

**Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond
United Church of Christ**

**Our Church at Worship on the 21st Sunday of Ordinary Time
August 22, 10:00 A.M.**

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

Tune into Facebook at 10:00 on Sunday to share this time of worship. If you can't join promptly at 10:00, the video will be available later as well.

You can access that video even if you don't have a Facebook account – just type in <https://www.facebook.com/CommunityChurchOfRichmond/>

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Penny Kraft

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Hope Molozaiy

SONG OF PRAISE

“O’Lord”

Kim May and Penny Kraft

Though times it seems

Like I'm coming undone

This walk can often feel lonely

No matter what until this race is won

I will stand my ground where hope can be found

I will stand my ground where hope can be found

Chorus: Oh, O'Lord O'Lord I know You hear my cry

Your love is lifting me above all the lies

No matter what I face this I know in time

You'll take all that is wrong and make it right

You'll take all that is wrong and make it right

Your strength is found

At the end of my road

Your grace it reaches to the hurting

Still through the tears and the questioning why

I will stand my ground where hope can be found

I will stand my ground where hope can be found

Chorus

Written by: Joe Williams, Paul Mabury; © 2014 Flychild Publishing/So Essential Tunes/Be Essential Songs/Sound District/Sony/ATV Timber Publishing, Sony/ATV Music Publishing and Essential Music Publishing LLC

One: Come with what you have.

For you who come with grief, know that you are invited to bring the broken pieces of your heart.

All: Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

One: Come with what you have.

For you who come with gladness, know that your melody will find harmony.

All: Accepting God's love for us, we are called to love one another.

One: Come with what you have.

For you who come weighed down by too many 'shoulds' and 'what-ifs', know that here you may lay down the burdens of guilt and shame.

All: Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

One: Come with what you have.

For you who come with the answers, know that new questions await you.

All: Accepting God's love for us, we are called to love one another.

One: Come with what you have.

For you who come seeking, know that your questions are safe in the presence of God.

All: Loved by one another, we discover God's love for us.

One: Let us pray.

God of love, take hold of us in this act of worship, and do not let us go until we have been blessed by a vision of love, infinitely generous, gentle and forgiving; simple, wholesome, mysterious, profound; love in which everyone is welcomed and no one is rejected; love that never ends.

Living God, Love itself, may you find a home in our hearts, now and forever. Amen.

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING Gospel of John 15:9-12 Common English Bible

Jesus said to the disciples, "As the Father loved me, I too have loved you. Remain in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will remain in my love, just as I kept my Father's commandments and remain in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy will be in you and your joy will be complete. This is my commandment: love each other just as I have loved you."

HYMN

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

Kim May

SCRIPTURE READING I John 4:7-21

Beloved, let us love one another, because love is from God; everyone who loves is born of God and knows God. Whoever does not love does not know God, for God is love. God's love was revealed among us in this way: God sent his only Son into the world so that we might live through him. In this is love, not that we loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Beloved, since God loved us so much, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God lives in us, and his love is made complete in us.

By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. And we have seen and do testify that the Father has sent his Son as the Savior of the world. God abides in those who confess that Jesus is the Son of God, and they abide in God. So we have known and believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and those who abide in love abide in God, and God abides in them. Love has been made complete among us in this: that we may have boldness on the day of judgment, because as he is, so are we in this world. There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear; for fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been made complete in love.

We love because he first loved us. Those who say, "I love God," and hate their brothers or sisters, are liars; for those who do not love a brother or sister whom they have seen, cannot love God whom they have not seen. The commandment we have from him is this: those who love God must love their brothers and sisters also.

MESSAGE Beloved, Be Loving

SONG RESPONSE "Love, Love, Love, Your God" Kim May

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

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.

HYMN

“Love Diving, All Loves Excelling”

#43

Verse 1:

**Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, on earth be found,
Fix in us a humble dwelling,
all your faithful mercies crown;
Jesus, you are all compassion;
pure, unbounded love impart,
Visit us with your salvation,
enter every trembling heart.**

Verse 2:

**Breathe, O breathe your loving spirit
into every troubled breast;
Let us all in you inherit,
let us find your promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning;
Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning,
set our hearts at liberty.**

Verse 4:

**Finish, then, your new creation;
pure and spotless may we prove;
Let us see your great salvation
perfectly restored in you;
Changed from glory into glory,
till in heaven we take our place,
Crowned as saints, we ever shall be
lost in wonder, love and praise.**

New Century Hymnal; Lyrics Charles Wesley 1747|Tune: John Zundel 1855

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.

Prayer of Dedication

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song "We are One in the Spirit"

**We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord.
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.
And they'll know we are Christians by our love,
by our love.
Yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

Tune and lyrics: Peter Scholtes, 1966.

Call to worship, Katherine Hawker, on <http://liturgyoutside.net/> ; opening prayer, Chalice
Worship, #164; .Music copyright, CCLI 1908882

Please head OUTSIDE to have your after-worship conversations.

You may leave your offerings in the offering plates at the front or back of the sanctuary.

NEW NEWS

BEEF ROAST WRAP-UP

Thanks again to all who helped make this year's Beef Roast a fun and successful day!

We look to have made about \$2500 from the event, split roughly evenly between online payments and payments the day of, and also roughly evenly between church members and non-church members. While most of the food is donated, we do have expenses for condiments, desserts, packaging materials, etc. We're always open to conversation about how to generate more interest in this event or other fundraisers that might be successful for us!

TRIVIA NIGHT

Hold the date of Saturday, November 13, for this year's Trivia Night fundraiser! More details will come as we get closer, but for now Dawn Conley invites you to help her get started on our auction baskets for that night. If you plan to put together a theme basket to donate, let Dawn know. If you want to contribute but don't know quite what to do, Dawn suggests you buy a gift card from Penny (which is also a FUNDRAISER!) in ANY denomination for ANY store or restaurant, and tell Penny it's for a Trivia Night donation. Penny will forward that gift card to Dawn, who will put together some type of basket with that card in mind. Thank you for anything you can do! Questions, contact Dawn at 815-236-5982 or conley8405@gmail.com .

WORSHIP LEADERS

As we re-group for indoor worship, Pastor Hope is updating her list of people who are interested in being readers during worship. Let her know if you'd like to be added to that list.

We also will be looking for people to do some things like lighting the candles, ringing the church bells, tidying up after worship. Just because you've never done these jobs before doesn't you mean can't start now!

We might even be looking for people to host (a very simple, outdoor-for-now) fellowship snack after future services, and for Sunday School teachers. Again, just because these 'weren't your thing' in early 2020 doesn't mean they can't become your thing as we enter a new stage.

Stay tuned and let Pastor Hope know of what ideas and interests you have for the church these days!

SECRETARY OF STATE MOBILE UNIT is coming to the Moose Lodge at 3535 N. Richmond Rd this Thursday, Aug 26, from 10am to 2pm. No Real IDs can be created at this event, but you can take care of driver's license renewal, license plate renewal stickers, vehicle registration, vision screening. No cash accepted; credit cards or checks only. See www.cyberdriveillinois.com for more info. Event hosted by State Senator Craig Wilcox.

ONGOING NEWS

GIFT CARDS Penny Kraft regularly orders gift cards on our behalf, and the church gets a percentage of the cost of those cards. There is a HUGE variety of gift cards available, from specialty stores to gas stations and grocery stores. Jewel, Walmart, Meijer, Marathon Gas, SO MANY RESTAURANTS, department stores, etc. Find the full list of retailers at <https://www.shopwithscrip.com/shopwithscrip-retailers> . Contact Penny with your order any time by calling/texting her at 815-236- 6172 or emailing her at mriapk@gmail.com.

Prayers for the week of August 22, 2021

If you have prayer updates or announcements to share, please send them to BOTH Pastor Hope (pastorhope@richmonducc.org) AND our office manager, Brandi Pletcher (office@richmonducc.org). THANKS!
We will leave a person on our list for four weeks, unless asked to leave them on longer.

JOYS

Birthdays: Ryder Blanton (Aug 25), Shawn Runnfeldt (Aug 25)

CONCERNS

Prayers For:

Our Sympathies to Ode Keil and family on the death of his nephew, Brett Scharringhausen

Mercedes Ahlgrim

Students, teachers, school staff, and all those affected by back to school changes

Deann Workmon

The people of Haiti

The people of Afghatistan

Bob Krueger

Betty Waspi

Kathy Speaker's aunt, Elaine Fletcher

Family of Cristo Garza, friend and former student of Rob Rummel

Family of Rob Rummel's friend, Greg Benyak, as he enters hospice care

Ina Obara's father

Ongoing Prayers:

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

Julie Leighninger

Marti Swanson's brother, John Baldwin

Ella Watts, Melissa Jones's mother

Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing Facilities:

Mercedes Ahlgrim (New Mexico), Sharon Mensing (Sterling), June Whitney (at home), Bob Krueger

New Address for Bob Kreuger

14595 W. Rockland Road Unit 155, Libertyville, IL 60048

What to Expect at Indoor Worship this Week

Expect to...

1. Wear your mask the whole time you are in the church building.
2. Pick up a bulletin from near the doorways when you come in.
3. Sit only with members of your household or 'pod' (people you regularly interact with outside of church).
3. Respect the social distancing marked in the pews, leaving space between the people around you. This might even mean sitting in a place you're not used to in the sanctuary.
4. Let Kim and Penny do most of the singing. The congregation will sing a song after the sermon and the closing response.
5. Leave your offerings in the offering plates that will be at the front of the sanctuary and also near the bulletins.
6. Go outside after the closing response for fellowship and conversation. Please don't do your mingling inside.
7. Stay home if you have a new cough, fever, or any other new COVID-like symptoms, or if you know you've recently spent time with someone who was COVID-positive.
8. Finally, expect to delight in worshipping our God together in a place that has brought joy and comfort to many people over many years!

We take all these precautions out of love and care for each other, most especially for our church children and others who are still particularly vulnerable at this time. We continue to look forward to the time when these precautions won't be necessary. Until then, let us be caring, be patient, and help protect one another.

We are following the guidance of the Illinois Department of Public Health, but also the instruction of our faith which tells us to show love for our neighbor, to protect the vulnerable, and to humbly consider others more important than ourselves.

These guidelines will change as public health conditions change. We eagerly look forward to the time when we can loosen these guidelines, but as McHenry County and the areas surrounding us are now considered areas of substantial or high virus transmission, these protocols give us a starting place.