

**Welcome to the Community Church of Richmond  
United Church of Christ  
Our Church at Worship on the Festival of All Saints  
November 5, 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 Molozaiy

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

GATHERING SONG

**Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
Oh, when the saints go marching in,  
Oh, Lord, I want to be in that number,  
When the saints go marching in!**

*Repeat*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ron Obara

One: Heaven is here, and earth,

and the space is thin between them.

Distance may divide, but Christ's promise unites  
those bound by time and those blessed by eternity.

Let heaven be glad;

**All: Let the whole earth cry glory.**

One: Heaven is here, and earth,

and the Church above and below is one.

Peter is here, and Paul, Martha and all the Marys,

Joan of the Ark, Francis from Assisi;

saints from far back and those who left us not long ago.

And only sight prevents us from seeing them,

one with us on the other side.

Let heaven be glad,

**All: Let the whole earth cry glory.**

One: Heaven is here, and earth,

and the God who made them is present.

The Lamb, glorious on the throne, sits beside us;

the Spirit of God, the Dove,  
makes her resting place among us.  
God inhales the breath of our prayers  
and spreads a table for our satisfaction.  
Let heaven be glad,

**All: Let the whole earth cry glory.**

One: Blessing and honor and glory and power be to our God  
forever and ever.

**All: Amen.**

HYMN "For All the Saints"

#299

vv. 1, 2, & 3

### 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.*

### REMEMBERING THE SAINTS IN LIGHT

One: On this day to remember all the saints,  
we remember teachers and storytellers who brought God's  
stories to life for us

**All: and we give thanks!**

One: We remember choir members, praise bands, organists, and  
all the musicians who sang and played God's praises

**All: and we give thanks!**

One: We remember preachers and lay leaders who shaped and led  
our worship through the years

**All: and we give thanks!**

One: We remember parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles,  
cousins, sisters, and brothers, who sat with us on Sundays  
and lived out their faith all week long

**All: and we give thanks!**

One: We remember churches that have been like families to us –  
this one and others we have loved.  
We remember all those who have been a part of this faith  
family over the years

**All: and we give thanks!**

One: We remember our ancestors in the faith whose courage  
enables us to be here today. For our sisters and brothers in  
Christ whose names are remembered only by God,

**All: we give thanks!**



## 2 Kings 2:1-2, 6-14

Now when the Lord was about to take Elijah up to heaven by a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me as far as Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel...

Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, for the Lord has sent me to the Jordan." But he said, "As the Lord lives and as you yourself live, I will not leave you." So the two of them went on. Fifty men of the company of prophets also went and stood at some distance from them, as they both were standing by the Jordan. Then Elijah took his mantle and rolled it up and struck the water; the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and the two of them crossed on dry ground.

When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me what I may do for you before I am taken from you." Elisha said, "Please let me inherit a double share of your spirit." He responded, "You have asked a hard thing, yet if you see me as I am being taken from you, it will be granted you; if not, it will not." As they continued walking and talking, a chariot of fire and horses of fire separated the two of them, and Elijah ascended in a whirlwind into heaven. Elisha kept watching and crying out, "Father, father! The chariots of Israel and its horsemen!" But when he could no longer see him, he grasped his own clothes and tore them in two pieces. He picked up the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and went back and stood on the bank of the Jordan. He took the mantle of Elijah that had fallen from him and struck the water. He said, "Where is the Lord, the God of Elijah? Where is he?" He struck the water again, and the water was parted to the one side and to the other, and Elisha crossed over.

MESSAGE      The Stories They Leave Us

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

HYMN              "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God"              #295

THE OFFERING

Invitation to Give

Prayer of Dedication

**Lord God, we offer ourselves  
to the service of your kingdom.  
May we be the spark that ignites our communities,  
into blazing love for you.  
We pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

TIME OF CONFESSION

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God, you send saints among us,

**People: and we imprison them or nail them to crosses.  
Have mercy.**

Leader: God, you send saints among us,

**People: and we persuade ourselves they are fools, or  
meddlers, or incompetents. Have mercy.**

Leader: God, you send saints among us,

**People: and we hate them for reminding us that our comfort  
requires the poverty of others. Have mercy.**

Leader: God, you send saints among us,

**People: and we ignore them. Have mercy.**

*Quiet*

Promise of Forgiveness

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

Communion 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.**

Words of Remembrance

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

*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

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song

**Yes, we’ll gather at the river,  
the beautiful, the beautiful river,  
Gather with the saints at the river  
that flows by the throne of God.**

Call to Worship, from A Wee Worship Book, 4<sup>th</sup> Incarnation, Wild Goose Resource Group, 1999,  
p. 82. Music shared under CCLI License No. 1908882

**WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

	<b><u>TODAY</u></b>	<b><u>November 12</u></b>
<b>Liturgist</b>	Ronnie Obara	Elise Livingston
<b>Video Director</b>	Nicki Carter	
<b>Greeter/Usher</b>	Dick Strahs	
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>	Elise Livingston	
<b>Sunday School</b>	N/A	Gail, Jean, Theresa
<b>Communion Prep</b>	Cheryl Kazimier	

**AT CHURCH THIS WEEK**

- Bible Study on Tuesday at 1pm (see below for details)
- Choir practices this Wednesday at 7pm

**CHURCH NEWS**

**FOR LEARNING**

**BIBLE STUDY** meets Tuesday on Zoom at 1:00. We read and discuss the sermon Scripture for the coming Sunday. Everyone is welcome and no special knowledge is needed. Our Meeting ID is 896 5130 1635 and the passcode is 003204. This Tuesday we’ll be discussing 2 Kings 5:1-14.

## **FOR SERVICE**

**BLOOD DRIVE** is Tuesday, November 14, 3:30-7:30, here at the church.

**BUTTER BRAID ORDERS** are due today. Pick up an order form in the lounge and leave us your final orders before you leave church today. Plan to come pick up your frozen orders on Friday, the 17<sup>th</sup>, between 5 and 6pm.

## **FOR CONNECTION**

**BUNCO – SAVE THE DATE:** Friday, November 17 with the dice rolling at 7PM in Fellowship Hall.

\$15/person will raise money for the church and provide multiple winners with a cash payout! Bring a snack or appetizer to share, and lots of luck!

Sign-up sheet is in the lounge. Please RSVP to Dawn Conley 815-236-5982

## **TRIVIA NIGHT RETURNS!**

Saturday, November 11, Doors open at 6PM

First question at 7PM, at the Richardson Adventure Farm Event Room

Get your teams registered by this Wednesday to make sure you have a table! Registration forms are in the lounge and also at [www.richmonducc.org/trivia-night.html](http://www.richmonducc.org/trivia-night.html)

Registration is \$20/person - remember you'll need to pay at the door if you haven't paid with your registration.

### **Silent Auction**

If you have donations for the silent auction, whether a single item or a whole basket, contact Dawn Conley.

You can call, text, or email her at 815-236-5982 or [conley8405@gmail.com](mailto:conley8405@gmail.com) with your idea or donation. Thank you!

Trivia Night has been one of our biggest fundraisers and the silent auction is a big part of that, so we encourage you to bring plenty of cash or your checkbooks, and a generous spirit!

**PRAYERS for the WEEK OF NOVEMBER 5, 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). *We will leave a person on our list for four weeks, unless asked to leave them on longer.*

**JOYS:** Birthdays: Lydia Blanton (11/10)  
Thankful that Bill Haase is home from the hospital.

**PRAYERS FOR:**

Mike Anderson  
People of Maine  
Nicki Carter  
Annabelle Ortiz  
Melissa Jones  
Charles Kemp  
Jonathan Kaman's family  
Bill Vezina  
Peace in the Middle East and Ukraine  
DeAnn Workmon's step-son, Robert  
DeAnn Workmon  
Kim May's friend, Jacquie  
Rob Richardson's brother, Dale  
Kathy Karch  
Bill Haase's daughter, Barb  
Carol Sligting's sister-in-law, Louise

**Ongoing Prayers:**

Marti Swanson's brother, John Baldwin  
Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

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

**In the Wider Church:** We pray for our neighbors in Christ at the Congregational Church of Batavia U.C.C. and their Pastor, the Rev. Paige Wolfanger.

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



Heb. 12:1

William W. How, 1864; alt.

1 For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the  
 2 You were their rock, their refuge, and their might: you, Christ, the  
 3 Still may your people, faithful, true, and bold, live as the  
 4 Ringed by this cloud of witness - es di - vine, we fee - bly  
 5 And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the

world their stead-fast faith con-fessed, your name, O Je - sus,  
 hope that put their fears to flight; 'mid gloom and doubt, you  
 saints who no - bly fought of old, and share with them a  
 strug - gle, they in glo - ry shine; yet in your love our  
 ear the dis - tant tri - umph song, then hearts are brave a -

be for - ev - er blessed.  
 were their one true light.  
 glo - rious crown of gold. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
 faith - ful lives en - twine.  
 gain, and faith grows strong.

*This traditional All Saints Day hymn originally consisted of eleven stanzas written for the Sarum Hymnal (1869) and set to a tune by that name, Sarum. It has grown in popularity since it was later paired with the enduring Sine Nomine in The English Hymnal (1906).*

Tune: SINE NOMINE 10.10.10.4.  
 Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

## I Sing a Song of the Saints of God

*Lesbia Scott, 1929; alt.**Unison*

The musical score is written for a unison voice part. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The time signature is 4/4. The melody is primarily in the treble staff, with some accompaniment in the bass staff. The lyrics are written below the treble staff.

1 I sing a song of the saints of God, . . . . faith-ful their whole lives  
 2 They loved their God and they lived that love. It was lov-ing that made them  
 3 They lived not on-ly in a - ges past, there are hun-dreds of thou-sands

*This text was included in Lesbia Scott's Everyday Hymns for Little Children with her original words, music, and illustrations. A native of Britain, Scott was also the author of six published plays and enjoyed painting until her death in 1986.*

Tune: GRAND ISLE Irr.  
 John H. Hopkins, 1940

through, who brave - ly la - bored, lived, and died for the God they  
strong. They did what was right, for Je - sus' sake, lived just - ly their  
still. The world is filled with liv - ing saints who choose to

loved and knew. And one was a doc - tor, and one was a queen, and an -  
whole lives long. And one was a proph - et, and one was a priest, and an -  
do God's will. You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a

oth - er a shep - herd in pas - tures green: they were saints of God, if you  
oth - er was slain by a fierce wild beast: there is no earth - ly rea - son,  
church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea: for the saints are folk like

know what I mean. God, help me to be one, too.  
none in the least, why I should - n't be one, too.  
you and like me, and I mean to be one, too.

## Shall We Gather at the River

597

*Robert Lowry, 1864; alt.**Rev. 22:1-5*

- 1 Shall we gath-er at the riv - er, where bright an-gel feet have trod,  
 2 On the mar-gin of the riv - er, wash - ing up its sil-ver spray,  
 3 As we reach the shin-ing riv - er, lay we ev-ery bur-den down;  
 4 Soon we'll reach the shin-ing riv - er, soon our pil-grim-age will cease;



with its crys-tal tide for-ev - er flow-ing by the throne of God?  
 we will walk and wor-ship ev - er, all the hap-py gold-en day.  
 grace our spir-its will de-liv - er, and pro-vide a robe and crown.  
 soon our hap-py hearts will quiv - er with the mel-o - dy of peace.

*Refrain*

Yes, we'll gath-er at the riv - er, the beau-ti-ful, the beau-ti-ful riv - er,



Gath-er with the saints at the riv - er that flows by the throne of God.



*Written during a time when an epidemic was claiming many lives in New York, Robert Lowry's hymn raised the question "Shall we meet again?" Lowry was pastor at Hanson Place Baptist Church in Brooklyn from 1861 to 1869, and collaborated on*

Tune: HANSON PLACE 8.7.8.7. with refrain  
 Robert Lowry, 1864