

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

Woodridge United Methodist Church

Sunday, March 29th, 2026

Palm Sunday

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Jane: Open the eyes of our hearts, O God, that we may see the hope to which you have called us.

Many Voices: We come longing for new life and deeper faith.

Jane: Jesus entered Jerusalem not with power as the world sees it, but with humility, love, and peace.

Many Voices: We welcome Christ as our Savior and our King.

Jane: The same power that raised Christ from the dead is at work among us today.

Many Voices: We gather to worship, to be transformed, and to follow.

All: Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn

"Hosanna"

UMH #3078

Opening Prayer

Jane: Loving and gracious God, as we gather on this Palm Sunday, we remember Jesus' journey into Jerusalem—a journey that would lead to the cross, and beyond it, to resurrection. Open the eyes of our hearts, that we may understand the hope you have given us and the power you have placed within us through Christ. Help us to lay down our false selves—our fears, our pride, our need for control—and to receive the new life you offer. Teach us to follow Jesus not only in celebration, but also in surrender, trusting that your love is stronger than sin, stronger than evil, and stronger even than death. Transform us by your grace, so that we may live as your people and participate in your kingdom on earth as it is in heaven. In Jesus' name we pray.

All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Scripture Readings

New Testament Lesson

Ephesians 1:18-23 *(CEB)*

Gospel Lesson

Luke 9:22 *(CEB)*

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

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Proclaiming

"From False Self to New Life"

Pastor Dave

Praying

Joys & Concerns

Prayers for the People

Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn**

"Tell Me the Story of Jesus"

UMH #277

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Going Forth to the World