

Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond

United Church of Christ

Our Church at Worship on the Fourth Sunday of Easter

May 8, 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 Molozaiy

GATHERING SONG “This Is the Day”

Verse 1: This is the day, this is the day
that our God has made, that our God has made;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glade in it.
This is the day that our God has made,
we will rejoice and be glad in it;
this is the day, this is the day that our God has
made.

Verse 2: This is the day, this is the day
Jesus rose again, Jesus rose again;
we will rejoice, we will rejoice
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.
This is the day Jesus rose again,
we will rejoice and be glad in it;
this is the day, this is the day Jesus rose again.

St. I Paraphr. By Les Garrett 1967 alt. | St. 2-3 traditonal: alt, CCLI License No. 1908882

CALL TO WORSHIP and OPENING PRAYER Elise Livingston

One: Let us start this service well, by reminding ourselves:

That it is not we who chose Christ,

All: but Christ who chose us;

One: That we are not here because of our goodness

All: but because of Christ's grace;

One: That we are not here to enlighten ourselves,

All: but to allow Christ to enlighten us;

One: That we have not come to be entertained

All: but to worship God with heart, soul, mind and strength.

One: Let us pray:

O God, whose grace is enough to fulfill all our needs,
feed us now, as you fed your first disciples.

All: Feed us with that soul food you provide.

May it nurture enough love within us

to outstrip the fear and anxiety that ties the world up in knots.

One: Feed us with that spiritual bread you provide.

May it strengthen our hands for serving those people
whom this world deems broken and lost.

All: Feed us with your abundant joy.

May it overflow in us as it overflows in all creation.

One: O God, feed us now, as you fed your first disciples,

so we might be filled, and go feed your sheep.

For your love's sake, we pray.

All: Amen!

HYMN

“Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us”

#252

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

WORD FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM

“In This Very Room”

Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 23

The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want.

He makes me lie down in green pastures;

he leads me beside still waters;

he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths

for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil;
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff—
they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me
 in the presence of my enemies;
you anoint my head with oil;
 my cup overflows.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me
 all the days of my life,
and I shall dwell in the house of the Lord
 my whole life long.

The Gospel according to John 21:15-17

When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep.

MESSAGE When You've Been Fed, Go Feed

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN "Take My Gifts" **#562**

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.

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.

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song "Send me, Jesus" #360
Send me, Jesus, send me, Jesus, send me Jesus, send me, Lord.
Lead me, Jesus, lead me, Jesus, lead me Jesus, lead me, Lord.
Fill me, Jesus, fill me, Jesus, fill me Jesus, fill me, Lord.

Call and opening prayer, by Bruce Prewer, posted at <http://www.bruceprewer.com/>. Music shared under CCLI License #1908882

CHURCH NEWS

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 9.

FOR SERVICE

COMMUNITY CHURCH PLANT SALE

May 21, 8AM to 4PM in the church yard

Items for sale include: Variegated Hostas, Peonies, Purple Irises, Ornamental Grasses, and more!

\$10 each

Contact Mike Kennedy if you have other perennials to donate to this sale or if you can volunteer an hour or two on May 21 to help with the sale.

Other small craft items that we could sell are also welcome. Again, talk to Mike if you plan to donate. Reach him at 815-528-0127.

CABINET meets tomorrow night on Zoom at 7PM. If you have business the Cabinet needs to discuss, contact President Charles Kemp or Pastor Hope.

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 or leave an order form and payment in the mailbox labelled "GIFT CARDS" in the office hallway. Thanks for your support!

FOR CONNECTION

ALL CONFERENCE CHATS: Each Wednesday at 3PM, the Illinois Conference of the UCC hosts a Zoom conversation. These chats cover many different topics and are open to anyone. These chats are a great way to connect to new people in our church circle. You can access this weekly Zoom meeting with Meeting ID 879 6243 0629 and Passcode 284065.

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!

UPDATES FROM CHURCH CABINET: The Church Cabinet agreed recently that public health conditions allow us to make masks optional for worship. (At the recommendation of our worship staff, we do still ask the choir to mask while singing their anthems.) We encourage you to come however you are most comfortable with regards to masks, and to treat your church neighbor with the same love and respect you always show, whether they're wearing a mask or not. 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 continue to 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

Helping in Worship this Week

Liturgist	Elise Livingston
Video supervisor	Judy Jooss
Greeter/Usher	Dick Strahs
Fellowship Hosts	Jim and Kathy Speaker
Sunday School Teacher	

Coming Up in May

Date	Liturgist	Video Supervisor	Greeter/ Usher	Fellowship Host	Sunday School Teacher	Special Music
May 15	Nicki C.				Gail C.	
May 22	NEEDED	Nicki C			Mike K	Choir
May 29	Robert R.					

THE WIDE SPECTRUM OF MOTHERING

by Amy Young

To those who gave birth this year to their first child—we celebrate with you.

To those who lost a child this year - we mourn with you.

To those who are in the trenches with little ones every day and wear the badge of food stain – we appreciate you.

To those who experienced loss through miscarriage, failed adoptions, or running away—we mourn with you.

To those who walk the hard path of infertility, fraught with pokes, prods, tears, and disappointment—we walk with you. Forgive us when we say foolish things. We don't mean to make this harder than it is.

To those who are foster moms, mentor moms, and spiritual moms – we need you.

To those who have warm and close relationships with your children – we celebrate with you.

To those who have disappointment, heart ache, and distance with your children – we sit with you.

To those who lost their mothers this year—we grieve with you.

To those who experienced abuse at the hands of your own mother – we acknowledge your experience.

To those who lived through driving tests, medical tests, and the overall testing of motherhood – we are better for having you in our midst.

To those who have aborted children – we remember them and you.

To those who are single and long to be married and mothering your own children – we mourn that life has not turned out the way you longed for it to be.

To those who stepparent – we walk with you on these complex paths.

To those who envisioned lavishing love on grandchildren, yet that dream is not to be – we grieve with you.

To those who will have emptier nests in the upcoming year – we grieve and rejoice with you.

To those who placed children up for adoption – we commend you and remember how you hold that child in your heart.

And to those who are pregnant with new life, both expected and surprising – we anticipate with you.

This Mother's Day, we walk with you.

Mothering is not for the faint of heart and we have real warriors in our midst. We remember you.

PRAYERS for the Week of May 8, 2022

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: Sarah (Kraft) Julius (May 8), Marcia Becker (May 13)

PRAYERS FOR:

Brandi's husband, Bryan
Dawn Conley's daughter, Kelly DeSalvo
Betty Waspi
Cheryl Heber's father, Russell Koca
Deann Workmon
Patt Clymer, friend of the Molozaiys
Debbie Franzone

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 Partner

Our Congregational Prayer Partners this week are Margot & William Foley.

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ, Faith Community United Church of Christ of Bensenville, IL, and their Pastor: Philip Prince.

We also pray for our Mission Partner: Mission Partner is Outdoor Ministries of the Illinois Conference of the UCC. Outdoor Ministries oversees Pilgrim Park and Tower Hill Camps, year-round outdoor Christian environments that provide transforming experiences for youth, families and groups. To learn more visit:
[Outdoor Ministries \(il-outdoorministries.org\)](http://OutdoorMinistries(il-outdoorministries.org))

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

Savior, like a Shepherd Lead Us

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*Atrib. to Dorothy A. Thrupp (1779-1847)**From Hymns for the Young, 1836; alt.**St. I transl. to Hawaiian by Laiana (1807-1886)**John 10:1-29*

1 Sav-ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need your ten-der care;
 1 Ie - su no ke Ka - hu - hi - pa, Ka - hu - hi - pa ma'i-ka'i e,
 2 We are yours, in love be - friend us, be the guard-ian of our way;
 3 Let us al - ways seek your fa - vor; let us al - ways do your will;

in your pleas - ant pas-tures feed us, for our use your folds pre-pare.
 Ei - a ma - kou ka 'o - ha - na ke ho'o-lo - he a ha - hai:
 keep your flock, from sin de - fend us, seek us when we go a - stray.
 Je - sus Christ our on - ly Sav - ior, with your love our spir - its fill.

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are;
 E a - lo - ha, e a - lo - ha, a - la - ka'i a ha - nai mai,
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray;
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still;

Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have bought us, yours we are.
 E a - lo - ha, e a - lo - ha, a - la - ka'i a ha - nai mai.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, hear your chil - dren when we pray.
 Bless-ed Je - sus, bless-ed Je - sus, you have loved us, love us still.

Tune: BRADBURY 8.7.8.7.D.

William B. Bradbury, 1859

The theme of Christ as shepherd is familiar and beloved to Christians. Emma Lyons Doyle, granddaughter of Laiana (translator Lorenzo Lyons), once said, "If you want to know the full beauty of this hymn, hear it sung in Hawaiian."

Take My Gifts

562

Shirley Erena Murray, 1991

1 Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
 2 Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your Spir-it sowed,
 3 Take what-ev - er I can of - fer— gifts that I have yet to find,

gave me light and food and shel - ter, gave me life and set me free,
 har - vest of your own com-pas - sion, juice that makes the wine of God,
 skills that I am slow to sharp - en, tal - ents of the hand and mind,

now be - cause your love has touched me, I have love to give a - way,
 spiced with hu - mor, laced with laugh - ter— fla-vor of the Je-sus life,
 things made beau - ti - ful for oth - ers in the place where I must be:

now the bread of love is ris - ing, loaves of love to mul - ti - ply!
 tang of risk and new ad - ven-ture, taste and zest be - yond be - lief.
 take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

Shirley Erena Murray recounted that Colin Gibson composed this tune for her stewardship text "almost instantaneously." Gibson has served as professor at the University of Otago, as well as organist and choir director in Dunedin, New Zealand.

Tune: TALAVERA TERRACE 8.7.8.7.D.

Colin Gibson, 1991

Alternate tune: HOLY MANNA