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

Sunday, September 8th, 2024

16<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

#### Prelude

#### **Lighting of the Altar Candles**

Jiwon Yim

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### \*Call to Worship

Martine Nelson: Welcome, Beloved! Why have you gathered today?

Many Voices: We have come to worship God, who is the maker of us all! Martine Nelson: What do you seek from God, our Creator?

Many Voices: We seek God's wisdom to guide us and show us how to live.

Martine Nelson: Are you ready to follow when God's wisdom leads down unexpected paths?

Many Voices: We will trust, and we will follow wherever God's wisdom leads us. Martine Nelson: Well then, Beloved of God, what are you waiting for?

Many Voices: Come! Let us worship and seek God's uncommon wisdom together! Amen.

\*Opening Hymn

"All Things Bright and Beautiful"

UMH #147

# **Passing the Peace**

## **Opening Prayer**

Martine Nelson: We place our trust in you, O God, for your love and faithfulness are steadfast and true. Breathe your Holy Spirit into our worship and your very presence into our lives, that our love and faithfulness may be steadfast and true.
All: Amen!

# **Blessing Our Children**

## **Blessing of the Backpacks**

## **Offering Ourselves**

\*Doxology \*Offering Prayer

All: Loving Creator, we dedicate these offerings with hearts guided by your wisdom and grace. As we gather on this September Sunday, may our gifts embody the teachings of Proverbs, spreading honor, kindness, and justice to all. Use these offerings to uplift those in need, fostering hope and peace in our community. May we live out your wisdom in our actions and generosity. This we pray in Christ's name. Amen.

Blessing our Gifts with Music

# **Scripture Readings**

Old Testament Lesson

Gospel Lesson	Mark 7:24-30 (NRS	Mark 7:24-30 (NRSVUE)	
Martine Nelson: The Word of God for the People of God. All: Thanks be to God.			
<b>Responsive Song</b>	"Rule of Life"	W&S #3117	
Proclaiming	"Syrophoenician Woman"	Pastor Dave	
<b>Joys and Concerns</b> <i>Text Pastor Dave (224.600.0446) with your prayer requests or give him a note before worship service.</i>			
Prayers of the People			
Lord's Prayer			
*Closing Hymn	"He Touched Me"	UMH #367	
Benediction			
Postlude			