

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ



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

woodridgechurchri.org facebook.com/woodridgecongregational

March 8, 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.

**All who are able, please stand*

Prelude

When I Survey the Wonderful Cross

Isaac Watts

Shyanne Slinko - piano

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: Worship God with joy and thanksgiving.

All: Make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation.

One: We are the sheep of God's pasture.

All: We are the lambs of God's flock.

One: Come! Let us worship the Lord.

Opening Prayer (unison)

Living water, flow through our hearts today. Quench our thirst in our desert wanderings and strengthen us for the road ahead. Bathe us in your fountain of eternal life, that our spirits may flow with faith and love, through the power of your eternal Spirit. Amen.

*Hymn:

Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer

NCH #18

Passing of the Peace

Children's Message

Sending Hymn:

Go, My Children, with My Blessing (v. 1)

NCH #82

Scripture:

John 4:5-42^{NRSVUE}

⁵ So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶ Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon. ⁷ A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink." ⁸ (His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹ The Samaritan woman said to him, "How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?" (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰ Jesus answered her, "If you knew the gift of God and who it is that is saying to you, 'Give me a drink,' you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water." ¹¹ The woman said to him, "Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹² Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?" ¹³ Jesus said to her, "Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴ but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life." ¹⁵ The woman said to him, "Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water. ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Go, call your husband, and come back." ¹⁷ The woman answered him, "I have no husband." Jesus said to her, "You are right in saying, 'I have no husband,' ¹⁸ for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!" ¹⁹ The woman said to him, "Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰ Our ancestors worshiped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem." ²¹ Jesus said to her, "Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²² You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³ But the hour is coming and is now here when the true worshipers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴ God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth." ²⁵ The woman said to him, "I know that Messiah is coming" (who is called Christ). "When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us." ²⁶ Jesus said to her,

"I am he, the one who is speaking to you." ²⁷ Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, "What do you want?" or, "Why are you speaking with her?" ²⁸ Then the woman left her water jar and went back to the city. She said to the people ²⁹ "Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?" ³⁰ They left the city and were on their way to him. ³¹ Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, "Rabbi, eat something" ³² But he said to them, "I have food to eat that you do not know about." ³³ So the disciples said to one another, "Surely no one has brought him something to eat?" ³⁴ Jesus said to them, "My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵ Do you not say, 'Four months more, then comes the harvest'? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶ The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that Sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷ For here the saying holds true, 'One sows and another reaps.' ³⁸ I sent you to reap that for which you did not labor. Others have labored, and you have entered into their labor." ³⁹ Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, "He told me everything I have ever done." ⁴⁰ So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them, and he stayed there two days. ⁴¹ And many more believed because of his word. ⁴² They said to the woman, "It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Savior of the world."

Sermon

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

*Hymn:

When, like the Woman at the Well

NCH #196

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

Anthem for Lent

Jay Althouse
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)

Eternal Spirit, Source of healing and wholeness, receive our grateful hearts for your many blessings. Transform the gifts we bring this day into Christ's promise of living water for the world. Bathe those who are touched by today's offering in your goodness and grace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

*Hymn:

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

NCH #224

Benediction

*Benediction Response:

Part in Peace (1&3)

NCH #78

Postlude

O the Deep Deep Love of Jesus

medley
Samuel Trevor Francis
Shyanne Slinko - organ

Announcements

Thank you for your donations to the Cranston Interfaith Food Pantry.

The on-going need for food items continues: hot and cold cereals, soups, Canned chicken and fish, and peanut butter and jelly. Thank you.

You are invited to attend the IRISH / ITALIAN Pot Luck in Fellowship Hall on March 14, 2026 at 5pm. We are off to a great start with an amazing menu developing on the sign-up sheet which is in the Narthex. Note: If you are bringing Italian Bread or Irish Soda Bread, please consider bringing 2-3 loaves. Also indicate on the sign-up sheet how many in your party. If there is someone you know who would enjoy this event, bring them. Share the Blessings of food, fun, and fellowship that our congregation has to offer. Come in full regalia. See you there!

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

Eat Out & Raise Money for Woodridge Church Dine for Donations 2026 is in progress. 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. The rules vary slightly from restaurant to restaurant, but giving the paper flyer to your server always works.

Here's the dates that have been set up so far. Make plans with your family and friends and church friends! Additional dates and restaurants will be coming soon! The restaurant flyer will be sent out via the Woodridge Word and distributed in church as each date approaches. Coming up next:

March 10 - Texas Roadhouse at 99 Garfield Ave Cranston

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

Flyers are available in the Narthex for Texas Road House Dine for Donations

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Barbara Stifano

Ushers: Debbie Scipione, Eileen Phaneuf,
Lou Beneduce, Richard Jordan

Stewards: Deb Moretti, Nancy Quintiliani,
Richard Therrien, Deborah Therrien

Flowers on the altar this week are given by
Judith Szilagyi, in loving memory of her mother and brother

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

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



Easter plant ORDER FORM



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 15, and 22 and available on the reverse of this page today.
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 or 401-374-9191).

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

