

Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond
United Church of Christ

Our Church at Worship on the 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
August 14, 2022 10:00 A.M.

*Our Mission: To be an inviting, caring faith community
connecting with Christ.*

Welcome, visitors! Our greeters have welcome bags to share with you, so please make sure they know you're visiting.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE Penny Kraft

WORDS OF WELCOME Rev. Hope Molozaiy
Sharing of Joys and Concerns

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER Mike Kennedy

One: Come together, so that our faith might be strengthened.
Come to seek the strength to live out what we say we believe.

**All: We come to praise God and give thanks.
We trust God's steadfast love endures forever.**

One: With all that you are and all that you have,
because of all that God is and all that God does,
let us worship God!
Let us pray: Spirit of holiness,
Be within our community as we worship this morning.

**All: Search us for the sighs too deep for words
- because we are weary, and relieved;
we are joyful, and still worried.**

One: From the silence within us, bring forth life-changing prayers,
for ourselves, for our world, and for all your precious
creations.

All: We pray in the name of Christ our Rock. Amen.

OPENING HYMN "For the Beauty of the Earth"

A TIME OF BLESSING
To bless our backpacks and other bags of frequent use

HYMN "A Mighty Fortress is Our God"

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 46:4-11

One: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;

God will help it when the morning dawns.

The nations are in an uproar; the kingdoms totter;

**All: The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

One: Come, behold the works of the LORD;
see what desolations God has brought on the earth.

God makes wars cease to the end of the earth;

God breaks the bow and shatters the spear;

God burns the shields with fire.

“Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations; I am exalted in the earth.”

**All: The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our refuge.**

Paul’s Letter to the Ephesians 4:1-6

I, therefore, the prisoner in the Lord, beg you to walk in a manner
worthy of the calling to which you have been called,

with all humility and gentleness,

with patience, bearing with one another in love,

making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of
peace:

there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one
hope of your calling,

one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all,

who is above all and through all and in all.

Question of Baptism: Do you profess Jesus Christ as your Lord and
Savior?

MESSAGE

Baptized for a Purpose:
Worthy of our Calling

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

SPECIAL MUSIC

“The River is Here”

Kim May

Chorus:

**The river of God sets our feet a-dancing
The river of God fills our hearts with cheer
The river of God fills our mouths with laughter
And we rejoice for the river is here**

Songwriters: Andy Park © 1994 Mercy/Vineyard Publishing, admin. by CopyCare CCLI License
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TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not
into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Give: We are so thankful for the continued financial support that we have continued to receive during this time!

You may always send your check directly to the church at PO Box 246, Richmond IL, 60071.

HYMN

“Shall We Gather at the River”

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song “Something Beautiful for God”

**Today let us do something beautiful for God.
Do something small but do it with great love.
Do what we can, where we are, with what we've got.
Today let us do something beautiful for God!**

Call to worship, from 10/9/11, Opening prayer from 8/21/11, Music shared under CCLI License
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CHURCH NEWS

FOR SERVICE

SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL: Two weeks of Summer Sunday School remain! We'd love for someone new to spend this time with the children of the church. Jean Valsa and Pastor Hope have lots of fun and easy suggestions if you need them.

HELPING THE CHURCH AT NO COST TO YOU: A note from your church treasurer! How can you help the church finances without costing you any money? You can buy gift cards of course! You buy the card, you use the card, and the church gets a percentage of that. Do you go to Jewel or Meijer every week? Do you have a Starbucks account that you can load the card onto the app? Do you order often from Amazon? What about those restaurants right down the road in McHenry? Jewel pays us 4% of every gift card purchased through this fundraiser; Meijer pays 3% and Starbucks pays 4.5%. Most of the McHenry restaurant chains pay us 8%! Home Depot, Ace, and Kohls are 4%. If you are spending the money at these places, why not pay up front, get a gift card, and help out the church. It just takes a little preplanning on your part, but no extra money!

For a summer challenge—I challenge you to purchase at least \$100 of gift cards through the church in June and \$100 in July! Think about vacation plans you have or places where you shop regularly. See Penny's post below for details on how to order. You can see a list and the % at www.raiseright.com/brands
Thanks for helping with this fundraiser.

GIFT CARD ORDERING: Contact Penny Kraft to order gift cards for your regular shopping, dining out, gas stations, or, of course, for gifts! If you give Penny a gift card order on Sunday, your cards are usually here by midweek. Contact Penny at 815-236-6172 or mriapk@gmail.com or leave an order form and payment in the mailbox labelled "GIFT CARDS" in the office hallway. Thanks!

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING: Support the wider church with this annual offering for the United Church of Christ to support new church starts, new ministries in existing congregations, youth and young adult events and ministries across the nation as well as women's events and ministries. Designate "Strengthen the Church" on your giving envelope or check memo line. Learn more at www.ucc.org/stc

FOR CONNECTION

FALL FELLOWSHIP FUN: The Congregational Care Ministry Team is busy making plans for the coming months, starting with: Everyone is invited to Richardson's Adventure Farm on Sunday, September 11, from 1-6 PM.

Let's have a campfire and/or explore the maze with our church family! BYOE (*everything*: lunch, drinks, snacks, camp chairs) or purchase Richardson's delicious delights available on the farm. We will have a couple of picnic tables at our campfire site for seating and eating. Rob and Carol have graciously waived our entrance fee; however, goodwill donations to church are always appreciated. Please text Dawn Conley at (815-236-5982) or email (conley8405@gmail.com) with how many people you're bringing. (See <https://richardsonadventurefarm.com/> for more details.)

Plans are also in the works for a Bunco night in early October and a chili cook-off later this fall, so stay tuned!

FOOD WITH FRIENDS: Stay tuned – more plans will be coming soon!

UPDATES FROM CABINET:

The Church Cabinet met last Monday night at the church; here are a couple highlights:

- We've enjoyed recent fellowship time together and are looking forward to more.
- Richmond is celebrating its 150th anniversary September 16-18 and our church building will be a stop along their town history tour that weekend. We want to have the flower beds and front of the church looking beautiful; we might have the building open that Saturday for those who want to step inside.
- We transferred \$14,000 from one of our savings accounts in July for operating funds. We ended July with about \$140,000 in our non-endowment funds.
Our pledged giving is on track for this point in the year, but we haven't had the same opportunities for fund-raisers and donations from visitors and friends as we used to. As always, if anyone has fundraising ideas, we welcome them. And, as always, invite a friend or neighbor to church; we might be just what they're looking for.

- We are receiving interest from a number of people about our Office Manager job and hope to hold interviews within the next week or so. If you have a friend or neighbor who might be a good fit for this 9-hour/week position at the church, encourage them to reach out to Pastor Hope. In the meantime, thanks to Jan Revelle for helping out the past couple weeks. And remember to pray for the next right person to find their way to us for this job.

COVID UPDATES: Masks are currently optional at worship and church gatherings. Stay home if you're feeling sick and maintain a healthy distance from other households during worship. We make decisions about our community's standards based on Jesus command to love each other and protect the most vulnerable among us. Our "community spread" is currently rated as medium by CDC guidelines. Pastor Hope watches COVID statistics at https://covidactnow.org/us/illinois-il/county/mc_henry_county

WORSHIP LEADERS

TODAY

Liturgist	Mike Kennedy
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	

August 21

Liturgist	Robert Richardson
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Sunday School	

August 28

Liturgist	Mike Anderson
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Sunday School	
Fellowship Hosts	Wider Missions Ministry

September 4

Liturgist	Cheryl Kazimier
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Communion preparations	

MANY THANKS

to all those helped the Beef Roast
come together again this year!

Especially to Jim and Kathy Speaker, who pull it
all together

– and all “the Speaker kids” who joined in this year

Bob Jooss, Dick Strahs, Rob Richardson, Mike Kennedy,
Ronnie Obara, Lee Swenson, Bill Vezina, Barb Howe

Charles Kemp, George Zimmermann, Judy Jooss, Carol
Richardson, Elise Livingston, Pastor Hope and her
parents and her kids

All who shared the event on Facebook and dropped off
posters and postcards to friends and businesses

All who helped gather supplies, set up beforehand, work
during the day, and clean up afterwards!

All who bought some beef or pickles or chocolate!

Thank you all!!

PRAYERS for the Week of August 14, 2022

If you have prayer updates please send them to BOTH Pastor Hope pastorhope@richmonducc.org AND our office office@richmonducc.org.
THANKS!

We will leave a person on our list for four weeks, unless asked to leave them on longer.

JOYS: Birthdays: Bill Haase (Aug 17), Dick Strahs (Aug 18), Nicholas Heber (Aug 18), Sam Jones (Aug 20), Pr. Hope (Aug 20)

A wonderful time was had at the Richardsons' lake last Sunday afternoon with lots of fishing, swimming, eating, laughing, and enjoying each other's company!

PRAYERS FOR:

All the children of the church who are headed back to school this week

The refugee family we will be setting up an apartment for in the coming week

Bill Haase

Jacob, Pastor Hope's brother

Those affected by floods and fires

Linda Swenson

Nicki Carter's aunt, Joan Groenwald née Herzog

Louise Strahs

Cheryl Heber's father, Russell Koca

Ongoing Prayers:

Patt Clymer, friend of the Molozaiy's

Marti Swanson's brother, John

Lydia Blanton's friend, Natalie, and Natalie's family

Ella Watts, Melissa Jones's mother

Louise Strahs' niece, Amy Lenik

Prayer Partners:

Our Congregational Prayer Partners this week are Charles and Yvonne Kemp.

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ, First Congregational United Church of Christ, in Huntley, and their pastor, The Rev. Dr. Mike Smith.

Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing

Facilities: Mercedes Ahlgrim (New Mexico), Bob Krueger (Libertyville)

Our friends at Exodus World Service ask us to join them in prayer for refugee students and their families who are beginning a new academic year. Pray for those children who may not speak English, and whose education was disrupted by years of fleeing. Pray that each student would feel welcomed by their teachers and peers.

GOD

28

For the Beauty of the Earth

St. 1-3, Follitt S. Pierpoint, 1864; alt.

St. 4, Miriam Therese Winter, 1993

1 For the beau-ty of the earth, for the splen-dor of the skies,
2 For the won-der of each hour of the day and of the night,
3 For the joy of hu-man love, broth-er, sis-ter, par-ent, child,
4 For the good that love in-spires, for a world where none ex-clude,

For the love which from our birth o-ver and a-round us lies,
Hill and vale, and tree and flower, sun and moon, and stars of light,
Friends on earth, and friends a-bove, for all gen-tle thoughts and mild,
For a faith that nev-er tires, and for ev-ery heart re-newed,

Refrain

God of all, to you we raise this our hymn of grate-ful praise.

Follitt S. Pierpoint, author of numerous hymns, penned these verses near his native city of Bath, England, on a late spring day when flowers were in full bloom and all the earth seemed to rejoice.

Tune: DIX 7.7.7.7. with refrain

Conrad Kocher, 1838

Adapt. William H. Monk, 1861

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

439

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Ps. 46

Transl. Frederick H. Hedge, 1853; adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981



1 A might - y for - tress is our God, a bul - wark nev - er fail - ing,
 2 Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,
 3 And though this world with dev - ils filled should threat - en to un - do us,
 4 That word be - yond all earth - ly powers for - ev - er is a - bid - ing;



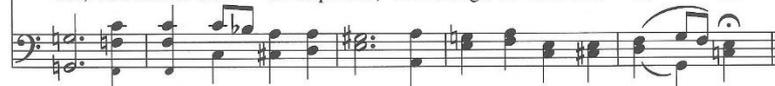
Our pres - ent help a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.
 But there is one who takes our side, the One of God's own choos - ing.
 We will not fear for God has willed the truth to tri - umph through us.
 The Spir - it and the gifts are ours, for Christ is with us sid - ing.



For still our an - cient foe does seek to work us woe with craft and pow - er
 You ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus sets us free! With might - y power to
 The powers of e - vil grim, we trem - ble not for them; their rage we can en -
 Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may



great, and armed with cru - el hate, on earth with - out an e - qual.
 save, vic - to - rious o'er the grave, Christ will pre - vail tri - um - phant.
 dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit - tle word shall fell them.
 kill; God's truth shall tri - umph still; God's reign en - dures for - ev - er.



There is speculation that this psalm paraphrase was written in 1527 when Martin Luther's friend was burned at the stake, or in 1529, when Lutheran German princes protested the revocation of their liberties. It has been translated into more than fifty languages.

Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG (isometric) 8.7.8.7.6.6.6.7.

Martin Luther, c. 1529

Harm. The New Hymnal for American Youth, 1930; alt.

For another version, see 440

Shall We Gather at the River

597

*Robert Lowry, 1864; alt.**Rev. 22:1-5*

1 Shall we gath - er at the riv - er, where bright an - gel feet have trod,
 2 On the mar - gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil - ver spray,
 3 As we reach the shin - ing riv - er, lay we ev - ery bur - den down;
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin - ing riv - er, soon our pil - grim - age will cease;

with its crys - tal tide for - ev - er flow - ing by the throne of God?
 we will walk and wor - ship ev - er, all the hap - py gold - en day.
 grace our spir - its will de - liv - er, and pro - vide a robe and crown.
 soon our hap - py hearts will quiv - er with the mel - o - dy of peace.

Refrain

Yes, we'll gath - er at the riv - er, the beau - ti - ful, the beau - ti - ful riv - er,

Gath - er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.

Written during a time when an epidemic was claiming many lives in New York, Robert Lowry's hymn raised the question "Shall we meet again?" Lowry was pastor at Hanson Place Baptist Church in Brooklyn from 1861 to 1869, and collaborated on numerous hymn collections with William H. Doane.

Tune: HANSON PLACE 8.7.8.7. with refrain
 Robert Lowry, 1864