

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY

Woodridge United Methodist Church

Sunday, October 19th, 2025

62nd Anniversary

19th Sunday in Pentecost

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

***Call to Worship**

Wally: We gather this day to celebrate 62 years of God's presence among us. God has been faithful through every challenge, every joy, and every season.

Many Voices: We rejoice in the covenant of love that God has made with us, a covenant written on our hearts, not just on stone.

Wally: Let us open our hearts to God's Word, remembering the promises of old and committing ourselves to the mission of today.

Many Voices: Let us worship the Lord together with thanksgiving and praise.

***Opening Hymn**

"Come, Christians, Join to Sing"

UMH #158

***Passing the Peace**

Opening Prayer

Wally: Almighty God, who has guided Woodridge United Methodist Church through these 62 years, we give you thanks and praise for the many blessings, help, and comfort you have bestowed upon your people in this place since its foundation. Continue, we pray, to pour out your mercies upon your church, that we may always be conscious of your unchanging love. Direct and prosper all that we undertake according to your will and purpose. Correct all that may be amiss or imperfect, and by the power of your Holy Spirit, inspire and enable every member of your church, in word and deed, to proclaim to all people the good news of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who with you and the same Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, forever and ever.

All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Dedication of Church Sign

Dedication Litany

Pastor Dave: We would like to dedicate this new church sign to the glory of God.

Many Voices: May it be a beacon of welcome and grace for all who pass by.

Pastor Dave: Let this sign not only mark our building, but proclaim the love of Christ.

Many Voices: May it invite the stranger, comfort the weary, and encourage the seeker.

Pastor Dave: In all things, may it point beyond itself to the living God.

Many Voices: To God be the glory, now and forever. Amen.

Dedication

Sign Process and Contract

In Memoria

Symbolic Action (Candle Lighting) "This Little Light of Mine"

on screen

Prayer of Dedication

Many Voices: Loving God, we thank you for the gifts and generosity that made this new church sign possible. May it stand as a witness to your presence in this community, welcoming neighbors, guiding strangers, and pointing all to your love in Jesus Christ. Bless this sign, O Lord, and bless all who see it, that they may be drawn not only to this place, but to your kingdom of light and peace. Through Christ we pray. Amen.

Commitment of the Congregation

Pastor Dave: I encourage you (WUMC Family) to dedicate yourselves to living out the welcome and love expressed on the sign, making its message a living reality.

Many Voices: Amen!

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: Persistent and just God, you do not turn away when your people cry out. Receive these gifts as acts of our faith—faith that keeps moving, faith that keeps hoping, faith that keeps working for justice, even when the world says it's too late or too little. Make us a people who do not lose heart. Shape our prayers into action and our generosity into grace, until your kingdom comes—on earth, as it is in heaven. In the name of Christ, who still stands and knocks. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson

Jeremiah 31:31-34 (*NRSVue*)

New Testament Lesson

2 Timothy 3:14-4:5 (*NRSVue*)

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

Many Voices: Thanks be to God.

Responsive Song

"Be Thou My Vision"

UMH #451

Proclaiming

Pastor Dave

"Remembering God's Faithfulness, Renewing Our Commitment"

Praying

Joys & Concerns

Prayers for the People

Lord's Prayer

*Closing Hymn

"They'll Know We are Christians by Our Love"

TFWS #2223

*Dismissal with Blessing

Going Forth to the World