

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

**Our Church at Worship on the 17th Sunday of Ordinary Time
August 8, 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 “Truth Be Told” Kim May and Penny Kraft

Verse 1:

Lie number one: you're supposed to have it all together.

And when they ask how you're doing, just smile and tell them,
"Never better."

Lie number 2: everybody's life is perfect except yours.

So keep your messes and your wounds and your secrets safe with
you behind closed doors.

Chorus:

But truth be told,

The truth is rarely told.

I say: "I'm fine, yeah I'm fine, oh, I'm fine, hey, I'm fine"

but I'm not,

I'm broken.

And when it's out of control, I say it's under control, but it's not

And you know it.

I don't know why it's so hard to admit it,
when being honest is the only way to fix it.

There's no failure, no fall, there's no sin you don't already know,

So let the truth be told.

...

Words and Music by Matthew West & Andrew Pruis, 2019, Highly Combustible Music, CCLI
1908882

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Kathy Speaker

One: God has set apart those who are faithful.
Our Creator hears us when we call.

All: We remember Jesus. We want to be like him.

One: So often we say we want things to change for the better,
but we live like things are already good enough.

All: We remember Jesus. We want to be like him.

One: Our faith strengthens us; our confession frees us;
our God forgives and empowers us.

All: We remember Jesus. We want to be like him.

One: Let us pray.

God of our ancestors, author of all life, source of good news,
you draw us together in the mystery of life and death. Shine
your face on us as we trust in you. Draw together the
fragments of our lives around the solid center of your love.
Grant us a stronger sense of what is right and good, and help
us live like Jesus, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 32:1-7

Common English Bible

The one whose wrongdoing is forgiven,
whose sin is covered over, is truly happy!
The one the Lord doesn't consider guilty—
in whose spirit there is no dishonesty—
that one is truly happy!

When I kept quiet, my bones wore out;
I was groaning all day long—
every day, every night!—

because your hand was heavy upon me.

My energy was sapped as if in a summer drought. *Selah*

So I admitted my sin to you;

I didn't conceal my guilt.

"I'll confess my sins to the Lord," is what I said.

Then you removed the guilt of my sin. *Selah*

That's why all the faithful should pray to you during troubled times,
so that a great flood of water won't reach them.

You are my secret hideout!

You protect me from trouble.

You surround me with songs of rescue!

Verse 1:

**I sing the praise of Love almighty,
 which shines revealed in Jesus face.
 I offer up all that delights me,
 all mean desires, each fond embrace,
 Turn from myself, in pure devotion,
 and eager plunge in love's vast ocean.**

Verse 4:

**May my heart bear the deep impression
 of love that Jesus shares with me,
 My life become a pure expression
 of all that Christian love can be:
 Each word, each act, a bright reflection
 of joy in Love's own resurrection.**

#50, The New Century Hymnal; Lyrics,: Gerhard Tersteegen 1757 Tune | Dimitri Bortniansky 1825

SCRIPTURE READING First John 1:5-2:2

This is the message that we have heard from him and announce to you: "God is light and there is no darkness in him at all." If we claim, "We have fellowship with him," and live in the darkness, we are lying and do not act truthfully. But if we live in the light in the same way as he is in the light, we have fellowship with each other, and the blood of Jesus, his Son, cleanses us from every sin. If we claim, "We don't have any sin," we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and cleanse us from everything we've done wrong. If we claim, "We have never sinned," we make him a liar and his word is not in us.

My little children, I'm writing these things to you so that you don't sin. But if you do sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous one. He is God's way of dealing with our sins, not only ours but the sins of the whole world.

MESSAGE

Beloved, Be Truthful

Verse 1:

**Come, O Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing your grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
call for songs of loudest praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I’m fixed upon it,
mount of God’s unfailing love.**

Verse 2:

**Here I pause in my sojourning,
giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust, at every turning,
God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
Came to rescue me from danger,
blessed body, precious blood.**

Verse 3:

**O to grace how great a debtor
daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace now, like a fetter,
bind my wandering heart to you.
Prone to wander, I can feel it,
wander from the love I’ve known:
Here’s my heart, O take and seal it,
seal it for your very own.**

#459, The New Century Hymnal; Lyrics, Robert Robinson 1758 |
Tune: John Wyeth’s Repository of Sacred Music 1813

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

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.

SONG RESPONSE "Love, Love, Love, Your God"

**Love, love, love your God,
The commandment's word is love:
Love your neighbor as yourself, for God is love.**

Traditional – in the public domain

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 (we say together)

**For the life you have offered, for the vision you have granted, for the ministry of Jesus Christ that empowers our witness, thank you, O God.
May our offerings extend the reach of Christ's Church.
By our giving, may our commitment to your work be deepened. Amen.**

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 and Opening Prayer, adapted from L. Baylor Liturgy for the Third Sunday of Easter in Led by Love: Worship Resources for Year B, 1996. Music copyright, CCLI 1908882

NEW NEWS

CABINET meets tomorrow night, August 9, at 7PM in the church basement. If you have business the Cabinet needs to discuss, contact Pastor Hope or President Charles Kemp. Cabinet members, if you prefer to attend remotely, contact Pastor Hope.

COMING EVENTS

BEEF ROAST is coming soon – August 14! This event will be drive-thru like last year, though we'll also have some picnic tables outside available for seating.

Pre-ordering will be available from August 1st thru 12th on the website or by calling or texting 815-388-6353. You are strongly encouraged to pre-order. (Remember that we RAN OUT of beef last year.) Prices for this year are:

Meal: \$15

Meal with 8 oz Pickles: \$18

Bulk Beef: \$10 a lb

We need a few new willing helpers this year – ranging from outdoor jobs of directing traffic, taking and handing out orders to people in their cars, and cashiers, to indoor jobs of filling food containers and getting everything packed up. Tell Kathy Speaker if you'd like to help! (kspeaker77@gmail.com or 815-678-4320)

You can help publicize the event by inviting friends and by sharing the event on Facebook. (It's on the top of our church Facebook page.)

BACKPACK BLESSING will be August 15, during Outdoor Worship. Children headed back to school are encouraged to bring their backpack to worship for a blessing before they start the new year. Grown-up bags – briefcases, purses, and other 'bags of daily use' are also welcome!

INDOOR WORSHIP The Church Cabinet has set August 22 as our expected date to return to indoor worship together! We'll be pulling everything together to continue sharing worship online while making our space open to all again. In the meantime, we will continue with outdoor/online worship weekly. We do ask anyone who is unvaccinated or particularly vulnerable to continue to wear your mask as you mingle before and after worship. Thank you!

As we get ready to regather inside, we need to give the building some TLC, including tidying and cleaning spaces like the children's areas, kitchen areas, and entryways. Let Pastor Hope know when you're willing to help and she'll get our efforts coordinated.

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.

THANKS to our Wider Mission Ministry and other helpers who took the Welcome to America Pack to Chicago this week and set up a new apartment for Tahereh and Ehsan Amini, who were arriving from Turkey.

Prayers for August 8, 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: Mike Anderson (Aug 8), William Kazimier (Aug 8)

CONCERNS

Prayers For:

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

Ode Keil's nephew, Brett Scharringhausen

Ina Obara's father,

The people of Afghanistan, Cuba, and Haiti

All those affected by severe weather of great rain, extreme heat, fires, and floods, in this country and around the world

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

Deann Workmon

Ongoing Prayers:

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