

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

Woodridge United Methodist Church

Sunday, March 1st, 2026

2nd Sunday in Lent

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Troy: Come, let us gather by the shore of grace.

Many Voices: We come as those who have known both faithfulness and failure.

Troy: Come, all who feel defined by yesterday's mistakes.

Many Voices: We come, longing for a new beginning.

Troy: The risen Christ meets us where we are—

Many Voices: not to condemn us, but to restore us.

Troy: Christ calls us again by name

Many Voices: and invites us into love, forgiveness, and purpose.

Troy: Let us worship the One who gives us another chance

Many Voices: and calls us into new life.

*Opening Hymn

"Lord, I Lift Your Name on High"

TFWS #2088

*The Apostle's Creed

UMH #881

Opening Prayer

Troy: Gracious and restoring God, we come before you today carrying both our hopes and our regrets. So often we are tempted to return to what is familiar, to retreat into the stories that tell us we are not enough. Yet you meet us in our failure as you met Simon Peter on the shore—not with judgment, but with grace; not with rejection, but with renewal. Open our hearts in this time of worship to receive the abundance of your forgiveness and the power of your resurrection. Remind us again that our past does not define us, but your love restores us and calls us forward. Through the risen Christ, who makes all things new, we pray.

All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: Generous God, you prepare a table for us even after we have fallen short. You meet us with abundance when we expect emptiness, and grace when we expect shame. As we bring our gifts before you today, receive them as signs of our gratitude for the new life you have given us in Jesus Christ. Use these offerings to restore hope, to feed your people, and to continue your mission of love in the world. May our giving reflect our trust that resurrection is always possible

through you. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Gospel Lesson

John 21:1-19 (CEB)

Troy: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Songs

"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"

UMH #526

Proclaiming

"Refined, Not Defined"

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.

*Passing the Peace

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. In love, you made us for yourself; and when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, your love remained steadfast. You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts and prepare with joy for the Easter feast, that, renewed by your Word and Sacraments and fervent in prayer and works of justice and mercy, we may come to the fullness of grace that you have prepared for those who love you.

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, whom you sent in the fullness of time to redeem the world. He emptied himself, taking the form of a servant, being born in our likeness. He humbled himself and became obedient unto death, even death on a cross. He took upon himself our sin and death and offered himself, a perfect sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. 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.

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**

"Here I Am, Lord"

UMH #593

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Going Forth to the World