

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY  
Woodridge United Methodist Church  
Sunday, July 19th, 2026                      8th Sunday after Pentecost

## Music to Prepare Our Hearts

## Lighting of the Altar Candles

## Welcome and Announcements

### \*Call to Worship

**Charlotte:** God knows us better than we know ourselves.

**Many Voice:** **Even in the darkest places, the light of God's love is there.**

**Charlotte:** There is nowhere we can flee from God's presence.

**Many Voice:** **In the heavens and in the depths, the Holy One abides with us.**

**Charlotte:** We are God's children, serving the Lord from generation to generation.

**Many Voice:** **God is the one who keeps promises and who provides for us  
wherever we go.**

**Charlotte:** How awesome is this place!

**Many Voice:** **This is God's house and the gateway to the heavens.**

### \*Opening Hymn

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"

UMH #694

### \*Passing the Peace

### Opening Prayer

**Charlotte:** God of grace and love, we rely on your love extended to us in all ways and at all times, extravagantly and with generosity. We live day by day knowing that your care and concern is poured out for us in your provision for our needs and beyond our imagining. You entrust us with the gift of the good news of the Gospel and invite us to be partners in the sharing of the message of grace. Day by day, we realize the many gifts lavished upon us. We come to you to acknowledge and praise you for all your goodness to us.

**All: Amen.**

### Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

\*Doxology

\*Offering Prayer

**All: Compassionate Creator, you formed us from the dust of the earth and breathed into us life and purpose. In these gifts we return, we offer more than resources; we offer our hope. Let these gifts, given in trust, be signs of our partnership in the renewal of all creation. Awaken in us a holy longing, as deep as the groaning of the earth itself, for justice, healing, and new life. May our giving participate in your redemption, until the world rejoices in freedom and glory as your children. We offer this with joy, in the name of Christ our Redeemer. Amen.**

## Scripture Readings

New Testament Lesson  
Gospel Lesson

Romans 8:18-25 (*CEB*)  
Matthew 13:24-30 (*NRSVue*)

**Charlotte:** The Word of God for the People of God.  
**Many Voices: Thanks be to God.**

**Responsive Song**    "For the Healing of the Nations" (*verses #1 & 2*)    UMH#428

**Proclaiming**            **"Called to Love, Not to Judge"**            Pastor Dave

**Praying**

Joys & Concerns  
Prayers for the People  
Lord's Prayer

**\*Closing Hymn**            "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"            UMH #384

**\*Dismissal with Blessing**

**Going Forth to the World**