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

Sunday, August 3rd, 2025

8th Sunday after Pentecost

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

## **Lighting of the Altar Candles**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

### \*Call to Worship

Kathy Falout: Give thanks to God,

Many Voices: for God's steadfast love lasts forever.

Kathy Falout: God accompanies us in our distress,

Many Voices: as we cross the threshold to worship's blessings.

Kathy Falout: Give thanks to our God,

Many Voices: for God's steadfast love abides with us.

Kathy Falout: Let us enter this space for worship,

Many Voices: celebrating God's works for humankind.

\*Opening Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

**UMH #102** 

# \*The Apostle's Creed

UMH #881

# **Opening Prayer**

**Kathy Falout:** Gracious God, our guide and our protector, as we gather today in your holy house, open our minds, our souls, and hearts, that we may be receptive to the gentle leading of your Spirit in our lives. Help us to follow you faithfully, as you lead us to the land you have prepared for us, a place where we may dwell with you and in you.

All: Amen.

# **Offering Ourselves**

Blessing our Gifts with Music

\*Doxology

All: Holy and ever-present God, you call us to set our minds on things above, to let go of all that weighs us down, and to embrace the new life found in Christ. As we bring these gifts, shape our hearts in generosity, our hands in service, and our minds in faithfulness. May these offerings be used to transform lives, to build up your kingdom, and to reflect your love in this world. Keep us ever mindful that we give because you have first given so abundantly to us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

# **Scripture Readings**

Old Testament Lesson Hosea 11:1-11 (NRSVue)
Gospel Lesson Luke 12:13-21 (NRSVue)

**Kathy Falout:** The Word of God for the People of God.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

<sup>\*</sup>Offering Praver

## **Proclaiming**

#### "How to Be Rich?"

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:

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

<sup>\*</sup>Passing the Peace

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 "Feed Us, Lord" (verses 1-2) W&S #3167 Sharing the Bread and Cup

\*Closing Hymn "Whatever You Do" (verses 1, 4, 5) W&S #3128

\*Dismissal with Blessing

**Going Forth to the World**