

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

Woodridge United Methodist Church

Sunday, March 22nd, 2026

5th Sunday in Lent

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Wally: We come today as people longing for a new start.

Many Voices: We look at what is broken and pray for restoration.

Wally: We see what is dying and we hope for new life.

Many Voices: For Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep!

Wally: The power that raised Jesus from the dead is still at work in our lives.

Many Voices: God is transforming us and renewing our hope.

Wally: Come and worship the God who brings new life out of death.

Many Voices: We come with grateful hearts to praise the risen Christ!

*Opening Hymn

"Blessed Assurance"

UMH #369

* Passing the Peace

Opening Prayer

Wally: Risen and loving God, we gather this morning with grateful hearts. You are the God who brings life out of death and hope out of disappointment. Open our eyes to the transforming power of the resurrection. Just as you changed the life of Paul and healed the broken through your disciples, continue to transform our hearts and our lives. Fill us with your Holy Spirit, so that we may grow in love, joy, peace, patience, and kindness. Use us as your servants in this world, bringing healing, justice, and hope to others. We offer this worship to you with thankful hearts. In the name of the risen Christ we pray.

All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

"I Never Said That (RedWords)"

Heather

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: Generous and faithful God, all that we have comes from you. Receive these gifts that we bring today. Use them to continue the work of your kingdom—to bring healing to the broken, hope to the discouraged, and love to those in need. Transform these offerings, and transform us as well, so that we may participate in the victory of Christ and serve as witnesses to the power of the resurrection. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Scripture Lesson 1

Acts 9:1-9 *(CEB)*

Scripture Lesson 2

1 Corinthians 15:23-27 *(CEB)*

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

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Songs

"Change My Heart, O God"

TFWS #2152

Proclaiming

"Transformed by the Power of the Resurrection"

Pastor Dave

Praying

Joys & Concerns

Prayers for the People

Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn

"To God Be the Glory"

UMH #98

*Dismissal with Blessing

Going Forth to the World