

Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond United Church of Christ

Our Church at Worship on the Third Sunday in Lent

March 3, 2024

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 are visiting.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Penny Kraft

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Hope Molozaiy

Sharing of joys and concerns

GATHERING SONG "Above All"

**Verse 1: Above all powers, above all kings;
Above all nature and all created things.
Above all wisdom and all the ways of man,
You were here before the world began.**

**Verse 2: Above all kingdoms, above all thrones;
Above all wonders the world has ever known.
Above all wealth and treasures of the earth,
There's no way to measure what You're worth.**

**CHORUS: Crucified, laid behind the stone.
You lived to die rejected and alone.
Like a rose trampled on the ground;
You took the fall and thought of me, above all**

Words and Music: Lenny LeBlanc | Paul Baloché
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CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER

Jean Valsa

One: Pilgrims, we are invited to journey through this season of
Lent

All: towards the One who calls us each by a new name.

One: Disciples, we walk with Jesus wherever he leads us,

All: pulling our fears, our doubts, our longings behind us.

One: Believers, we seek to trust the God who always surprises us,
All: whose promises take on flesh and blood in the good news called Jesus.

One: So let us pray.
O God, we come to worship this morning from different places.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: We come to worship this morning for different reasons.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: We experience the presence of your Spirit in different ways.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: We hear Jesus' words with different ears.

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: "Deny yourselves."

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: "Take up your cross."

All: O God, do not be far from us.

One: "Follow me."

**All: O God, we trust you draw near to us
in this place, in our lives.
We thank you. Amen.**

HYMN

"In the Cross of Christ I Glory"

#193

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

THE CHANCEL STEPS

The children are invited to join the pastor at the front of the church at this time. Afterwards, they are encouraged to remain in worship with their families or parents might accompany preschool children to the nursery.

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

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 34:11-14

Come, O children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.
Which of you desires life and covets many days to enjoy good?
Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.
Depart from evil, and do good; seek peace, and pursue it.

The Gospel according to Mark 10:32-52

They were on the road, going up to Jerusalem, and Jesus was walking ahead of them; they were amazed, and those who followed were afraid. He took the twelve aside again and began to tell them what was to happen to him, saying, "Look, we are going up to Jerusalem, and the Son of Man will be handed over to the chief priests and the scribes, and they will condemn him to death; then they will hand him over to the gentiles; they will mock him and spit upon him and flog him and kill him, and after three days he will rise again."

James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, "Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you." And he said to them, "What is it you want me to do for you?" And they said to him, "Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory." But Jesus said to them, "You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?" They replied, "We are able." Then Jesus said to them, "The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized, but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared."

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, "You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many."

They came to Jericho. As he and his disciples and a large crowd were leaving Jericho, Bartimaeus son of Timaeus, a blind beggar, was sitting by the roadside. When he heard that it was Jesus of Nazareth, he began to shout out and say, "Jesus, Son of David, have mercy on me!" Many sternly ordered him to be quiet, but he cried out even more loudly, "Son of David, have mercy on me!" Jesus stood still and said, "Call him here." And they called the blind man, saying to him, "Take heart; get up, he is calling you." So throwing off his cloak, he sprang up and came to Jesus. Then Jesus said to him, "What do you want me to do for you?" The blind man said to him, "My teacher, let me see again." Jesus said to him, "Go; your faith has made you well." Immediately he regained his sight and followed him on the way.

MESSAGE

It Doesn't Hurt to Ask

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN

"We are People on a Journey"

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THE OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Prayer of Dedication (we say together)

**O God, may we worship with open hearts,
open hands, open wallets.
Receive what we give today.
Use what we offer to open the way
for more neighbors to know your love. Amen.**

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion Prayer

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The prayer continues...

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.**

Words of Remembrance

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

*Each tray of bread also holds gluten free crackers; we serve grape
juice rather than wine so that all people may share in this meal.
Please hold the bread and the juice until all are served so we all may
partake together.*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Bountiful God, we give thanks
that you have refreshed us at your table
by granting us the presence of Christ.
Strengthen our faith,
increase our love for one another,
and send us forth into the world in courage and peace,
to love and serve you in the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

CLOSING RESPONSES

One: The cross,

All: We will take it.

One: The bread,

All: We will break it.

One: The pain,

All: We will bear it.

One: The joy,

All: We will share it.

One: The Gospel,

All: We will live it.

One: The love,

All: We will give it.

Sending Song "We are One in the Spirit"

Verse:

**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:**

Chorus:

**And they'll know we are Christians By our love, by our love;
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.**

WORDS AND MUSIC: Peter Scholtes, © 1966 F.E.L. Publications. Assigned 1991 Lorenz Publishing Company, CCLI License No. 1908882

*Call by Thom Shuman, posted at <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>; opening prayer, by Joanna Harader, posted on <http://spaciousfaith.com>, dedication from Spill the Beans, Issue 18, p. 16. Closing responses, by the Iona Community in *Stages on the Way: Worship Resources and reading for Lent, Holy Week and Easter*, 2000, p. 37; Music shared under CCLI #1908882*

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**TODAY****March 10**

Liturgist

Jean Valsa

George Zimmermann

Video Director

Nicki Carter

Greeter/Usher

Dick Strahs

Fellowship Hosts

The Tedders

Sunday School

n/a

Jean Valsa

Communion Prep

Jonathan Kaman

AT CHURCH THIS WEEK

- Today after worship, Youth Education meeting
- Lenten Gathering, **AT Spaghetti Supper at Richardson Farm**, Wednesday 6PM. See details below.
- Choir practice, Wednesday, 7:15

CHURCH NEWS

FOR SERVICE

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING: is an offering that makes the love of Christ real around the world for those who suffer the effects of disaster, conflict, or severe economic hardship, and for those who serve them through gifts of money and time. Your gift today will help strengthen struggling communities with basics like education, health care, tools, seeds, and wells. We will receive this offering on March 10th.

WIDER MISSION FUND-RAISER: Wider Missions selling Joyful Tradition Cake Rolls just in time for Easter.

These cake rolls are made from scratch and are great for holidays and special occasions! They are frozen so you can use when it's convenient for you. Thaw the cake rolls and they are ready to serve! They're available in six delicious flavors: Carrot Cake, Chocolate Crème, Lemon Crème, Pumpkin, Red Velvet, and Strawberry Cream Cheese. The cost is just \$17 each. Sales end March 10th. Don't forget to let your family and friends know about this delicious opportunity. Delivery is Friday, March 22nd from 4:30 to 5:30 PM. Your support is greatly appreciated. If you would like to order online please let Karen Wootton know, and she will set it up.

FOR CONNECTION

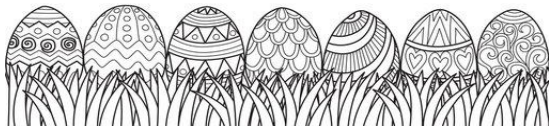
FORGIVENESS AND SPAGHETTI! Next Wednesday, the Lenten dinner will be at Richardson's Farm (909 English Prairie Road in Spring Grove) where the Rotary Club is hosting a spaghetti meal. The proceeds go to the food pantry. Dinner is \$15 person. Children under 4 are free. Find more details here

<https://www.townplanner.com/event/713989/>

We will buy our meals individually, eat together at 6pm, and then have our discussion on forgiveness in an adjacent room. Plan to arrive a few minutes before 6:00.

EASTER FLOWERS: Available to order now through March 10th. Lilies, Daffodils and Tulips are available for \$18 each to beautify the sanctuary for Easter and take home afterwards. Order forms available at church or contact Carol Sligting via email: sligting@sbcglobal.net or by cell: 847-764-8016.

FOR FURTHER BIBLE REFLECTION: Immerse yourself in the story of Mark's Gospel with a full, one-man dramatic performance by Max McLean. Mr. McLean is known for his work bringing gospel stories to life as well as his role as Screwtape in C.S. Lewis' *The Screwtape Letters*. Visit www.ListenersBible.com to find the complete telling of the Gospel of Mark as well as daily "1 Minute of Scripture" listenings. You can also find Max's performance of Mark's Gospel on YouTube divided into chapter-length performances by searching "Max McLean Gospel of Mark" or by using this link <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Un3gSYkd0ds&list=PLWSVdFUs6XZsvetzBa8ExetKwYrjDi7by>



SAVE THESE DATES!

- Super Fellowship and Egg Dying will follow the Palm Sunday worship on March 24 in the Fellowship Hall
- Plant Sale, Saturday, May 11, 9am-4pm
- Spring Tea, Sunday, May 19, 1pm-4pm, Horticultural Hall in Lake Geneva

PRAYERS for the WEEK OF March 3, 2024

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: Jim Kraft (3/4).

Thanks for great fellowship at Bunco.

Thanks for the recovery of Charles Kemp's niece.

Sympathies to the family and friends of Ward Brown on his recent passing. Ward was a colleague and friend of Jonathan Kaman.

PRAYERS FOR:

Barb Haase

All those whose lives are affected by addiction

Trish's sister-in-law

Kim May and all involved in upcoming contest weekend

Jan Revelle's grandson

Newly arriving refugee students and their new teachers

Bill Haase

Kansas City shooting victims and families

Mike Anderson's relative, Gail

Henry Eickelberg

Debbie Franzone's sister, Pam, and family

Ongoing Prayers:

Marti Swanson's brother, John Baldwin

Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

Rob Richardson's brother, Dale

Melissa Jones

Our Congregational Prayer Partner this week is Marcia Becker.

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ at Community Protestant U.C.C. in Mundelein and their Pastor, the Rev. Alex Molozaiy.

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

LENT

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In the Cross of Christ I Glory

Gal. 6:14

John Bowring, 1825

1 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing
 2 When the woes of life o'er - take me, hopes de -
 3 When the sun of bliss is beam - ing light and
 4 Bane and bless - ing, pain and plea - sure, by the
 5 In the cross of Christ I glo - ry, tower - ing

o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of
 ceive, and fears an - noy, Nev - er shall the
 love up - on my way, From the cross the
 cross are sanc - ti - fied; Peace is there that
 o'er the wrecks of time; All the light of

sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.
 cross for - sake me: Lo! it glows with peace and joy.
 ra - diance stream - ing adds more lus - ter to the day.
 knows no mea - sure, joys that through all time a - bide.
 sa - cred sto - ry gath - ers 'round its head sub - lime.

John Bowring's goal "to do something which may connect my work with the literature of the age" was attained with this enduring hymn. The gifted Bowring studied 200 languages and wrote extensively in many fields.

Tune: RATHBUN 8.7.8.7.
 Ithamar Conkey, 1849
 Alternate setting: TOMTER

Somos pueblo que camina

(We Are People on a Journey)

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"Misa Popular Nicaragüense," 20th century; alt.
English version, Carolyn Jennings, 1993

John 6:32-35

1 So-mos pue-blo que ca - mi - na por la sen - da del do - lor.
 2 Los hu - mil-des y los po - bres in - vi - ta - dos son de Dios.
 1 We are peo-ple on a jour - ney; pain is with us all the way.
 2 God has sent the in - vi - ta - tion to the hum-ble and the poor.

Estribillo (Refrain)

A - cu - da-mos ju - bi - lo - sos a la san - ta co - mu - ni - ón.
 Joy-ful - ly we come to - geth - er at the ho - ly feast of God.

- | | |
|---|---|
| 3 Es-te pan que Dios nos brin-da
a-li-men-ta nues-tra u-ni-ón. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 3 This is bread that God pro-vides us,
nour-ish-ing our u-ni-ty. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 4 Cris-to a-quí se ha-ce pre-sen-te;
al reu-nir-nos es su a-mor. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 4 Christ is ev-er pres-ent with us
to u-nite us all in love. (<i>Refrain</i>) |
| 5 Los se-dien-tos de jus-ti-cia
bus-can su li-be-ra-ción. (<i>Estribillo</i>) | 5 All who tru-ly thirst for jus-tice
seek their lib-er-a-tion here. (<i>Refrain</i>) |

The "Misa Popular Nicaragüense," in which this hymn appeared, was composed for the Eucharist liturgy by members of the "comunidades de base"—a group of laypersons who organized to deal with issues in the Latin American church and community.

Tune: SOMOS PUEBLO 8.7. with refrain (8.7.)
"Misa Popular Nicaragüense," 20th century

Be Now My Vision

*Ancient Irish text, c. 8th century; transl. Mary E. Byrne, 1905
Versified by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912; adapt.*

Unison

1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
 2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;
 3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
 4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part—
 ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;
 you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
 may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,
 Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,
 You and you on - ly are first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.
 now and for - ev - er your child I will be.
 great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.
 still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

Dating from the eighth century or earlier, this Irish hymn was translated into prose by Mary Byrne. It was then versified by Eleanor Hull, author of several books on Irish literature and history. David Evans arranged the Irish melody for this text in 1927.

Tune: SLANE 10.10.9.10.
*Traditional Irish melody
 Harm. David Evans, 1927*