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

Sunday, October 5th, 2025

World Communion Sunday

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Martine: Come, people of God, set aside your worries and burdens.

Many Voices: We come to worship the One who provides all we need.

Martine: Do not be weighed down by riches or possessions. **Many Voices: We come seeking the treasures of heaven.**

Martine: Trust in the Lord who gives life and freedom.

Many Voices: Together, we will live simply and walk in God's ways.

*Opening Hymn

"God Will Take Care of You"

UMH #130

Opening Prayer

Martine: God of abundance and peace, you have called us to live simply and to trust you completely. Yet we confess how often we are weighed down by our possessions, our worries, and our endless striving. Free us, Lord, from the gravity of greed and fear. Open our hearts to your kingdom, where true treasure and lasting joy are found in you.

All: Amen.

*The Apostle's Creed

UMH #881

Blessing Our Children

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

All: Gracious and generous God, you provide for us more than we could ever need. As we bring these gifts before you, free our hearts from the pull of worry and greed. Teach us to live simply, to trust deeply, and to use what we have so that others may know your love. Bless these offerings, and bless us, that we may become instruments of your kingdom—sharing justice, mercy, and peace in the world. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

Scripture Readings

New Testament Lesson 1 Timothy 6:3-11 *(CEB)*Gospel Lesson Matthew 6:19-20, 24-34 *(CEB)*

Martine Nelson: The Word of God for the People of God.

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Song

"Lord, You Have Come to the Lakeshore"

UMH #344

^{*}Offering Prayer

Proclaiming "Breaking Free from Gravity – Live Simply"

Pastor Dave

Praying

Joys & Concerns Prayers for the People

Holy Communion (World Communion Sunday)

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: Almighty God, Mother of mercy, Father of grace: You have called us to one table, but we have pursued our own course. You have promised us the abundance of all creation, but in our greed and envy, the world goes without. You have promised us the bread of life itself, but in our pride and arrogance, the world goes hungry. You have promised us the waters of peace and justice, but in our violence and discord, the world goes thirsty. And now we are famished too, Lord. Have mercy on us. Forgive us again. Transform us—at this table, for this table—and send us from this table as servants of your righteousness, by the power of your Son, our Lord. Amen.

[Silent Prayer]

Pastor Dave: Even when our cups run dry, God's grace overflows. Even when our plates are empty, God's generosity overflows. And even when our hearts feel barren, God's love overflows. Friends, you have been called and claimed by the God of all things, and by the abundance of God's grace, and by the power of God's love, your sins have been forgiven. Go in peace. 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. You have made from one every nation and people to live on all the face of the earth.

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. 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. He commissioned us to be his witness to the ends of the earth and to make disciples of all nations, and today his family in all the world is joining at his holy table.

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.

Renew our communion with your Church throughout the world and strengthen it in every nation and among every people to witness faithfully in your name. 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

"One Bread, One Body"

UMH #620

*Dismissal with Blessing

Going Forth to the World