

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

**Our Church at Worship on the 24th Sunday of Ordinary Time
September 12, 2021 10:00 A.M.**

***Our Mission: To be an inviting, caring faith community
connecting with Christ.***

Tune into Facebook at 10:00 on Sunday to share this time of worship. If you can't join promptly at 10:00, the video will be available later as well.

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 Moloziay
GATHERING SONG “Come To Me”	Kim May Music & Lyrics Christopher Grundy
CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER	Ronnie Obara

Leader: We come in awe of
the sculptor,
the architect,
the artist,
the designer,
the potter,
the Lord, our God.
Let us worship the Creator of Heaven and Earth.

Let us pray:
Creative Spirit,
From the chaos of the waters, you brought calm;
bring that calm today for all who struggle in the chaos.
From the beginning, you brought hippos and helium,
wind and wasps, oceans and orangutans.
And you brought us humans into it all
to care for it and protect it.
For the care of the world, of each other, and of all living
things, help us and give us strength to make hard choices
for the greater good. Amen.

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

SCRIPTURE READING Psalm 8

Lord, our Lord, how majestic
is your name throughout the earth!
You made your glory higher than heaven!
From the mouths of nursing babies
you have laid a strong foundation
because of your foes,
in order to stop vengeful enemies.
When I look up at your skies,
at what your fingers made—
the moon and the stars
that you set firmly in place—
what are human beings
that you think about them;
what are human beings
that you pay attention to them?
You've made them only slightly less than divine,
crowning them with glory and grandeur.
You've let them rule over your handiwork,
putting everything under their feet—
all sheep and all cattle,
the wild animals too,
the birds in the sky,
the fish of the ocean,
everything that travels the pathways of the sea.
Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!

HYMN “God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale” #32 Kim May

SCRIPTURE READING Genesis 1:1-2:3

In the beginning when God created the heavens and the earth, the earth was a formless void and darkness covered the face of the deep, while a wind from God swept over the face of the waters. Then God said, “Let there be light”; and there was light. And God saw that the light was good; and God separated the light from the darkness. God called the light Day, and the darkness he called Night. And there was evening and there was morning, the first day.

And God said, “Let there be a dome in the midst of the waters, and let it separate the waters from the waters.” So God made the dome and separated the waters that were under the dome from the waters that were above the dome. And it was so. And there was evening and there was morning, the second day.

And God said, “Let the waters under the sky be gathered together into one place, and let the dry land appear.” And it was so. God called the dry land Earth, and the waters that were gathered together he called Seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, “Let the earth put forth vegetation: plants yielding seed, and fruit trees of every kind on earth that bear fruit with the seed in it.” And it was so. The earth brought forth

vegetation: plants yielding seed of every kind, and trees of every kind bearing fruit with the seed in it. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the third day.

And God said, “Let there be lights in the dome of the sky to separate the day from the night; and let them be for signs and for seasons and for days and years, and let them be lights in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth.” And it was so. God made the two great lights—the greater light to rule the day and the lesser light to rule the night—and the stars. God set them in the dome of the sky to give light upon the earth, to rule over the day and over the night, and to separate the light from the darkness. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning, the fourth day.

And God said, “Let the waters bring forth swarms of living creatures, and let birds fly above the earth across the dome of the sky.” So God created the great sea monsters and every living creature that moves, of every kind, with which the waters swarm, and every winged bird of every kind. And God saw that it was good. God blessed them, saying, “Be fruitful and multiply and fill the waters in the seas, and let birds multiply on the earth.” And there was evening and there was morning, the fifth day.

And God said, “Let the earth bring forth living creatures of every kind: cattle and creeping things and wild animals of the earth of every kind.” And it was so. God made the wild animals of the earth of every kind, and the cattle of every kind, and everything that creeps upon the ground of every kind. And God saw that it was good.

Then God said, “Let us make humankind in our image, according to our likeness; and let them have dominion over the fish of the sea, and over the birds of the air, and over the cattle, and over all the wild animals of the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps upon the earth.”

So God created humankind in his image,
in the image of God he created them;
male and female he created them.

God blessed them, and God said to them, “Be fruitful and multiply, and fill the earth and subdue it; and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the air and over every living thing that moves upon the earth.” God said, “See, I have given you every plant yielding seed that is upon the face of all the earth, and every tree with seed in its fruit; you shall have them for food. And to every beast of the earth, and to every bird of the air, and to everything that creeps on the earth, everything that has the breath of life, I have given every green plant for food.” And it was so. God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished, and all their multitude. And on the seventh day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

MESSAGE Living into this God-given World: What We Tend To

SONG RESPONSE “The Whole World is in God’s Hands” Kim May

The whole world is in God’s hands
The whole world is in God’s hands
The whole world is in God’s hands
The world is in God’s hands.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayer

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.

HYMN “God, who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” #556

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. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates at the front or back of the sanctuary.

Prayer of Dedication

NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song “Amen

Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.

Call to worship, adp from Prayers to Share, Year B by David Sparks, p. 98; Opening Prayer, adapted from L. Baylor Liturgy for the Sixth Sunday of Easter in Led by Love: Worship Resources for Year B, 1996..Music copyright, CCLI 1908882

Please head OUTSIDE to have your after-worship conversations.

NEW NEWS

Church Picnic! Next Sunday, September 19, beginning at 1PM, at Lance Park in Twin Lakes. Bring your own everything and squeeze in some last summer fun with your church friends! Mike and Dawn will save us a space together near the cement picnic area on the hill. Bring your swim suits and beach gear, weather permitting. (Lance Park is at 55 Lance Drive, on the beautiful shores of Lake Mary.)

BLOOD DRIVE

The blood drive will be coming September 21, 3:30-7:30

BIBLE STUDY

Bible Study is back. We will hold a zoom meeting each Tuesday at 1:30pm. Pastor Hope will provide the zoom meeting link

TRIVIA NIGHT

Hold the date of Saturday, November 13, for this year's Trivia Night fundraiser! More details will come as we get closer, but for now Dawn Conley invites you to help her get started on our auction baskets for that night. If you plan to put together a theme basket to donate, let Dawn know. If you want to contribute but don't know quite what to do, Dawn suggests you buy a gift card from Penny (which is also a FUNDRAISER!) in ANY denomination for ANY store or restaurant, and tell Penny it's for a Trivia Night donation. Penny will forward that gift card to Dawn, who will put together some type of basket with that card in mind. Thank you for anything you can do! Questions, contact Dawn at 815-236-5982 or conley8405@gmail.com .

What to Expect at Indoor Worship this Week

Expect to...

1. Wear your mask the whole time you are in the church building.
2. Pick up a bulletin from near the doorways when you come in.
3. Sit only with members of your household or 'pod' (people you regularly interact with outside of church).
3. Respect the social distancing marked in the pews, leaving space between the people around you. This might even mean sitting in a place you're not used to in the sanctuary.
4. Let Kim and Penny do most of the singing. The congregation will sing a song after the sermon and the closing response.
5. Leave your offerings in the offering plates that will be at the front of the sanctuary and also near the bulletins.
6. Go outside after the closing response for fellowship and conversation. Please don't do your mingling inside.
7. Stay home if you have a new cough, fever, or any other new COVID-like symptoms, or if you know you've recently spent time with someone who was COVID-positive.
8. Finally, expect to delight in worshipping our God together in a place that has brought joy and comfort to many people over many years!

We take all these precautions out of love and care for each other, most especially for our church children and others who are still particularly vulnerable at this time. We continue to look forward to the time when these precautions won't be necessary. Until then, let us be caring, be patient, and help protect one another.

We are following the guidance of the Illinois Department of Public Health, but also the instruction of our faith which tells us to show love for our neighbor, to protect the vulnerable, and to humbly consider others more important than ourselves.

Prayers for the week of September 12, 2021

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: Cheryl Kazimier (Sept 12), Jan Revelle (Sept 18)

CONCERNS

Sympathies to Family and Friends of Pastor Hopes friend, Betsy Tesch, who passed away last week.

Prayers For:

Elise Livingston's friend Patti's infant granddaughter
Mercedes Algrim (New Mexico)
Deann Workmon
The people of Haiti
The people of Afghatistan
Bob Krueger
Betty Waspi
Kathy Speaker's aunt, Elaine Fletcher
Ina Obara's father

Ongoing Prayers:

Lydia Blanton's friend, Natalie, and Natalie's family
Julie Leighninger
Marti Swanson's brother, John Baldwin
Ella Watts, Melissa Jones's mother
Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

Members and Friends who are Homebound or in Nursing Facilities:

Mercedes Ahlgrim (New Mexico) Sharon Mensing (Sterling), June Whitney (at home), Bob Krueger

PRAYERS and CARDS

Several of our friends and members could use prayers and cards:

Betty Waspi, Room 30
Lake Geneva Golden Years
611 Harmony Dr, Lake Geneva WI 53147
Direct phone number 262-203-9092

Bob Krueger
Ignite Medical Resort
550 Ridgeview Dr, McHenry IL 60050

Mercedes Ahlgrim
186-C Arroyo Hondo Rd
Santa Fe NM 87508