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

Sunday, July 20th, 2025

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Glenn Nelson: Children of God, in Jesus, Love became flesh and moved into the neighborhood.

Many Voices: We gather to worship Christ, the image of the invisible. Glenn Nelson: In Jesus, we meet the fullness of God with no barriers to access. Many Voices: We gather to worship Christ, the image of the invisible.

Glenn Nelson: In Jesus, our separation from God, neighbor, self, and creation has been removed. We are free for divine and loving connection once again.

Many Voices: We gather to worship Christ, the image of the invisible.

Glenn Nelson: Children of God, come! Come, let us worship God, whose power makes Love visible to us so that we might reflect Love to the world.

Many Voices: Come, let us worship Christ, Love who came to dwell among us and within us!

*Opening Hymn The Church's One Foundation" (verses. 1, 2 & 5)

UMH #545

*The Apostle's Creed

UMH #881

Opening Prayer

Glenn Nelson: Loving God, your presence in our lives is like a green olive tree—a joy to the heart and a blessing to the spirit. Your movement in our midst is like a basket of summer fruit—a delight to the eye and a pleasure to the tongue. Speak to us your words of life, that we may sit at your feet and know that we are yours.

All: Amen.

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

*Offering Praver

All: Holy and Reconciling God, in Christ, you have made the invisible visible, bringing us home with love beyond measure. As we offer these gifts, may they reflect our gratitude for your presence in our lives. Use them to build your kingdom, to restore what is broken, and to remind the world of your grace. May our giving be an act of thanksgiving, a sign of the quiet miracle of your love at work among us. In all things, may we live to your glory. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson

Amos 8:1-7 (The Message)

Glenn Nelson: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Song "Come, Share the Lord" TFWS #2269

Proclaiming "I Want Justice" Pastor Dave

Praying

Joys & Concerns Prayers for the People

Holy Communion

Invitation

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.

Confession & Pardon

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.

All: Glory to God. Amen.

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, the 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 ever-flowing 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:

^{*}Passing the Peace

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 he 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 juice. 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 for ever.

Many Voices: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

Breaking the Bread Sharing the Bread and Cup

*Closing Hymn

"One Bread, One Body"

UMH #620

*Dismissal with Blessing

Going Forth to the World