Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church United Church of Christ



An Open & Affirming Congregation and A Caring & Welcoming Community

Worship at 10:00 AM

November 24, 2024

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.

Gathering Let It Be

The Beatles
Words and music by
John Lennon and Paul McCartney
Prime Time Chimers

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: In deep gratitude we come to worship God.

All: We recognize God as the source of all goodness.

One: All good gifts come from the Spirit of God:

All: love, peace, joy, patience, kindness, gentleness are all of God. One: We come with grateful hearts, not for things, but for who God is.

All: We gather to show our gratitude in song and prayer.

Opening Prayer (unison)

We come to you, O God, in thanksgiving for the gift of our beautiful land, a land whose harvest feeds us and can feed the world. We come to you in thanksgiving for the gift of faith, the faith known to us here in this place. We come to you in thanksgiving most of all for the gift of your Son, Jesus Christ. Be with us now that we may truly worship you. Amen.

<u>*Hymn</u> Come, Ye Thankful People Come Pilgrim #462

Scripture: Psalm 126(NRSV)

¹When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream. ²Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for them." ³The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced. ⁴Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb. ⁵May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy. ⁶Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

^{*} All who are able, please stand

Passing of the Peace

Children's Message

*Sending Hymn: Go, My Children, with My Blessing (verse 1) (Children may leave for Sunday School)

NCH #82

Scripture:

Matthew 6: 25-33(NRSV)

²⁵"Therefore I tell you, do not worry about your life, what you will eat or what you will drink, or about your body, what you will wear. Is not life more than food, and the body more than clothing? ²⁶Look at the birds of the air; they neither sow nor reap nor gather into barns, and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Are you not of more value than they? ²⁷And can any of you by worrying add a single hour to your span of life? ²⁸And why do you worry about clothing? Consider the lilies of the field, how they grow; they neither toil nor spin, ²⁹yet I tell you, even Solomon in all his glory was not clothed like one of these. ³⁰But if God so clothes the grass of the field, which is alive today and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, will he not much more clothe you—you of little faith? ³¹Therefore do not worry, saying, 'What will we eat?' or 'What will we drink?' or 'What will we wear?' ³²For it is the Gentiles who strive for all these things; and indeed your heavenly Father knows that you need all these things. ³³But strive first for the kingdom of God and his righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

Sermon

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

*Hymn

Great Is Your Faithfulness

NCH # 423

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations

A Thanksgiving Litany



O God, we give you thanks for all you have done for us.

That you have created us, and have given us the gift of life and set us to live in this earth:

that you have given us work to do, and the strength to do it: **REFRAIN**

We give you thanks for all that others have done for us.

For those who taught us when we were children;

for those who in the days of youth gave us the guidance that kept us from going astray;

for those who to this day love us and surround us with their care: REFRAIN

We give you thanks for all that your church has done for us.

For strength and guidance each week for life's way;

for the friendship and the fellowship which we enjoy;

for the sacraments of your grace, and the prayers of your people: REFRAIN

We give you thanks for all that you have done for us in Jesus Christ.

That in Christ you have shown us the length and breadth and depth and height of your great love for us;

that in Christ you have opened to us a new and living way into your presence:

REFRAIN

We give you thanks for everything that has given us strength for each and hope for heaven. Accept this our sacrifice of praise for your love's sake. **Amen**.

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Anthem

Many and Great, O God are Your Works

Bob Ryan - percussion
Nancy Quintiliani – flute
Martha Ryan - rain stick
Woodridge Choir

*Doxology

Give Thanks

Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One
Give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.
And now let the weak say, "I am strong" let the poor say "I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us" Give thanks! Give thanks!

Prayer of Dedication (unison prayer)

Gracious and abundant God, like the birds of the air, we can trust your provision. You take care of us. Like the lilies of the field, all that we have is yours. Every good thing is a gift from you. Bless the gifts that we bring, that in all we make and say and do: trust may grow, beauty may flourish, generosity may flow, and your name may be praised. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn

Now Thank We All Our God

NCH #419

<u>Benediction</u>

*Benediction Response

Farewell, Good Friends!

Israeli melody





Postlude

Announcements

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service — Today, Sunday, Nov. 24, 6 PM @ Temple Sinai Our congregation will join with other communities of faith in Cranston for an interfaith Thanksgiving celebration hosted by Temple Sinai at 6 PM on Sunday, November 24th. Come and enjoy a time of gratitude and fellowship and experience a diverse service of 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. This year in leu of Thanksgiving Baskets we are planning to do a bigger food distribution at the Food Pantry in December. Please consider bringing in items that folks could use as part of their Christmas celebration such as boxed potatoes, canned veggies, canned yams, cranberry sauce, stuffing, boxed breads, cake and brownie mixes.

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Martha Ryan

Ushers: Grant Southard, Marsha Southard, Robert Cole, Marianna Sarty

Stewards: Marsha Southard, Grant Southard, Ellen Hunt, Bob Cole

The flowers this Sunday are given by
Lynne Sullivan and Lou Beneduce
in celebration of their daughter, Jasmyn's birthday.

For the month of November, Coffee and a Cornucopia of deliciousness is served in Fellowship Hall after worship prepared by Pastoral & Staff

Our Staff:

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

Eric Van Dervort, Music Minister <u>ewvandervort1@gmail.com</u>

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



Happy, Healthy,
Blessed
Thankşgiving
to all

Page 6