

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

**Our Church at Worship on the Sixth Sunday of Easter**

**May 22, 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.

Tune into Facebook at 10:00 on Sunday to share this time of worship.

**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 Molozaizy

GATHERING SONG "I Woke up This Morning"

Verse 1: I woke up this morning with my mind  
stayed on Jesus,  
Woke up this morning with my mind  
stayed on Jesus,  
woke up this morning with my mind  
stayed on Jesus,  
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Verse 2: Singing and praying with my mind  
stayed on Jesus,  
Singing and praying with my mind  
stayed on Jesus,  
Singing and praying with my mind  
stayed on Jesus,  
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Jeffrey Radford (1993) | African-American spiritual CCLI License No. 1908882

CALL TO WORSHIP and OPENING PRAYER

Mike Kennedy

One: This is the place and this is the time.

Here and now God waits to break into our experience:  
to change our minds, to change our lives, to change our ways;  
to make us see the world in a new light;  
to fill us with hope, joy, and confidence for the future.  
This is the place, as are all places;  
this is the time, as are all times.  
Here and now, let us praise God.

One: Great God, You broke down the barriers  
when you crept in beside us.  
For in Jesus...

**Two: the smiling and story-telling Jesus,  
the controversial and annoying Jesus,  
the loving and forgiving Jesus,**

One: your hands touched all, and touched us,  
showing how in Christ  
there is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither male nor female.

**ALL: All are one in Jesus Christ  
and for this we praise you.**

One: You opened our eyes,  
to see how the hands of the rich were empty,  
and the hearts of the poor were full.

**Two: You dared to take the widow's mite, the child's loaves,  
the babe at the breast, and in these simple things  
to point out the path to your Kingdom.**

One: You said, 'Follow me!'  
for on our own we could never discover that in Christ  
there is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither male nor female.

**ALL: All are one in Jesus Christ  
and for this we praise you.**

One: You gave us hands to hold:  
black hands and white, African hands and Asian,  
the clasping hands of lovers, and the reluctant hands  
of those who don't believe they are worth holding.

**Two: And when we wanted to shake our fist,  
you still wanted to hold our hand,  
because in Christ  
there is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither male nor female.**

**ALL: All are one in Jesus Christ  
and for this we praise you.**

One: Here in the company of the neighbor whom we know  
and the stranger in our midst,  
and the self from whom we turn,  
we ask to love as Jesus loved.

**Two: Make this the place and time, good Lord,  
when heaven and earth merge into one,  
and we in word and flesh can grasp  
that in Christ  
there is neither Jew nor Gentile,  
neither male nor female.**

**ALL: All are one in Jesus Christ  
and for this we praise you.  
Amen.**

HYMN

“In Christ There is No East or West”

#394

**WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**

SCRIPTURE Psalm 148

Shout praises to the Lord!  
Shout the Lord's praises  
in the highest heavens.  
All of you angels,  
and all who serve him above,  
come and offer praise.  
Sun and moon,  
and all of you bright stars,  
come and offer praise.  
Highest heavens, and the water  
above the highest heavens,  
come and offer praise.  
Let all things praise  
the name of the Lord,  
because they were created  
at his command.  
He made them to last forever,  
and nothing can change  
what he has done.

All creatures on earth,  
you obey his commands,  
    so come praise the Lord!  
Sea monsters and the deep sea,  
fire and hail, snow and frost,  
    and every stormy wind,  
    come praise the Lord!  
All mountains and hills,  
fruit trees and cedars,  
every wild and tame animal,  
all reptiles and birds,  
    come praise the Lord!  
Every king and every ruler,  
    all nations on earth,  
every man and every woman,  
young people and old,  
    come praise the Lord!  
All creation, come praise  
the name of the Lord.  
    Praise his name alone.  
The glory of God is greater  
    than heaven and earth.  
Like a bull with mighty horns,  
the Lord protects  
    his faithful nation Israel,  
because they belong to him.  
    Shout praises to the Lord!

ANTHEM

“I’ve Been Changed”

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE

The Acts of the Apostles 11:1-18

Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God. So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him, saying, ‘Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?’ Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying, ‘I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me. As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air. I also heard a voice saying to me, “Get up, Peter; kill and eat.” But I replied, “By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth.” But a second time the voice answered from heaven, “What God has made clean, you must not call profane.” This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven. At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were. The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man’s house. He told us how he had seen the



## **CHURCH NEWS**

### **VACATION**

Pastor Hope will be on vacation from May 25<sup>th</sup> through June 4<sup>th</sup>.

### **FOR LEARNING**

**BIBLE STUDY:** We meet on Zoom each Tuesday at 1:30pm. Our Meeting ID is 896 5130 1635 and the passcode is 003204. No special knowledge is needed! This Tuesday, we'll be studying Acts 16.

### **FOR SERVICE**

**GIFT CARDS:** Our Gift Card Fundraiser continues constantly. Contact Penny Kraft to order gift cards for your regular shopping, dining out, gas stations, or, of course, for gifts! You get the full amount of the gift card AND the church gets a percentage for each card you buy. Penny reminds us that she's not keeping very many cards in stock right now, but the turn-around is very quick on them; they're usually here within 3-4 days of you ordering them. You can contact her at 815-236-6172 or [mriapk@gmail.com](mailto:mriapk@gmail.com) or leave an order form and payment in the mailbox labelled "GIFT CARDS" in the office hallway. Thanks for your support!

**SUPPORT AREA VETERANS:** The McHenry County Dept of Health is sponsoring Operation Dropbox to benefit Veteran's Path to Hope in Crystal Lake. Through May, you can drop off non-perishable food items, paper products, personal hygiene products and new socks for men and women. Dropboxes are available at Angelo's grocery store in Richmond, the McHenry VFW Post on Route 120, and St. John Catholic Church in Johnsburg, as well as many other area sites, now through the end of May.

**BLOOD DRIVE** – Tuesday, June 7, 3:30-7:30 PM here at the church. Save the date for this life-saving event.

**SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL:** As we're trying to get back to more of our regular offerings around church, we ask for your help in supporting Summer Sunday School. Our focus over the summer is simply on the chance for the children and some grown-ups they might not normally spend time with to have a little fun in the name of Jesus.

Teachers sign up for one Sunday at a time and are encouraged to choose an activity they would enjoy doing with the kids. Make a craft. Or take the kids outside to color the sidewalks with messages of love. Play them a bit of a movie or a VeggieTales story (suggestions

available from Pastor Hope) while they do some coloring. Make a simple snack or cookies with them downstairs in the church kitchen. Teach them about knitting or braiding or teach them something about the plants outside the church building or about some other interest of yours. Read them a favorite Bible story, or teach them one of your favorite church songs (Play it for them on Youtube if you don't want to sing it!). The idea is just for some grown-ups of the church to spend some time with some children of the church doing something they enjoy.

**BONUS:** The family members of our church children do a lot of the Sunday School teaching during the program year; give those parents a gift and show them you value having their families here by signing up to lead Summer Sunday School. The sign-up sheet is in the lounge, and Pastor Hope would always be excited to help you plan your class. THANK YOU for your support!

### **FOR CONNECTION**

**FOOD WITH FRIENDS:** A fun new chance for small group connection. Sign up with Elise Livingston and she'll pair your household with one other household for a dinner together. Then in about 6 weeks, she'll pair you up with a different household for another dinner opportunity. The goal is simply to connect with church friends in a slow, simple way like sharing a meal with one other household. Each paired-up household will have lots of freedom about making the plan that works best for them, so if you are at all interested, contact Elise to get signed up or see signup sheet in lounge!

**BEEF ROAST:** The Cabinet has chosen AUGUST 13 for this year's BEEF ROAST! Mark your calendar now! This year we hope to host a "hybrid" event with tables set up outside under the big tent for those who'd like to eat here, and with drive-thru option still available. We will need your help!

**COVID UPDATES:** Masks are currently optional at worship and church gatherings (though we do still ask the choir to mask when they sing their anthems).

We continue to ask that you stay home if you're feeling sick and that you maintain a healthy distance from other households when you choose your seats for worship.

We will watch public health conditions and to make decisions about our community's standards based on Jesus command to love each other and protect the most vulnerable among us.

Cases have been slowly but steadily rising in our area in the past month. Our "community spread" is rated as medium by CDC

guidelines. Pastor Hope watches COVID statistics at [https://covidactnow.org/us/illinois-il/county/mc\\_henry\\_county](https://covidactnow.org/us/illinois-il/county/mc_henry_county)

**COFFEE HOUR HOST: Did you know?** If you run out of supplies upstairs, please feel free to go downstairs to the elevator room. There are shelves on the left side of the room. On the shelves to the far right are the replacements. Please do not purchase any items without checking the supplies!

The money in the jar can be put in an envelope and placed in the Kitchen mailbox in the hall. There are blank envelopes in the box.

If you notice a shortage of anything downstairs, please either write a note and place it in the Kitchen mailbox or contact Kathy Speaker. 815-382-4340 or [kspeaker@charter.net](mailto:kspeaker@charter.net)

We like for the money collected in the jar to pay for any supplies rather than take it out of the general fund. Thanks to all who contribute to the “jar”!

**PENTECOST IS COMING** – You might remember that we like to make a joyful festival on Pentecost, the celebration of the Holy Spirit coming upon the disciples in Jerusalem and energizing them for their gospel mission. Pentecost this year is June 5. Because the color RED is traditionally associated with the Holy Spirit, on this day, you’re are encouraged to wear red, and to bring a red candle that we can place on the table up front and light during worship. New this year, we also invite you to bring a red food to share with the food pantry – try to think along the lines of tomato sauce, spaghetti sauce, Spaghetti O’s... not just red candy. 😊

We’ll also celebrate the work of the Spirit among our congregation that day: Who’s service to this church are you particularly grateful for these days? Think about it and watch for the how the Spirit is moving among us in these next weeks before Pentecost.

**SUMMER FAMILY FUN** – The Youth Education team has a planned a few fun outings for the summer months. Our first event will be a Nature Walk at Glacial Park on Sunday, June 19, after worship. The Youth Education team will provide a simple lunch (Probably from Subway.) downstairs after worship, and then we’ll head over to Glacial Park for our walk. This event is open to everyone in the church. Please sign up by Sunday, June 12, if you plan to join us – there’s a sign-up sheet at the front of the sanctuary or contact Jean Valsa at 309-212-0902.

More summer fun is planned for July 9 and August 7 – stay tuned for details!

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

**May 22 (Today)**

**Liturgist** Mike Kennedy  
**Video Director** Nicki Carter  
**Greeter/Usher**  
**Sunday School** Gail Crutcher  
**Special Music** Chancel Choir

**May 29**

**Guest Preacher** Pastor Kathy Karch  
**Liturgist** Robert Richardson  
**Video Director** Nicki Carter  
**Online Connector** Ron Obara  
**Greeter/Usher**

**June 5 - Festival of Pentecost**

**Readers** Ron Obara, Kathy Karch, Mike Kennedy, Nicki Carter

**Video Director**  
**Greeter/Usher**  
**Communion Setup** Kathy Karch  
**Special Music** Chancel Choir

**June 12**

**Liturgist** George Zimmermann  
**Video Director**  
**Greeter/Usher**  
**Sunday School**  
**Fellowship Host**



## **5** simple things you can do

**to make the world a better place  
for people with mental illnesses  
and their families**

### **1 Be a friend**

Provide companionship and compassion on the road toward recovery. Offer a ride to church or to a local support group. Listen without judgement. Pray for those you know with mental illnesses and for their family members.

### **2 Be an inspiration**

Share your story. Has mental illness impacted you or your family in some way? Your story may empower others to seek treatment or have hope.

### **3 Watch your language**

Pay attention to the words you use and avoid stigmatizing labels. Do not refer to people as "crazy," "psycho," "lunatic" or "mental."

### **4 Be a "StigmaBuster"**

Challenge negative attitudes toward mental illness among your friends and acquaintances and in the media.

### **5 Learn the facts**

Educate yourself about the various mental illnesses. Attend a lecture or class or use the Internet. Good places to start include the National Alliance on Mental Illness, [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org), and the National Institute of Mental Health, [www.nimh.nih.gov](http://www.nimh.nih.gov).

## **May is Mental Health Month**

Around half of all people in the U.S. will meet the criteria for a diagnosable mental health condition at some point in their lives. Any given year, one in every four people (26.2%, according to the National Institute on Mental Health) is dealing with mental illness, also known as a brain disorder. People with mental illness are your brother, your sister, the man across the street, and the person next to you in the pew.

The United Church of Christ Mental Health Network works to reduce stigma and promote the inclusion of people with mental illnesses/brain disorders and their families in the life, leadership and work of congregations.

What is our Vision?

We envision a future in which:

- People with mental illnesses feel welcomed, supported, valued and included seamlessly in the life, leadership and work of their congregations.
- UCC congregations have eliminated stigma, and their members offer true compassion and support for people with mental illnesses and their families.
- UCC churches are collaborating with other faith communities to widen their welcome to people with mental illnesses.

Learn more and find mental health resources at <https://www.mhn-ucc.org/>

You can also find much more through the National Alliance on Mental Illness at [www.nami.org](http://www.nami.org)

**PRAYERS for the Week of May 22, 2022**

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

**JOYS: Birthdays:** Quintessa Mussared (May 27)

**PRAYERS FOR:**

Brandi's Husband, Bryan  
Dawn Conley's daughter, Kelly DeSalvo  
Cheryl Heber's father, Russell Koca  
Patt Clymer, friend of the Molozaiys

**Ongoing Prayers:**

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 Partner this week is Bill Haase.

**In the Wider Church:** We pray for our neighbors in Christ, First Congregational United Church of Christ in Crystal Lake and their Pastors, Eric C Fistler, Senior Pastor, Emily Davis, Associate Pastor.

**Our Mission Partner is the Richmond Spring Grove Food Pantry:**

The Richmond / Spring Grove Food Pantry serves the Richmond and Spring Grove, Illinois and surrounding areas. Donations are always welcomed!!!  
For More Information you can call 224-444-0117.

**Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing Facilities:** Mercedes Ahlgrim (New Mexico), Sharon Mensing (Sterling), Bob Krueger (Libertyville)

## In Christ There Is No East or West

*1 Cor. 12:13; Gal. 3:28; Eph. 2:14-22**John Oxenham, 1908; alt.  
St. 3, Laurence Hull Stookey, 1987*

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in Christ no South or North;  
 2 In Christ shall true hearts ev-ery-where their high com-mu-nion find;  
 3 In Christ is nei-ther Jew nor Greek, and nei-ther slave nor free;  
 4 In Christ now meet both East and West, in Christ meet South and North;

But one com-mu-ni-ty of love through-out the whole wide earth.  
 God's ser-vice is the gold-en cord close-bind-ing hu-man-kind.  
 For men and wom-en live in God, and all are kin to me.  
 One joy-ous, true com-mu-ni-ty through-out the whole wide earth.

*Singer and composer Harry T. Burleigh studied at the National Conservatory of Music from 1892 to 1896. He is recognized as the first African-American composer to employ spirituals in concert arrangements. This tune is named after the rector of St. George's Episcopal Church in New York City, where Burleigh served as baritone soloist for more than fifty years.*

Tune: McKEE C.M.  
 African-American melody  
 Arr. Harry T. Burleigh, 1939  
 Alternate setting: ST. PETER

## God Our Author and Creator

530

Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1985

Gen. 1:1-2:3; Acts 17:22-31; Rom. 12:2; John 3:16-17

Unison

1 God our Au - thor and Cre - a - tor, in whose life we find our own,  
 2 Like those first a - pos-tles, Sav-ior, give us strength to love and serve:  
 3 Keep us faith-ful, Ho-ly Spir-it, help us bear the mes-sage true,

make our dai-ly wit-ness great-er, by our lives make your love known.  
 when our faint-ing spir-its wa-ver, fire our hearts and steel our nerve.  
 that at last all lands may hear it: "God is love; Christ died for you."

Help us show how love em-brac-es those whom fear and greed down-trod;  
 Teach us wis-dom and com-pas-sion: bid our rest-less thoughts be still;  
 Join our lives in might-y cho-rus till we come from ev-ery place,

in all yearn-ing hearts and fac-es let us see a child of God.  
 by your guid-ance help us fash-ion lives con-formed un-to your will.  
 with all those who went be-fore us, to the full-ness of God's grace.

*In 1985, a hymn competition was held to commemorate the centennial of the Women's Missionary Union of the Southern Baptist Convention. This winning text by Carl P. Daw, Jr., fulfilled the guideline that the hymn address mission in the context of daily life.*

Tune: JEFFERSON 8.7.8.7.D.  
 Southern Harmony, 1835  
 Harm. John Ferguson, 1973