

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

Our Church at Worship on the Twenty-third Sunday in Ordinary Time

September 10, 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 are visiting.

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

PRELUDE

Penny Kraft

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Hope Molozaïy

*Sharing of joys and concerns*

GATHERING SONG “Come to Me”

Verse 1: **All who are weary, all who are burdened down  
Come to me, come to me, come to me  
And I will give you rest** (*repeat*)

Verse 2: **My yoke is easy, my burden feels so light  
Come to me, come to me, come to me  
And I will give you rest** (*repeat*)

Repeat first verse

Tag: **Come to me, come to me, come to me.  
And I will give you rest**

Words and Music by: Christopher Grundy, CCLI 1908882

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jean Valsa

One: From the rising of the sun ‘til its setting in the west,

**All: God’s holy name be praised.**

One: On the lips of children, by newborn babes,

**All: God’s holy name be praised.**

One: In the visions of the old and the dreaming of the young,

**All: God’s holy name be praised.**

One: In the banquet hall of heaven and the forgotten corners of  
our hearts,

**All: God’s holy name be praised.**

One: Let all that has life and breath praise the Lord!

**All: Amen! Let us praise the Lord!**

OPENING PRAYER

One: Let us pray.

O God, our Creator, your kindness has brought us the gift of a new morning.

**People: Help us to leave yesterday, and not to covet tomorrow, but to accept the uniqueness of today.**

*Quiet pause*

One: By your love that is celebrated in your Word, seen in your Son, and brought near by your Spirit, take from us what we need to carry no longer, so that we may be free again to choose to serve you and to be served by each other.

*Quiet pause*

One: Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon us.

**People: Jesus Christ, Son of God, have mercy upon us.**

*Quiet pause*

One: I believe that God forgives and sets us free.

**People: We believe that God forgives and sets us free.**

**At this day's beginning, we commit ourselves to follow where Christ calls and to love one another.**

HYMN

“Enter, Rejoice, and Come In”

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ANTHEM

Chancel Choir

**WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD**

THE CHANCEL STEPS

*The children are invited to join the pastor at the front of the church at this time. Afterwards, they are dismissed to Sunday School for the remainder of worship. They will return upstairs at the end of worship.*

SONG RESPONSE “God is So Good”

**God is so good, God is so good,  
God is so good, He's so good to me!**

SCRIPTURE READINGS

The Gospel according to Mark 1:16-20

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And Jesus said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

### First Samuel 16: 1-13

The LORD said to Samuel, "How long will you grieve over Saul? I have rejected him from being king over Israel. Fill your horn with oil and set out; I will send you to Jesse the Bethlehemite, for I have provided for myself a king among his sons." Samuel said, "How can I go? If Saul hears of it, he will kill me." And the LORD said, "Take a heifer with you and say, 'I have come to sacrifice to the LORD.' Invite Jesse to the sacrifice, and I will show you what you shall do, and you shall anoint for me the one whom I name to you." Samuel did what the LORD commanded and came to Bethlehem. The elders of the city came to meet him trembling and said, "Do you come peaceably?" He said, "Peaceably. I have come to sacrifice to the LORD; sanctify yourselves and come with me to the sacrifice." And he sanctified Jesse and his sons and invited them to the sacrifice.

When they came, he looked on Eliab and thought, "Surely his anointed is now before the LORD." But the LORD said to Samuel, "Do not look on his appearance or on the height of his stature, because I have rejected him, for the LORD does not see as mortals see; they look on the outward appearance, but the LORD looks on the heart." Then Jesse called Abinadab and made him pass before Samuel. He said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Then Jesse made Shammah pass by. And he said, "Neither has the LORD chosen this one." Jesse made seven of his sons pass before Samuel, and Samuel said to Jesse, "The LORD has not chosen any of these." Samuel said to Jesse, "Are all your sons here?" And he said, "There remains yet the youngest, but he is keeping the sheep." And Samuel said to Jesse, "Send and bring him, for we will not sit down until he comes here." He sent and brought him in. Now he was ruddy and had beautiful eyes and was handsome. The LORD said, "Rise and anoint him, for this is the one." Then Samuel took the horn of oil and anointed him in the presence of his brothers, and the spirit of the LORD came mightily upon David from that day forward. Samuel then set out and went to Ramah.

MESSAGE      Bodies of Faith: A Pretty Boy is Called by God

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

SONG            "To Be Loved This Way"

Verse 1:        **If it's true, You love me as I am,  
                    and not as I think I should be.  
                    Then I'm free to face the parts of me,  
                    I'm tempted to deny.**

Chorus 1: **God, You know all my laughter  
and all of my tears;  
You know where I've been and  
You know why I'm here.  
And You know it heals my deepest wounds,  
to be loved this way**

Verse 2: **If it's true, You love us as we are  
and not as we think we should be.  
Then we're free to trust the Mystery  
and Love beyond all fear.**

Chorus 2: **God You know all our laughter  
and all of our tears;  
You know where we've been  
and You know why we're here.  
And You know it heals our deepest wounds,  
to be loved this way (repeat)**

Words and Music: Bryan Sirchio @2007 Crosswind Music

#### TIME OF PRAYER

Pastoral Prayers

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

Prayer of Dedication (we say together)

**O Holy God, with our bodies, we labor and hunger and taste.  
We give back to you the fruits of our labors.  
Bless our gifts of money and the work of our hands,  
that we might bless others whose bodies hunger.  
Amen.**

HYMN "God is My Shepherd"

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NEWS OF THE CHURCH

DISMISSAL WITH BLESSING

Pastoral Benediction

Sending Song "When the Lord's in You"

**When the Lord's in you, and the Lord's in me,  
there's a bridge between our spirits,  
wherever we may be.  
'Til we meet again  
let us hold the Mystery of the Lord in you and me.**

Bryan Sirchio Used with permission. Crosswinds Music, Madison WI

Call & opening prayer from Wee Worship Book, 4<sup>th</sup> Incarnation,  
Wild Goose Resource Group. Dedication, HEAM.  
Music shared under CCLI #1908882.

### **WORSHIP LEADERSHIP**

	<b><u>TODAY</u></b>	<b><u>September 17</u></b>
<b>Liturgist</b>	Jean Valsa	Mike Kennedy
<b>Video Director</b>	Nicki Carter	
<b>Greeter/Usher</b>	Dick Strahs	
<b>Fellowship Hosts</b>	Potluck	
<b>Sunday School</b>	Gail Crutcher	Gail Crutcher

### **AT CHURCH THIS WEEK**

- Cabinet meets on Monday, the 11<sup>th</sup>, at 7pm
- Choir practices this Wednesday at 7pm
- Corn Maze Outing Next Sunday, see details p. 6

### **CHURCH NEWS**

#### **FOR SERVICE**

**HOST FELLOWSHIP SNACKS:** A simple snack is all that's needed, and coffee-making tutorials are available. The sign-up sheet is available in the lounge.

**GIFT CARD ORDERING:** Contact Penny Kraft to order gift cards for your regular shopping, dining out, gas stations, or, of course, for gifts! Think about gifts you might need to give or places where you shop regularly. You can see a full list of vendors and the % at [www.raiseright.com/brands](http://www.raiseright.com/brands) . If you give Penny a gift card order on Sunday, your cards are usually here by midweek. Contact Penny at 815-236-6172 or [mrriapk@gmail.com](mailto:mrriapk@gmail.com) or leave an order form and payment in the mailbox labelled "GIFT CARDS" in the office hallway. Thanks!

\$63.60 was deposited directly into our checking account this week from Raise Right. Thanks to all of you who are using the app to purchase gift cards!

### **FOR CONNECTION**

**CORN MAZE OUTING:** Next Sunday, Sept. 17<sup>th</sup>, starting at 3pm, at Richardson's Adventure Farm with time for bonfire fellowship, hot dog dinner, and enjoying all the activities that the Farm has to offer. Bring a picnic food to share as we eat together around 4pm. Bring a \$10 donation for the church in place of the entrance fee. This event is intended for continued fellowship time for our church family. Sign up today in the lounge or contact Dawn Conley by Wednesday. <mailto:conley8405@gmail.com>

**BUNCO!:** Come join us on September 29 from 7-9pm in Fellowship Hall. Bunco is an easy, fast paced dice game that everyone will love! (Not just the ladies!!) \$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!  
Please RSVP to Dawn Conley 815-236-5982

### **WIDER CHURCH OPPORTUNITIES**

- IL Conference UCC Women's Retreat, September 29-30, Friday evening through Saturday afternoon, at Pilgrim Park Camp and Retreat Center near Princeton, IL. Pastor Hope has loved attending for many years now and would love to have others from church join her.
- IL Conference UCC Annual Gathering, November 3-4, Friday & Saturday, Yorkville Congregational UCC featuring The Rev. Dr. Karen Georgia Thompson, newly elected General Minister and President of the UCC.

Talk to Pastor Hope if you're interested in any of these events.



Thanks to everyone who helped make our August Food Drive a success. We collected 20+ bags of groceries for the Richmond Spring Grove Community Food Pantry.

The Mission Ministry Team



### **Note from the Mission Field**

We have partnered with Dan and Juliet Visitation and their organization Youth with a Mission (YWAM), for many years. Lately they have been active in Ukraine. Here's some of our latest message from Dan:

Dear Carol and Church family,  
Greetings from Chernihiv, Ukraine, in Jesus' name! Returning now to Houston. Thank you for helping my trip financially and with prayers. We were working in between Chernihiv and the Belarus border where houses and even a hospital had been brutally destroyed. Our team of 7 was able to raise fund for 2 houses and able to build the 2 houses in 10 days. Both recipient families heard the Gospel and one couple accepted Jesus. Neighbors also came and welcome us and received Bibles... The mayor of Chernihiv and the military commander are so grateful to YWAM and later understood to give God the glory instead of to YWAM.... Again, thank you.

Blessings, Dan and Juliet

**PRAYERS for the WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2023**

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, Kathy Smietana ([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: Cheryl Kazimier (9/12); Ed Zehr (9/15).

Thanks that Ruth Kaman's surgery went well!

Thanks for Nicki Carter's sister, Kelly's, improved health!

Congratulations to Aidan Kelly from Boy Scout Troop #190 (which meets in our building) on his promotion to rank of Eagle Scout.

**Sympathies** to Kathy Speaker and her family on the passing of her uncle, Herbert Deno.

**PRAYERS FOR:**

Nicki Carter's coworker, SunnyLynn

George Zimmermann

Nicki's friend in car accident then hospital

Henry Eickelberg

Cheryl Heber's friends' mother's death

Barb Howe's nephew

Lydia Blanton's father in law

**Ongoing Prayers:**

Betty Waspi

Marti Swanson's brother, John Baldwin

Louise Strah's niece, Amy Lenik

**Our Congregational Prayer Partners** this week are Penny and James Kraft.

**In the Wider Church:** We pray for our neighbors in Christ at Little Home Church by the Wayside in Wayne, IL and their Lay Pastor, Mr. Larry Dieffenbach.

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



# Enter, Rejoice, and Come In

73

Louise Ruspini; alt.

Ps. 100

Unison C FM7 C C7 FM7 Dm7 G7 C

- |   |                                     |                                     |
|---|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| 1 | En - ter, re - joice, and come in.  | En - ter, re - joice, and come in.  |
| 2 | O - pen your - self to the song.    | O - pen your - self to the song.    |
| 3 | O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one. | O - pen your hearts ev - ery - one. |
| 4 | Don't be a - fraid of some change.  | Don't be a - fraid of some change.  |
| 5 | En - ter, re - joice, and come in.  | En - ter, re - joice, and come in.  |

C7 FM7 Dm7 G7 C F Em7 A7 Dm7sus4 Dm7 G7 C

To - day will be a joy - ful day; en - ter, re - joice, and come in.

*This song, based on Psalm 100, became popular in the 1970s in the United States. It works equally well with organ, piano, or*

Tune: ENTER, REJOICE 73

## God Is My Shepherd

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Scottish Psalter, 1650  
 Adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992

Ps. 23

1 God is my shep-herd, I'll not want, I feed in pas-tures green.  
 2 Re - stored to life each morn-ing new, I rise up from the dust  
 3 When I must pass through shad-owed vale, where loss and death a - wait,  
 4 No en - e - my can o - ver - come, no power on earth de - feat  
 5 Good-ness and mer - cy all my days will sure - ly fol - low me;

God grants me rest and bids me drink from wa - ters calm and clean.  
 to fol - low God whose pres - ence gives me con - fi - dence and trust.  
 I will not fear for God is there, my shep-herd strong and great,  
 the ones a - noint-ed by God's grace and fed with man - na sweet.  
 and where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwell-ing place will be.

Through dai - ly tasks, I'm blessed and led by One I have not seen.  
 I praise the name of God to - day; in God I put my trust.  
 Whose rod and staff will com - fort me and all my fears a - bate.  
 My cup is filled and o - ver-flows as I my Sav - ior greet.  
 My shep-herd bless - es, cares, and leads through all e - ter - ni - ty.

*The Scottish Psalter of 1650, developed over a span of 100 years, is still in use today. Its metrical version of Psalm 23 is the most popular entry in this classic work of Protestantism.*

Tune: BROTHER JAMES' AIR 8.6.8.6.8.6.  
 James Leith Macbeth Bain, c. 1840–1925  
 Arr. Gordon Jacob, 1934

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