AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY Woodridge United Methodist Church

Sunday, August 4th, 2024

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Prelude

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Jiwon Yim

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Kathy Falout: We do not live by bread alone, but by the life-giving word of God's love.

Many Voices: God, give us the bread of life, today and always.

Kathy Falout: Too long have we lived with hunger, seeking to fill our appetites with food

that leaves us wanting.

Many Voices: Too long we have starved ourselves of spiritual food that truly

satisfies.

Kathy Falout: "I am the Bread of Life," Jesus tells us. "Whoever comes to me will never be

hungry."

Many Voices: "Whoever believes in me will never be thirsty."

Kathy Falout: Come, Holy Spirit. Feed us with your grace and love.

Many Voices: May we love our neighbors, ourselves, and you, so that we may

never be hungry again. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast"

UMH #616

Opening Prayer

Kathy Falout: Spirit of God, dwell among us and revive us. You know the deep hungers that motivate us, and the attempts we make to satisfy these hungers. You alone know the grace and peace that can nourish us to full strength, in body and soul. Feed us, Bread of Life, with food that lasts. Give enough to share with others who also hunger, even if they know not what they hunger for. We rejoice in your bread, for it truly satisfies. Give us the wisdom to receive it, that we may taste and see your goodness, O Lord.

All: Amen!

Blessing Our Children

Offering Ourselves

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: O God, in Christ you call us to lead a life worthy of our calling. We come before you and implore you to accept our gifts. We offer our diversity, that it may be made one by your reconciling Spirit. We return to you the talents conferred by your creative goodness. We present to you our acts of obedience in response to your trust. May who we are and what we do be acceptable in your sight, through Christ our redeemer. Amen.

Blessing our Gifts with Music

Heather Kostov

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson 2 Samuel 11: 26 – 12:13 (NRSVUE) Gospel Lesson John 6:28-35 (NRSVUE)

Kathy Falout: The Word of God for the People of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Song "Jesus Paid It All" W&S #3100

Proclaiming "The Bread of God" Pastor Dave

Joys and Concerns

Text Pastor Dave (224.600.0446) with your prayer requests or give him a note before worship service.

Prayers of the People

Holy Communion

Invitation/Confession & Pardon

Pastor Dave: Christ our Lord invites to his table all who love him, who earnestly repent of their sin and seek to live in peace with one another. Therefore, let us confess our sin before God and one another.

Many Voices: Merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart. We have failed to be an obedient church. We have not done your will, we have broken your law, we have rebelled against your love, we have not loved our neighbors, and we have not heard the cry of the needy. Forgive us, we pray. Free us for joyful obedience, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silent Prayer

Pastor Dave: Hear the good news: Christ died for us while we were yet sinners; that proves

God's love toward us. In the name of Jesus Christ; you are forgiven!

Many Voices: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Many Voices: Glory to God. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor Dave: The Lord be with you. Many Voices: And also with you. Pastor Dave: Lift up your hearts.

Many Voices: We lift them up to the Lord.

Pastor Dave: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Many Voices: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor Dave: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

You formed us in your image and breathed into us the breath of life. When we turned away, and our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You delivered us from captivity, made covenant to be our sovereign God, and spoke to us through your prophets, who looked for that day when justice shall roll down like waters and righteousness like an everflowing stream, when nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Many Voices: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Pastor Dave: Holy are you, and blessed is your Son Jesus Christ. Your Spirit anointed him to preach good news to the poor, to proclaim release to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, and to announce that the time had come when you would save your people. He healed the sick, fed the hungry, and ate with sinners. By the baptism of his suffering, death, and resurrection you gave birth to your Church, delivered us from slavery to sin and death, and made with us a new covenant by water and the Spirit. At his ascension you exalted him to sit and reign with you at your right hand.

On the night in which Jesus gave himself up for us, he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over he took the cup, gave thanks to you, gave it to his disciples, and said: "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Many Voices: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Pastor Dave: Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be for the world the body of Christ, redeemed by his blood.

By your Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, until Christ comes in final victory, and we feast at his heavenly banquet. Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy Church, all honor and glory is yours, almighty God, now and forever.

Many Voices: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread Sharing the Bread and Cup

*Closing Hymn

"Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

UMH #127

Benediction

Postlude