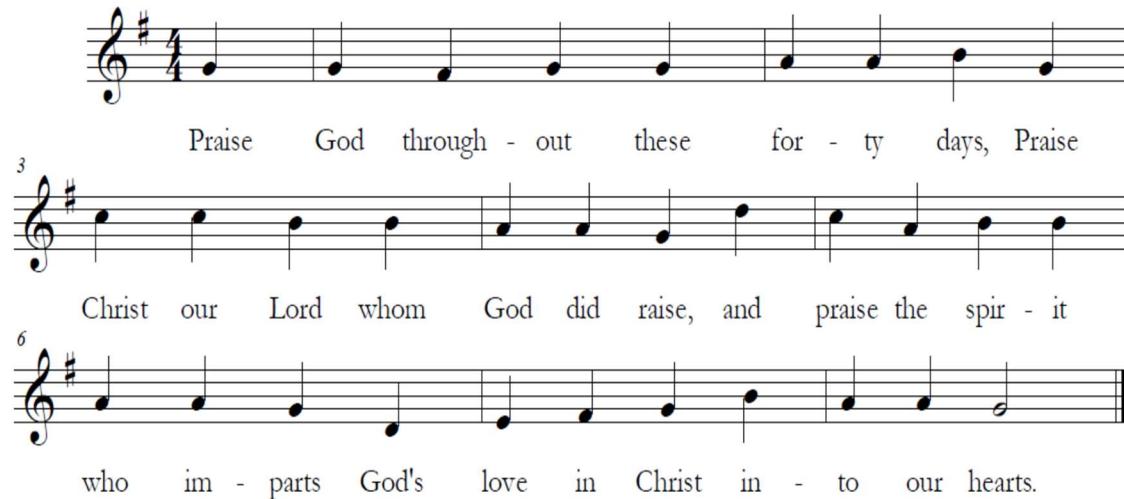
Pastoral Prayer — Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

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 I Can See Clearly Now Johnny Nash  
Shyanne Slinko – piano  
Woodridge Choir

\*Doxology  
A Lenten Doxology  
Tallis Canon



Praise God through - out these for - ty days, Praise  
Christ our Lord whom God did raise, and praise the spir - it  
who im - parts God's love in Christ in - to our hearts.

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

**All-seeing God, you see the gifts we have given and the offerings we are giving: our treasure and our time, our service and our lives. Help us perceive the value of your gifts you, and the ways our generous sharing brings your realm more closely to this earth. Bless our lives and our gifts, that they might become points of light to bring all of creation closer to you and to your love. Amen.**

\*Hymn: Be Thou My Vision Pilgrim #391

Benediction

\*Benediction Response Part in Peace (1&3) NCH #78

Postlude Shine Jesus Shine  
Graham Kendrick  
Shyanne Slinko - organ

## Announcements

**Our Sunday School children, youth, and families have invited us into a Lenten project** to deepen our awareness and support of mental health. You can participate in this Lenten Project by donating items from this list AND/OR a financial contribution toward hosting a community-focused mental health presentation hosted by Woodridge (memo: WISE). □ Origami paper □ Markers □ Scented markers □ Crayons □ Tempera paint □ Tempera paint sticks □ Model Magic Clay □ Journals (with no staples) □ Crosswords (with no staples) □ Coloring books (with no staples) □ Monetary donations to help us to become a WISE church

**The Worship Team is delighted to continue our Easter flowers tradition.** If you would like to order a lily, tulip, daffodil or hyacinth plant in memory or celebration of loved ones, we will decorate our Easter altar with the beautiful flowering plants. After the service you can take yours home. The dedications for the plants will be printed in the Easter bulletin. Here's the details for ordering.

1. Order forms will be available on the lobby table on Sunday mornings, March 8, 15, and 22.
2. A member of the Worship Team will be available after worship to collect your completed form(s) and cash/ check.
3. Please make your check payable to Woodridge Church. Please enter "Easter Flowers" in the memo line.
4. Deadline for orders: March 22, 2026.
5. Cost info:
  - Lily plant \$22
  - Tulip plant \$17
  - Daffodil plant \$17
  - Hyacinth plant \$17

Thanks very much! Any questions, please contact Carmen Steinbrecher ([crburney814.cs@gmail.com](mailto:crburney814.cs@gmail.com) or 401-374-9191).

**Eat Out & Raise Money for Woodridge Church** Dine for Donations 2026 is in progress. A fun time had by all who went to Texas Road House. Thank you for participating. The next Dine Out is at Big Cheese, Cranston. Details to follow.

## Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Martha Ryan

Ushers: Grant Southard, Larry Celani,  
Robert Cole, Marianna Sarty

Stewards: Grant Southard, Ellen Hunt,  
Bob Cole, Larry Celani

Coffee, Juice, and snacks in Fellowship Hall following Worship are provided by Stewardship, Buildings & Grounds

### Our Staff:

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley, Pastor  
[aidan@woodridgechurchri.org](mailto:aidan@woodridgechurchri.org)

Shyanne Slinko, Minister of Music  
[Shyanne@woodridgechurchri.org](mailto:Shyanne@woodridgechurchri.org)

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



# Easter plant ORDER FORM



I/we would like to order a plant for our Church Sanctuary for Easter.

Complete and return this form with payment - to the office or a Worship Team member - no later than Sunday, March 22.

Please make check(s) payable to "Woodridge Church" and note "Easter flowers" on the memo line.

Please indicate your choice of plant(s) and if possible, please use a separate form for each plant:

Lily (\$22.00)     Daffodil (\$17.00)     Tulip (\$17.00)

Hyacinth (\$17.00)

Dedication (please write or print clearly):

Given by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Please circle one and/or provide complete dedication(s) desired:

In loving memory of ...     In honor of ...     In celebration of ...

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

I/we will pickup the plant after the service or when convenient.

Please plant this flower in the church garden