

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

Our Church at Worship on the Second Sunday after Epiphany

January 15, 2023

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 Molozaia

Sharing of joys and concerns

GATHERING SONG

"Come, Holy Spirit, Come"

**Come Holy Spirit come
Come Holy Spirit come
Come as the fire and burn
Come as the light and reveal
Come as the wind and cleanse**

Convict us...

Show us Your way

Convert us...

Day after day

Consecrate us

Until we're wholly Thine

(Repeat from the beginning one time)

In Christ's precious name we pray

Bryan Sirchio, Crosswind Music, 2009

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Robert Richardson

Leader: From the busy and bustle of our lives to the quiet center
of us all,

People: God gathers us.

Leader: From the noises all around to the peace of this sacred
place,

People: God gathers us.

Leader: From the constant back and forth to a clear path forward,

People: God gathers us.

Leader: Gather us, o God, in this time of peace, in this place of praise.

Even when we feel alone in the wilderness,

People: let us worship and serve only you.

Leader: Even when many temptations stand in our way,

People: let us worship and serve only you.

Leader: As we seek the path ahead,

People: let us worship and serve only you.

Amen.

HYMN

“O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

#42

TIME OF CONFESSION

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Leader: Forgive us, o God, for leading ourselves astray

People: and pretending we are the victims of circumstance.

Leader: Forgive us for appealing to our imperfect nature,

People: as if just by saying we’re imperfect,

we bear no responsibility for our actions.

Leader: Forgive us for hungering for what we do not need

and thirsting for what will not satisfy,

People: when the feast is already offered to us

in the bread of life and the living water.

Leader: Forgive us for kissing the cheek of power

People: instead of the hand of righteousness

when the whole world cries out for justice.

Leader: Transform our hearts and cleanse our spirits.

People: Set us for a new beginning from the temptations we

have known.

Quiet prayers

Words of Assurance

THE CHANCEL STEPS

The children are invited to join the pastor at the front of the church at this time. Afterwards, they are dismissed to Sunday school for the remainder of worship. They will return upstairs at the end of worship.

SONG RESPONSE “This Little Light of Mine”

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine

This little light of mine, I’m gonna let it shine

Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 91:9-12

Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,
no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.
For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.

The Gospel according to Matthew 4:1-17

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tested by the devil. He fasted forty days and forty nights, and afterward he was famished. The tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple, saying to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.'"

Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory, and he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Away with you, Satan! for it is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.'"

Then the devil left him, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled: "Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali, on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near."

MESSAGE Temptation Between Kingdoms

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN “O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free” #209
v.1, 2, & 3

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayers

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 of our friends and members!

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

HYMN “Who Would Think that What Was Needed” #153

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song “Go, Tell It on the Mountain” chorus

**Go, tell it on the mountain over the hills and everywhere
Go, tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!**

Call, opening prayer and time of confession from Spill the Beans, Issue 14. Music shared under CCLI #1908882.

CHURCH NEWS

FOR LEARNING

BIBLE STUDY will be Tuesday on Zoom at 1:30. We read and discuss the sermon Scripture for the coming Sunday. Everyone is welcome to join in and no special knowledge is needed. Our Meeting ID is 896 5130 1635 and the passcode is 003204. This Tuesday we'll be discussing Matthew 5:1-20.

FOR SERVICE

WE NEED ONE NEW CHURCH OFFICER: As we start the new year, the Church Cabinet is seeking a church member to serve as Clerk of the Cabinet. Outgoing Clerk Mary Ann Keil can fill you in about that position.

GIVE TO THE CHRISTMAS FUND of the United Church of Christ provides annuity supplements, health insurance supplements, emergency grants, and Christmas gift checks to individuals who have long served the church, such as pastors, widows of pastors, and pastors in transition between churches. You can contribute through January 22; just mark "UCC Christmas Fund" on your giving envelope or check memo line.

GIFT CARD ORDERING: Contact Penny Kraft to order gift cards for your regular shopping, dining out, gas stations, or, of course, for gifts! Think about gifts you might need to give or places where you shop regularly. You can see a full list of vendors and the % at www.raiseright.com/brands

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!

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION will be on Sunday, January 22, combined with our 10 AM Worship Service. Prior to the meeting, there will be a Potluck Breakfast at 9AM. Please look for the Breakfast Sign Up Sheet this morning.

At the meeting, we will approve a budget for 2023 and elect the officers of the church, as well as share general discussion about the life of the church.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS: You don't need to have children of Sunday school age to be a teacher. We ask teachers to take a month at a time, which is usually 3 or 4 Sunday, and we provide an easy-to-use curriculum. Sign up today.



HOST FELLOWSHIP SNACKS: A simple snack is all that's needed, and coffee-making tutorials are available. Sign-up sheet is available in the lounge today.

BLOOD DRIVE: We will be hosting a Blood Drive on Tuesday, January 31, from 3:30-7:30 PM. Anyone wishing to make an appointment can contact DeAnn Workmon at 815-678-0011.

FOR CONNECTION

FOOD WITH FRIENDS is back for winter gatherings.

Food With Friends is a fun plan for our church family to host each other in our homes or at church, one household at a time for a simple meal and relaxed conversation. We will get together with one other member or household in our homes, at the church or at a meeting place. Each time we will repast with a different member until, hopefully over time, we have each had a chance to eat and visit one on one with every other member of the church. The "meal" can be as simple as tea and cookies or frozen pizza – the point is to enjoy the time together not to stress over cooking. Get togethers will be casual and last about an hour and a half. Friday or Saturday evenings or Sunday mid-day or evenings are all good choices.

For more information or to sign up, see the flyers available today or talk to Elise Livingston (815-347-2807 or Elise@EliseLivingston.com).

SAVE THE DATE FOR BUNCO! The Congregational Care Committee is planning a Bunco night for Friday, February 17 at 7 PM. Watch for further details as we get closer to the date.

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

TODAY

Liturgist Robert Richardson

Video Director

Greeter/Usher

Sunday School Nicki Carter

Jan 22

Video Director

Sunday School

ANNUAL MEETING WITH WORSHIP

Jan 29

Liturgist Nicki Carter

Video Director

Greeter/Usher

Fellowship Hosts The Hebers

Sunday School

Feb 5

Liturgist Mike Kennedy

Video Director

Greeter/Usher

Fellowship Hosts

Communion Prep

Are you willing to help with any of these jobs? Let Pastor Hope know.

PRAYERS for the WEEK OF JANUARY 15, 2023

If you have prayer updates or announcements to share, please send them to BOTH Pastor Hope pastorhope@richmonducc.org) AND our office manager, Kathy Smietana (office@richmonducc.org). THANKS!

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

JOYS: Birthdays – Ronnie Obara (1/15), Sonny Walters (1/18), Betty Waspi (1/21), James Kennedy (1/15).

Our sympathies to the family and friends of Bob Krueger, who passed away last Friday in Lake Forest. A service was held here yesterday to celebrate Bob's good, long life.

PRAYERS FOR:

Phyllis Kazimier
Susie McCrae, Jim Speaker's aunt
Lydia Blanton
The people of Ukraine

Ongoing Prayers:

Cheryl Heber's father, Russell Koca
Lydia Blanton's friend, Natalie, and Natalie's family
Marti Swanson's brother, John Baldwin
Ella Watts, Melissa Jones's mother
Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

Our Congregational Prayer Partners this week are Jean and Jim Valsa, and Alaina, Libby, and Phoebe.

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ: Congregational U.C.C. in Yorkville and their new Pastor, The Rev. Elizabeth Hartung.

Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing Facilities: Betty Waspi, Phyllis Kazimier

O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

42

Charles Wesley, 1740; alt.

1 O for a thou-sand tongues to sing my great Re-deem-er's praise,
2 My gra-cious Sav-ior and my God, as-sist me to pro-claim,
3 Je-sus! the name that calms our fears, that bids our sor-rows cease
4 Glo-ry to God, and love and praise be ev-er, ev-er given

The glo-ries ev-er ech-o-ing the tri-umphs of God's grace!
To spread through all the earth a-broad the hon-ors of your name.
Is mu-sic in the sin-ner's ears, is life, and health, and peace!
By all the saints in ev-ery age, the church in earth and heaven.

The hymn is a cento from a longer poem of eighteen stanzas written by Charles Wesley on the first anniversary of his conversion. The present form of the hymn is one edited by John Wesley for The Wesleyan Hymn Book, 1780.

Tune: AZMON C.M.
Carl G. Gläser, 1828
Adapt. in L. Mason's Modern Psalms, 1839
Alternate tune: RICHMOND

O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free

209

*Latin, 15th century**Transl. The New Century Hymnal, 1994**Matt. 4:1-11; Luke 4:1-13; Phil. 2:5-11;**John 17:1-26; 19:1-3, 16-18*

1 O Love, how vast, how flow - ing free, O Love how
 2 Not as an an - gel vis - it - ing, nor form ce -
 3 For us bap - tized, and fast - ing long, for us was
 4 For us was beat - en, whipped, and tried, and tak - en

filled with ec - sta - sy, That God a hu - man
 les - tial or - bit - ing, But born in flesh God
 tempt - ed by the wrong, For us the pangs of
 to be cru - ci - fied, So Love all this for

form should take, and mor - tal be for mor - tals' sake.
 chose to be, robbed in our own hu - man - i - ty.
 hun - ger knew; for us the Tempt - er o - ver - threw.
 us en - dured, and dy - ing, life for us pro - cured.

5 A - ris - ing from the dead a - gain,
 our Sov - er - eign goes on high to reign;
 And sends the Spir - it to a - bide
 for strength and sol - ace at our side.

6 Then for God's bound - less love
 sing praise
 through end - less a - ges, count - less days;
 By Love we have been rec - on - ciled:
 sal - va - tion gained through
 God's own Child.

*Recounting the life of Christ, this hymn comes from an
 anonymous fifteenth-century Latin hymn of twenty-three*

*Tune: DEO GRACIAS L.M.
 "The Agincourt Song," England, c. 1415*

153 Who Would Think That What Was Needed

*Isa. 11:1-6; Matt. 2:1-11; Luke 2:8-14**John Bell and Graham Maule, 1990; alt.*

1 Who would think that what was need-ed to trans-form and save the earth
 2 Shep-herds watch and sag-es won-der, mon-archs scorn and an-gels sing;
 3 Cen-tu-ries of skill and sci-ence span the past from which we move,

might not be a plan or ar-my proud in pur-pose, proved in worth?
 such a place as none would reck-on hosts a ho-ly, help-less thing;
 yet ex-per-i-ence ques-tions wheth-er with such prog-ress we im-prove.

Who would think, de-spite de-ri-sion, that a child should lead the way?
 Sta-bled beasts and pass-ing strang-ers watch a ba-by laid in hay:
 In our search for sense and mean-ing, lest our hopes and hu-mor fray,

God sur-pris-es earth with heav-en, com-ing here on Christ-mas Day.
 God sur-pris-es earth with heav-en, com-ing here on Christ-mas Day.
 God sur-pris-es earth with heav-en, com-ing here on Christ-mas Day.

This song was written by The Iona Community in Scotland, which frequently develops hymn texts through a collaborative process, often employing traditional tunes from the British Isles such as "Scarlet Ribbons."

Tune: SCARLET RIBBONS 8.7.8.7.D.
 English traditional melody
 Arr. John Bell and others, 1990