

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY
Woodridge United Methodist Church
Sunday, May 11th, 2025 4th Sunday in Easter

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Poem for Mothers

*Call to Worship

Dianne Marcell: The God of love and grace invites us in.

Many Voices: Blessed be the God of love!

Dianne Marcell: The God of power and might welcomes us here.

Many Voices: Glory to God on high!

Dianne Marcell: The God of wisdom and truth speaks to us now.

Many Voices: Praise the One who speaks truth to our hearts!

*Opening Hymn

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

UMH #381

*Passing the Peace

Opening Prayer

Dianne Marcell: Loving and caring God, we come together to remember who we are and whose we are. Open our hearts to the nudging of your Spirit, which moves among us, empowering us to listen, to nurture, and to care for all creation. Help us to receive your wisdom and respond with lives of faithful discipleship. Walk closely with us and help us feel your constant presence, both now and forevermore.

All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Pastor Dave

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: God, you have delivered us from hunger and thirst through the fruits of your creation. The gifts you have given overflow before us. In return, we offer these gifts back to you and to those who suffer from injustice, ecological degradation, and climate change. May the gifts and offerings we bring before you help build the healed world envisioned in your kingdom. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 23 (*NRSVue*)

New Testament Lesson

Acts 9:1-6 (*CEB*)

Gospel Lesson

John 20:22-30 (*NRSVue*)

Dianne Marcell: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Song

"Lamb of God"

TFWS #2113

Proclaiming

"One Flock, One Shepherd"

Pastor Dave

Praying

Joys & Concerns

Prayers for the People

Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn**

"Marching to Zion" (*verses 1, 2 & 4*)

UMH #733

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Going Forth to the World