

AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY
Woodridge United Methodist Church
Sunday, October 11th, 2026 20th Sunday after Pentecost

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Elsie: Praise be to God, who has brought us here this day.

Many Voices: Praise and thanks to God for all the blessings we have received.

Elsie: What joy we have in God's presence!

Many Voices: What peace is brought to us in God's house!

Elsie: This is truly the day that the Lord has made!

Many Voices: Let us rejoice and be glad in it! Amen.

*Opening Hymn

"Come, Sinners, to the Gospel Feast"

UMH #339

*Passing the Peace

Opening Prayer

Elsie: Holy God, we come into your house with praise on our lips and songs of joy in our hearts. We come to stand firm in our conviction: that good is stronger than evil, love is stronger than hate, and truth will ultimately win the day. We come to be grounded in Christ. Open our hearts and our spirits to hear your healing words of peace and love. Help us to be the people of service and justice you have called us to be. Make us ready to heal rather than harm, and to serve rather than sever. Give us hearts of joy and justice, for we offer this prayer in Jesus' name.

All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music

*Doxology

*Offering Prayer

All: Generous God, in gratitude, we bring these gifts—signs of love learned from you. Quiet our anxious hearts and turn our attention toward what is true, honorable, and worthy of praise. Shape us into a people whose generosity is gentleness made visible, and whose offerings declare that we stand on the side of our neighbors. Receive what we place in your hands and let it become courage, welcome, and hope. Guard us with your peace as we press on in Christ. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson

New Testament Lesson

Gospel Lesson

Exodus 32:1-6 (CEB)

Acts 8:14-23 (CEB)

Matthew 22:1-9 (CEB)

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

Responsive Song

"Spirit of the Living God"

UMH #393

Proclaiming

"Both Evil and Good"

Pastor Dave

Praying

Joys & Concerns
Prayers for the People
Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn**

"Together We Serve"

TFWS #2175

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Going Forth to the World