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

**Sunday, May 25th, 2025** 

6th Sunday in Easter

#### **Music to Prepare Our Hearts**

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

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

### \*Call to Worship

**Rick Cihlar:** Let the peoples praise you, O God. **Many Voices:** Let all the peoples praise you. **Rick Cihlar:** Let all nations be glad and sing for joy.

Many Voices: For you judge the peoples with justice and truth.

**Rick Cihlar:** Let the ends of the earth revere you, Holy One.

Many Voices: For you bless your people with peace and hope.

\*Opening Hymn

"Shine, Jesus, Shine"

TFWS #2173

## \*Passing the Peace

#### **Opening Prayer**

**Rick Cihlar:** Gracious God, by your loving Spirit, you come to us in visions and dreams, revealing possibilities beyond our waking reality. Open our hearts this day, that we may understand Christ's teaching and share his presence with others. Guide our footsteps on our journey, that we may go where you send us and share your message of love and peace with the world.

All: Amen.

### **Offering Ourselves**

Blessing our Gifts with Music

\*Doxology

\*Offering Prayer

All: God of all gifts, of all bounty, of every tree, plant, fruit, and vegetable— everything we have comes from you. We give you thanks for this abundance. May what we offer be used as a balm to heal the nations and to restore your peace, rooted in love, throughout all creation. In the name of Jesus Christ, the Risen Lord, we pray. Amen.

## **Scripture Readings**

New Testament Lesson Acts 16:9-15 (NRSVue)
Gospel Lesson John 14:23-29 (NVSVue)

**Rick Cihlar:** The Word of God for the People of God.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

## **Responsive Song**

"Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart" (verses 1-3)

Proclaiming "Come and Stay" Pastor Dave

## **Praying**

Joys & Concerns Prayers for the People Lord's Prayer

\*Closing Hymn "For the Healing of the Nations" UMH #428

\*Dismissal with Blessing

**Going Forth to the World**