

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

Woodridge United Methodist Church

Sunday, February 23rd, 2025

7th Sunday after Epiphany

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Jiwon

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Rick Cihlar: In these uncertain times, we come together, searching for peace.

Many Voices: We will be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

Rick Cihlar: We open our hearts and minds, that the Lord may show us mercy.

Many Voices: When we trust the Lord, we can do good things and live with one another in peace and security.

Rick Cihlar: The Lord is our refuge in times of trouble. In God, we find forgiveness, mercy, and love.

Many Voices: We will be still before the Lord and wait patiently.

*Opening Hymn

"Together We Serve"

TFWS #2175

*Passing the Peace

Opening Prayer

Rick Cihlar: Holy God, you call us into a life that others have told us is easy, but it is not.

You challenge us to forgive, to love our enemies, to bless those who curse us. We want the easy way, but you have given us the hard path. Grant us the patience and endurance to journey with you, to allow ourselves at times to stumble, to live into the hard way so that we might fully experience your love, grace, and peace in this world, by becoming a people full of love and grace and forgiving others. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray.

All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Pastor Dave

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: Merciful God, who calls us to love beyond measure, we offer these gifts as a sign of our commitment to your teachings. Help us love our enemies, do good to those who hate us, and bless those who curse us. May our offerings bring healing and hope, reflecting your boundless grace in our community. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Scripture Reading

Old Testament Lesson

Genesis 45:3-11, 15 (NRSVue)

Gospel Lesson

Luke 6:27-38 (NRSVue)

**Rick Cihlar: The Word of God for the People of God.
Many Voices: Thanks be to God.**

Responsive Song	"Give Me Jesus"	W&S #3140
Proclaiming	"God Alone Can See"	Pastor Dave
Joys and Concerns		
Prayers for the People		
Lord's Prayer		
*Closing Hymn	"Hymn of Promise"	UMH #707
*Dismissal with Blessing		
Going Forth to the World		