AN ORDER OF CELEBRATION FOR THE GATHERED COMMUNITY
Woodridge United Methodist Church
Sunday, November 15th, 2026 *25th Sunday After Pentecost*

Music to Prepare Our Hearts

Lighting of the Altar Candles

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship

Dianne: Family of God, whom do you serve?
Many Voices: We serve God, who calls us to love our neighbors, tend creation, and care for the least of these.
Dianne: Family of God, in a world that values productivity and profit, whom do you serve?
Many Voices: We serve God, who calls us to value equity, justice, and sabbath for all.
Dianne: Family of God, in a world that privileges power over others instead of power shared with our neighbors, whom do you serve?
Many Voices: We serve God, who calls us to privilege the agency and flourishing of ourselves, our neighbors, and all creation.
Dianne: Family of God, we gather here to grow in love of God, neighbor, self, and all creation. Let us now enter the joy of serving God, who is Love.
Many Voices: We gather to worship God and work for God's purposes until God's kingdom comes on earth as it is in heaven. Thanks be to God! Amen.

*Opening Hymn "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" UMH #89

*Passing the Peace

Opening Prayer

Dianne: God, our kind and loving Parent, you no longer call us servants, but children. There is so much you have entrusted to us, even the future of your kingdom of justice and love. Give us the grace to work out with you the growth of mercy and goodness in this world, to be united with all Christians and with all who seek you with a sincere heart in bringing reconciliation and joy to everyone. Let us go together the way to you, our living and loving God, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
All: Amen.

Blessing Our Children

Offering Ourselves

Blessing our Gifts with Music
*Doxology
*Offering Prayer
All: Generous God, every good gift comes from your hand, and you entrust us with resources, abilities, and opportunities to serve your kingdom. Keep us from measuring our worth by what we produce or possess. Instead, teach us to invest our lives in love, mercy, and the building of community. Receive these

offerings and use them to lift burdens, create hope, and strengthen your people. May we find joy not in accumulation, but in faithful relationship with you and our neighbors. May all that we offer today become a witness to your abundant grace. Amen.

Scripture Readings

Old Testament Lesson	Psalm 123 *(CEB)*
Gospel Lesson	Matthew 25:14-30 *(CEB)*

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

Responsive Song "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" TFWS #2153

Proclaiming **"What Abilities Have We?"** Pastor Dave

Praying

Joys & Concerns
Responsive Prayer
Lord's Prayer

***Closing Hymn** "What Gift Can We Bring" *(verses 1-3)* UMH #87

***Dismissal with Blessing**

Going Forth to the World