

Welcome to

Woodridge Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

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

Worship at 10:00 AM

November 3, 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.

** All who are able, please stand*



Gathering

Prelude in G Minor

Johann Sebastian Bach
Sandy Nolan - organ

Welcome & Church Life

Call to Worship

One: Friends and neighbors, we gather to worship God our Creator on this Sunday before election day. Let us love God with all our heart, mind, and strength.

All: We gather to honor the saints who have come before us, teaching us how to love in the fullness of God. Let us love God with all our heart, mind, and strength.

One: We gather to fellowship with one another as we build relationships with our neighbors with whom we agree and disagree. Let us love our neighbor as ourselves.

All: We gather in praise and celebration that the God of Justice and Peace will guide us through this significant moment in our democracy. Let us love our neighbor as ourselves.

One: We gather to be nourished in bread and cup, remembering that God nourishes all communities with God's love. Let us love our neighbors as ourselves.

All: So come, friends and neighbors, and let us love God with all of who we are as we love and are loved by our neighbor.

Prayer of Confession (unison)

Beloved God, who was known to our mothers and fathers, and even to our spiritual forebears, have mercy on us. We do not always love as you would have us love. We do not always do as you would have us do. In our stubbornness, we turn from you when we should turn toward you. Hold us, dear One –comfort us when we mourn the passing of friends and family, and help us to know that they are rejoicing in your presence. We praise you for the grace you shower on us, constantly forgiving our errors, especially the ones that we don't share with any but you. Hear now the silent fears and worries of our hearts. (silent prayer)

Assurance of Pardon

*Hymn

Bring Many Names (Verses 1,2,3, and 5)

NCH #11

Scripture:

Psalm 24(NRSV)

¹The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it, the world, and those who live in it; ²for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers. ³Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? ⁴Those who have clean hands and pure hearts, who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully. ⁵They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation. ⁶Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah ⁷Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. ⁸Who is the King of glory? The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle. ⁹Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in. ¹⁰Who is this King of glory? The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory. Selah

Passing of the Peace

Children's Message

Scripture:

John 11:32-44 (NRSV)

³²When Mary came where Jesus was and saw him, she knelt at his feet and said to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who came with her also weeping, he was greatly disturbed in spirit and deeply moved. ³⁴He said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus began to weep. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man have kept this man from dying?" ³⁸Then Jesus, again greatly disturbed, came to the tomb. It was a cave, and a stone was lying against it. ³⁹Jesus said, "Take away the stone." Martha, the sister of the dead man, said to him, "Lord, already there is a stench because he has been dead four days." ⁴⁰Jesus said to her, "Did I not tell you that if you believed, you would see the glory of God?" ⁴¹So they took away the stone. And Jesus looked upward and said, "Father, I thank you for having heard me. ⁴²I knew that you always hear me, but I have said this, he cried with a loud voice, "Lazarus, come out!" ⁴⁴The dead man came out, his hands and feet bound with strips of cloth, and his face wrapped in a cloth. Jesus said to them, "Unbind him, and let him go."

Meditation

Rev. Aidan Myers Kelley

Hymn:

We are Standing on Holy Ground

see page 6

Litany of Remembrance:

One: Living God, our Guide and Guardian,
who sits on the throne and delivers us into eternal life,
we give you thanks for the saints of every time, tribe, and tongue
who now rest in the shelter of your embrace.
We set aside this moment to remember
Those saints who are dear and precious to us
Who have died and entered into glory
during the last twelve months.

We bless you for the life and love of these dear saints,
and rejoice for them that they have entered
into the fullness of life in your presence.

We also remember those saints who
we hold in our hearts who have not been
with us for some time, yet whose life and witness
Continue to form and shape us as your disciples.
We honor them now by lifting their names aloud or in our hearts.

**On this All Saints Sunday, we also remember
that we too are living saints,
members of the family of God
with all the saints of the past, the present, and the future.
And so, we remember:
We are God's children
What we shall be has not yet been revealed;
but we know that when Christ appears, we shall be like him,
for we shall see him as he is.
So today and every day,
may we put on Christ and live as saints
who tend the poor,**

**comfort the mourners,
learn from the meek,
affirm those who seek righteousness,
offer mercy alongside the merciful,
and work for peace with the peacemakers
until Christ comes in final victory
and we feast as the family of God
at his heavenly banquet. Amen.**

Prayer Concerns and Celebrations – Pastoral Prayer

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 Spirit of Life C. McDade
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)

Mighty God, as you heal and restore those who are afflicted, use these offerings to provide refuge for the lost and mercy for those who suffer. May our gifts find those who cry out in need and who seek you with receptive hearts. Amen.

*Hymn of Preparation As We Gather at Your Table (Verses 1 & 3) NCH # 332

Holy Communion

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Invitation to the Table
Prayer of Consecration
Bread and Cup*

Prayer of Thanksgiving (unison)

Holy God, every time we come to this Table, we look for you. We come looking for welcome, looking for reasons to hope. And just as you promised, you have met us here. As we go from this place, may we remember what it felt like to be welcomed to your Table, and may we welcome others with that same warmth. May we remember what it felt like to have a meal where all were fed, and may we work for a world where none are hungry. May we remember what it felt like to draw closer to you, and may we continually seek you out with all that we do. Amen.

*Hymn: For All the Saints NCH #299

Benediction

*Benediction Response Farewell, Good Friends! See page 6

Postlude Marche Romaine Charles Gounod
Sandy Nolan –organ

We Are Standing on Holy Ground
G. Davis

We are stand - ing on ho - ly ground, and I
5 know that there are an - gels all a - round, let us praise Je - sus
11 now, we are stand - ing in the pres - ence on ho - ly ground.

Farewell, Good Friends!

Israeli melody

Fare - well, good friends! Fare - well, good friends! Sha - lom, sha - lom! Till we
5 meet a - gain, till we meet a - gain, sha - lom, sha - lom. Fare

Worship Ministers for Today's Service

Liturgist: Carmen Steinbrecher

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

Stewards: Gale MacDonald, Dianne Cavanaugh,
Eileen Phaneuf, Carol Kinoian

This Sunday's flowers are given by Deb DiChiara in memory
of her parents, Mary and Ken Read

Communion Preparation is provided by
Nancy Quintiliani and Martha Ryan

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
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