

**Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond  
United Church of Christ  
Our Church at Worship on the 33<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time  
November 13, 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.

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD**

PRELUDE

Penny Kraft

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Hope Molozaiy

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

GATHERING SONG "Come Now is the Time to Worship"

Chorus: **Come now is the time to worship  
Come now is the time to give your heart  
Come just as you are to worship  
Come just as you are before your God  
Come**

Verse: **One day every tongue  
Will confess You are God  
One day every knee will bow  
Still the greatest treasure remains  
For those who gladly choose You now**

Chorus: **Come now is the time to worship  
Come now is the time to give your heart  
Come just as you are to worship  
Come just as you are before your God  
Come**

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Brian Doerksen

Leader: Praise the Lord!

O give thanks to the Lord, for God is good,  
and God's steadfast love endures forever.

Let us pray.

Holy and gracious God,  
we live in a world of wonder,  
conceived by your divine imagination.  
The universe is your creation  
born out of love and generosity.  
Hallowed be your name.

**All: Hallowed be your name.**

Leader: Through centuries of thought and searching,  
through law and wisdom, insight and experience,  
your will and purpose were gradually glimpsed  
until, in Jesus, all that was hidden was revealed,  
and you let earth be touched by heaven.  
Hallowed be your name.

**All: Hallowed be your name.**

Leader: In the beauty of the earth,  
in the silence of our hearts,  
in the community of your church,  
in all works of grace and kindness,  
in forgiving from the heart  
and in worship from the soul,  
your Spirit confirms the truth by which we live.  
Hallowed be your name.

**All: Hallowed be your name.**

Leader: If, knowing this,  
we have failed to love you, our Maker,  
been hesitant to follow your Son,  
and suspected the power of your Spirit,  
Lord, have mercy.

**All: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: If we have desired comfort more than devotion,  
if we have satisfied our wants  
more than we have served your will,  
if we have worshipped a lesser god  
and gone for an easier gospel,  
Christ, have mercy.

**All: Christ, have mercy.**



## **WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

#### The Gospel according to Matthew 9:2-8

And some people were carrying to him a paralyzed man lying on a stretcher. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the paralytic, "Take heart, child; your sins are forgiven." Then some of the scribes said to themselves, "This man is blaspheming." But Jesus, perceiving their thoughts, said, "Why do you think evil in your hearts? For which is easier: to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Stand up and walk'? But so that you may know that the Son of Man has authority on earth to forgive sins"—he then said to the paralytic—"Stand up, take your bed, and go to your home." And he stood up and went to his home. When the crowds saw it, they were filled with awe, and they glorified God, who had given such authority to human beings.

#### Exodus 32: 1-14

When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered around Aaron and said to him, "Come, make gods for us, who shall go before us; as for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." Aaron said to them, "Take off the gold rings that are on the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters and bring them to me." So all the people took off the gold rings from their ears and brought them to Aaron. He took these from them, formed them in a mold, and cast an image of a calf, and they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it, and Aaron made a proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a festival to the LORD." They rose early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought sacrifices of well-being, and the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to revel.

The LORD said to Moses, "Go down at once! Your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have acted perversely; they have been quick to turn aside from the way that I commanded them; they have cast for themselves an image of a calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, 'These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!'"

"The LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, how stiff-necked they are. Now let me alone so that my wrath may burn hot against

them and I may consume them, and of you I will make a great nation.”

But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, “O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? Why should the Egyptians say, ‘It was with evil intent that he brought them out to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth?’ Turn from your fierce wrath; change your mind and do not bring disaster on your people. Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, how you swore to them by your own self, saying to them, ‘I will multiply your descendants like the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your descendants, and they shall inherit it forever.’” And the LORD changed his mind about the disaster that he planned to bring on his people.

MESSAGE

Amazing Grace?

### **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD**

HYMN

“Great is Your Faithfulness”

#423

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 of our friends and members!

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

HYMN

“Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound”

#547

verses 4 & 5

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song “On Eagles’ Wings”

**And God will lift you up on eagles’ wings,  
bear you on the breath of dawn,  
Make you to shine like the sun,  
and hold you in the palm of God’s hand.**

Opening prayer, A Wee Worship Book: Fifth Incarnation, John L. Bell & Graham Maule/Wild Goose Resource Group, 2015, p. 32-33. CCLI License No. 1908882

## **CHURCH NEWS**

**CABINET MEETS** tomorrow, Monday, at 7pm in the church fellowship hall. If you have business the Cabinet needs to discuss, contact President Charles Kemp or Pastor Hope.

### **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 Joshua 24.

**CHRISTMAS PAGEANT REHEARSALS** will start today during Sunday School time. Talk to Jean Valsa if you're interested in helping in any way. Our young people will offer the pageant in worship on December 11.

### **FOR CONNECTION**

**ADVENT PARTY** –Wednesday, November 30, 5:00-7:00pm. We'll share a soup supper, make some Advent and Christmas crafts, and sing carols together. Everyone of every age is welcome to join us for all or part of the evening. Date and details will be out next week.

### **FOR SERVICE**

**FOOD DRIVE:** Our local Richmond/Spring Grove Community Food Pantry is in great need of donations. The pantry is seeking donations of canned goods, boxed food, snack foods, personal items, paper goods, cleaning supplies or/and cash. If you didn't have the chance to fill your grocery bag, you can still bring it in by Tuesday or leave your financial donation marked "Food Pantry" today.

## **COIN CHALLENGE 2022**

There are three teams and three jugs for collection: Green Jug (for the seats closest to West Ave), Black Jug: (for the seats nearest Broadway Street), and Blue Jug: for the Choir. If you want your section to win, add your change WEEKLY to your section's jug. If you want to bring another section's total DOWN, add bills.

For example: If you add \$5.00 in change to the green jug, but someone from another section throws in \$1.00 bill, the running "game total" for your section is \$4.00 (even though there is really \$6 in the jug). If you don't collect change but want to contribute, throw paper money into other jugs!

If you want to contribute to the fundraiser but aren't able, you may mail a check and make the check out to the church and notate: coin challenge, green jug (or whatever section you want to win).

**CURRENT SCORES** – The choir has pulled ahead!!

TODAY is our last day to contribute to our teams!

Green: \$-96.43

Black: \$-145.20

Blue: \$-2.45

**Total raised: \$713.92**

**HELPING THE CHURCH AT NO COST TO YOU:** How can you help the church finances without costing you any money? You can buy gift cards of course! You buy the card, you use the card, and the church gets a percentage of that. Do you go to Jewel or Meijer every week? Do you have a Starbucks account that you can load the card onto the app? Do you order often from Amazon? What about those restaurants right down the road in McHenry? Jewel pays us 4% of every gift card purchased through this fundraiser; Meijer pays 3% and Starbucks pays 4.5%. Most of the McHenry restaurant chains pay us 8%! Home Depot, Ace, and Kohls are 4%. If you are spending the money at these places, why not pay up front, get a gift card, and help out the church. It just takes a little preplanning on your part, but no extra money!

**Think about gifts you might need to give or places where you shop regularly.** See Penny's post below for details on how to order. You can see a full list of vendors and the % at

[www.raiseright.com/brands](http://www.raiseright.com/brands)

**GIFT CARD ORDERING:** Contact Penny Kraft to order gift cards for your regular shopping, dining out, gas stations, or, of course, for gifts! 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](mailto:mriapk@gmail.com) or leave an order form and payment in the mailbox labelled "GIFT CARDS" in the office hallway. Thanks!

### **WE WELCOME A NEW OFFICE MANAGER!**

After a long stretch without a staff person in the office, we are happy to welcome Kathleen Smietana (pronounced Smi-tan-ah) as our new office manager. Kathleen lives in Woodstock with her husband, Bob, and has 3 young adult children. She comes to us with experience in a variety of church settings as well as many years counseling and supporting families in the adoption process. She will be in the office regularly on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday, from 10am to 1pm. If you have a chance, stop by and say hello so she can start to get to know our wonderful congregation.

Also, a big Thank You to Elise Livingston who helped Pastor Hope interview several well-qualified candidates and decide among them. And a GIANT THANKS to Jan Revelle who has helped Pastor Hope in the office for the past couple months!!

### **IN MEMORIAM**

On October 29, 2022 Mercedes Grace Ahlgrim passed away in her sleep. Up until a few days before, she was alert, talking, and doing word puzzles. She has turned 94 on September 25. Mercedes was a member of Community Church of Richmond UCC since 1996. Peace to her memory. Condolences can be sent to her nephew, Raymond Ahlgrim at 186c Arroyo Hondo Rd, Santa Fe NM 87508.

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

**TODAY**

Liturgist	Robert Richardson
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Fellowship Hosts	Mary Ann & Ode Keil
Sunday School	Jean and pageant team

**Nov 20**

Liturgist	<b>Pastor Kathy preaches</b>
Video Director	Mike Anderson
Greeter/Usher	
Sunday School	Jean and pageant team

**Nov 27**

Liturgist	Cheryl Kazimier
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Fellowship Hosts	Nicki Carter
Sunday School	Jean and pageant team

**Dec 4**

Liturgist	George Zimmermann
Video Director	
Greeter/Usher	
Sunday School	Jean and pageant team
Communion Set-up	

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

**COVID UPDATES:** Masks are currently optional at worship and church gatherings. Stay home if you're feeling sick and maintain a healthy distance from other households during worship. We make decisions about our community's standards based on Jesus' command to love each other and protect the most vulnerable among us.

## **PRAYERS for the Week of November 13, 2022**

If you have prayer updates or announcements to share, Please send them to Pastor Hope [pastorhope@richmonducc.org](mailto:pastorhope@richmonducc.org) AND our office email, [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:**

New friends joining us for worship.

### **PRAYERS FOR:**

Nicki Carter's travels

Yvonne Kemp

Cheryl Heber's friend, Jennifer

Jonathan Kaman's uncle, Frank

The staff and churches of the Illinois Conference of the UCC

### **Ongoing Prayers:**

Cheryl Heber's father, Russell Koca

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

**Our Congregational Prayer Partner** this week is Christina Runnfeldt.

**In the Wider Church:** We pray for our neighbors in Christ: St. John's United Church of Christ in Union and their Pastor, The Rev. Dave Inglis.

**Our Mission Partner:** Home of the Sparrow, whose mission is providing hope, opportunity, and support by empowering women and children as they journey from homelessness to self-sufficiency. They are urgently needing volunteers at a Sparrow's Nest or Community Threads thrift store. For more information email [volunteer@hosparrow.org](mailto:volunteer@hosparrow.org), or visit [www.HOSparrow.org](http://www.HOSparrow.org).

**Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing Facilities:** Bob Krueger (Libertyville), Betty Waspi (at home)

## **What Matters....**

As we think about what financial gifts we can give to the church in the year to come, as we reflect on how else we contribute to the life of the church, as we each think about what the life of the church has given to us, may we also consider how we would complete this statement:

My church matters to me because...

And this one:

My church matters to our community because...

Pastor Hope would love to hear your answers, if you care to share.

## Amazing Grace, How Sweet the Sound

547

*St. 1-4, John Newton, 1779; alt.**St. 5, A Collection of Sacred Ballads, 1790*

1 A - maz - ing grace, how sweet the sound, that  
 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and  
 3 Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I  
 4 My God has prom - ised good to me, whose  
 5 When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but  
 grace my fears re - lieved; How pre - cious did that  
 have al - read - y come; 'Tis grace has brought me  
 word my hope se - cures; God will my shield and  
 shin - ing as the sun, We've no less days to

now am found, was blind but now I see.  
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved!  
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.  
 por - tion be as long as life en - dures.  
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

*John Newton's autobiographical hymn reflects his conversion from his earlier existence as a slave trader. While serving as curate in the English village of Olney, Newton met William Cowper, and together they published Olney Hymns, which*

Tune: AMAZING GRACE C.M.  
 (NEW BRITAIN)  
 Columbia Harmony, Cincinnati, 1829  
 Arr. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

Lam. 3:22-23

Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923; alt

1 Great is your faith - ful - ness, O God, Cre - a - tor,\*  
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring - time and har - vest,  
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace so en - dur - ing,

with you no shad - ow of turn - ing we see.  
 sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove,  
 your own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide.

You do not change, your com - pas - sions they fail not;  
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness  
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

all of your good - ness for - ev - er will be.  
 to your great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.  
 bless - ings all mine with ten thou - sand be - side.

\*originally "my Father"

*This hymn was one of a number sent by poet Thomas O. Chisholm to composer William M. Runyan for musical settings. It became a favorite of Will Houghton, president of Moody Bible Institute, whose enthusiasm helped establish its popularity.*

Tune: FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10. with refrain  
 William M. Runyan, 1923

THANKSGIVING

*Refrain*

Great is your faith-ful-ness! Great is your faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by

morn-ing new mer-cies I see; All I have need-ed your

hand has pro-vid-ed, Great is your faith-ful-ness, God, un-to me!