

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

**Our Church at Worship on the 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time
September 18, 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

“All Creation”

Verse 1

**We come to You with a heart of thanks, for Your love
To be a living sacrifice brought with love.**

**We come to You with a heart of thanks, for Your love
An offering of all we are brought with love.**

Chorus

**All creation looks to You
all provision comes from You
In ev'ry sunrise hope shines through
for Your mercy we thank You**

Verse 2

**We come to You with a song of praise, for Your love
The music of our soul's delight brought with love.**

**We come to You with a song of praise, for Your love
Sounds of joy and gratefulness brought with love.**

Repeat Chorus

Tag: **We thank You, we thank You**

CALL TO WORSHIP & OPENING PRAYER George Zimmermann

One: Here, in this place,

God welcomes all the dreamers, as well as the doubters:
here, the worriers and wanderers can call on God by name.

All: Here, in this time,

**we can remember all the ways God has graced us:
here, in these moments, we are reminded that God is
with us, always!**

One: Here are gathered those daring enough

to step out of comfort into the unknown:

here, in this faith space, we will find the courage to cry out,
'God, save us!' in every situation.

Let us pray.

O God of mystery and silence, you are present in our lives.
You bring new life out of destruction, hope out of despair,
and growth out of hard times.

All: Thank you that you do not leave us alone

but labor to make us whole.

One: Help us to perceive your unseen hand

in the unfolding of our lives,

and to attend to the gentle guidance of your Spirit.

All: Help us know the joy you give to your people. Amen.

HYMN

"To You, O God, All Creatures Sing" #17, vs. 1-2

WE LISTEN TO THE WORD OF GOD

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. Parents can meet them after worship in the lounge.

SONG RESPONSE "Dream God's Dream"

**Dream God's Dream! Holy Spirit, help us dream
of a world where there is justice
and where everyone is free
to build and grow and love
and to simply have enough,
the world will change
when we dream God's Dream.**

Bryan Sirchio, www.sirchio.com

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Paul's Letter to the Romans 8:28-30

We know that all things work for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose. For those he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, so that he might be the firstborn among many brothers. And those he predestined he also called; and those he called he also justified; and those he justified he also glorified.

Genesis 41:14-40

Then Pharaoh sent for Joseph, and he was hurriedly brought out of the dungeon. When he had shaved himself and changed his clothes, he came in before Pharaoh. And Pharaoh said to Joseph, "I had a dream, and there is no one who can interpret it. I have heard it said of you that when you hear a dream you can interpret it." Joseph answered Pharaoh, "It is not I; God will give Pharaoh a favorable answer." Then Pharaoh said to Joseph, "In my dream I was standing on the banks of the Nile, and seven cows, fat and sleek, came up out of the Nile and fed in the reed grass. Then seven other cows came up after them, poor, very ugly, and thin. Never had I seen such ugly ones in all the land of Egypt. The thin and ugly cows ate up the first seven fat cows, but when they had eaten them no one would have known that they had done so, for they were still as ugly as before. Then I awoke. I fell asleep a second time, and I saw in my dream seven ears of grain, full and good, growing on one stalk, and seven ears, withered, thin, and blighted by the east wind, sprouting after them, and the thin ears swallowed up the seven good ears. But when I told it to the magicians, there was no one who could explain it to me."

Then Joseph said to Pharaoh, "Pharaoh's dreams are one and the same; God has revealed to Pharaoh what he is about to do. The seven good cows are seven years, and the seven good ears are seven years; the dreams are one. The seven lean and ugly cows that came up after them are seven years, as are the seven empty ears blighted by the east wind. They are seven years of famine. It is as I told Pharaoh; God has shown to Pharaoh what he is about to do. There will come seven years of great plenty throughout all the land of Egypt. After them there will arise seven years of famine, and all the plenty will be forgotten in the land of Egypt; the famine will consume the land. The plenty will no longer be known in the land because of the famine that will follow, for it will be very grievous. And the doubling of Pharaoh's dream means that the thing is fixed by God, and God will shortly bring it about. Now therefore let Pharaoh select a man who is discerning and wise and set him over the land of Egypt. Let Pharaoh proceed to appoint overseers over the land and take one-

fifth of the produce of the land of Egypt during the seven plenteous years. Let them gather all the food of these good years that are coming and lay up grain under the authority of Pharaoh for food in the cities, and let them keep it. That food shall be a reserve for the land against the seven years of famine that are to befall the land of Egypt, so that the land may not perish through the famine.”

The proposal pleased Pharaoh and all his servants. Pharaoh said to his servants, “Can we find anyone else like this, one in whom is the spirit of God?” So Pharaoh said to Joseph, “Since God has shown you all this, there is no one so discerning and wise as you. You shall be over my house, and all my people shall order themselves as you command; only with regard to the throne will I be greater than you.”

MESSAGE The Courage to Listen

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

HYMN “God Moves in a Mysterious Way” #412

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.

HYMN “To You, O God, All Creatures Sing” #17, vs. 3-4

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 Crosswinds Music, Madison WI, used with permission.

Call to worship, by Thom Shuman at his Lectionary Liturgies blog for Aug 7, 2011. Opening prayer, Chalice Worship #192. Music shared under CCLI License #1908882

CHURCH NEWS

CHOIR will practice immediately following worship today. Everyone is welcome. They will sing next Sunday in worship and every other Sunday through the fall.

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

FOR LEARNING

BIBLE STUDY begins this 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.

FOR SERVICE

HELPING THE CHURCH AT NO COST TO YOU: A note from your church treasurer! 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!

For a challenge—Can you purchase at least \$100 of gift cards through the church in September! 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

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

FOR CONNECTION

BUNCO NIGHT is the next fellowship event, coming on Friday, October 7, from 7-10 PM in the church fellowship hall. Bring your friends for an evening of energetic fun! Bunco is an easy to learn dice game, and Nicki Carter will be on-hand to teach all newcomers. The cost will be \$14/person and will be divided out for cash prizes to the winners. (And if anyone wants to donate some of their winnings to the church, that would be wonderful!) Children who are comfortable moving away from their parents and keeping their score tally are welcome as well. Any other questions, or to sign-up, contact Dawn Conley at 815-236-5982 or conley8405@gmail.com.

FOOD WITH FRIENDS: Stay tuned – more plans will be coming soon!

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. Our "community spread" is currently rated as low by CDC guidelines. Pastor Hope watches COVID statistics at https://covidactnow.org/us/illinois-il/county/mc_henry_county

SPRING GROVE STORYTELLING FESTIVAL is coming to Spring Grove Park on Saturday, Oct 1. Pastor Hope will be attending and would love for you to come too. Our faith is handed onto us by stories – the ancient ones of scripture and the ordinary sacred ones of our own lives. Though the storytelling festival is not religious in its focus, Pastor has no doubt that attending this event will be good for your heart and soul – and might even help you think about your own sacred stories a little differently. Find details of the event at <https://www.springgrovestorytelling.org/>

WORSHIP LEADERS

TODAY

Liturgist George Zimmermann

Video Director

Greeter/Usher

Sunday School Gail Crutcher

Sept 25

Liturgist Nicki Carter

Video Director

Greeter/Usher

Fellowship Hosts

Sunday School Gail Crutcher

Oct 2

Liturgist Jean Valsa

Video Director

Communion Preparations

Greeter/Usher

Oct 9

Liturgist Elise Livingston

Video Director

Fellowship Hosts

Greeter/Usher

Sunday School

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

PRAYERS for the Week of September 18, 2022

If you have prayer updates or announcements to share, Please send them to BOTH Pastor Hope (pastorhope@richmonducc.org) AND our office (office@richmonducc.org). THANKS!

We will leave a person on our list for four weeks, unless asked to leave them on longer.

JOYS: Birthdays: Jan Revelle (Sept 18)

Patt Clymer's good health

The start of Sunday school

PRAYERS FOR:

Church friends who can't be with us in-person

Robert Richardson's sister

Bill Hasse

Those affected by floods and fires

Linda Swenson

Nicki Carter's aunt, Joan Groenwald née Herzog

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 Kim May.

In the Wider Church: We pray for our neighbors in Christ: Ivanhoe Congregational Church in Ivanhoe and their pastor, The Rev. Dr. Kris Hewitt.

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

Descant

4 To you, God, day af-ter day, earth in

Unison

1 To you, O God, all crea-tures sing, and all cre-a-tion, ev-ery-
2 Your wind that blows the tem-pest by, your clouds that sail a-cross the
3 Your flow-ing wa-ters, crys-tal clear, make mel-o-dies for you to
4 To you, O God, day af-ter day, your plan-et earth in ev-ery

ev-ery way sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! As fruit, fra-grant

(Harmony) *(Unison)*

thing sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! Your burn-ing sun with gold-en
sky sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! Your morn-ing ris-es with a
hear, sing your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia! Your fire, . . . boun-ti-ful and
way, sings your prais-es, al-le-lu-ia, As sa-vory fruit and fra-grant

Miriam Therese Winter described her thoughts about adapting this text: "As I entered into communion with the word and spirit of the hymn, I felt called to enable that unknown-to-me poet's wisdom to live on into the future, a moving commission, and also felt a bond with the one who had gone before."

Tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN
8.8.4.4.8.8. with alleluias
Geistliche Kirchengesäng, Cologne, 1623
Harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
Descant, The New Century Hymnal, 1993

flower show forth glo - ry and power, sing - ing prais - es, al - le -

(Harmony)

beam, your sil - ver moon with soft - er gleam sing your prais - es,
 song, and lights of eve - ning sing a - long, sing your prais - es, al - le -
 bright, re - mem - bering your warmth and light, sings your prais - es, al - le -
 flower show forth your glo - ry and your power, sing - ing prais - es,

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

(Unison)

lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

5 Now we who are of ten - der heart,
 for - giv - ing oth - ers, take our part,
 sing your prais - es, al - le - lu - ia!
 To you we lift our pain and care,
 re - ceive the bur - dens that we bear,
 sing - ing prais - es, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

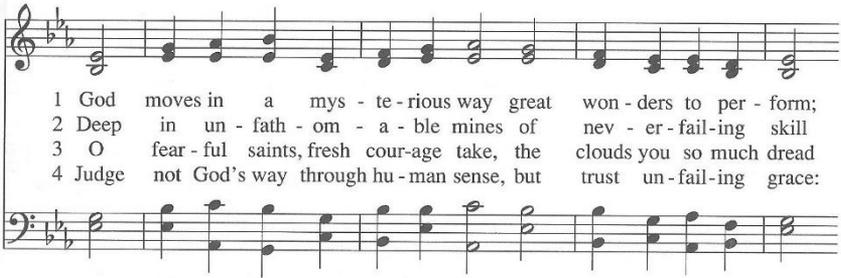
6 In you, a kind and gen - tle death
 pre - pares to hush our fi - nal breath,
 sing - ing prais - es, al - le - lu - ia!
 Christ goes be - fore us to re - new
 the way that leads us home to you.
 Hear our prais - es, al - le - lu - ia,
 al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

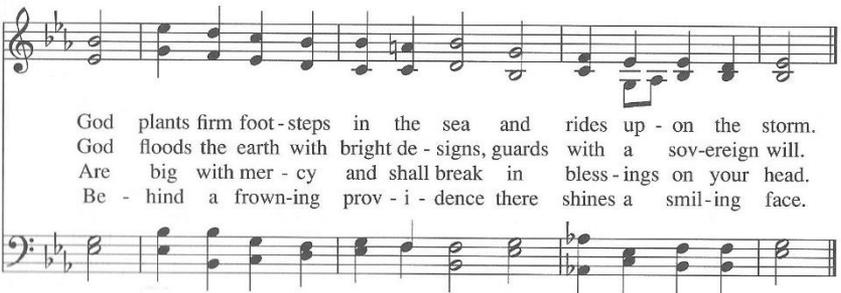
412

William Cowper, 1774; alt.

Ps. 77:19; Rom. 11:33-36



1 God moves in a mys - te - rious way great won - ders to per - form;
2 Deep in un - fath - om - a - ble mines of nev - er - fail - ing skill
3 O fear - ful saints, fresh cour - age take, the clouds you so much dread
4 Judge not God's way through hu - man sense, but trust un - fail - ing grace:



God plants firm foot - steps in the sea and rides up - on the storm.
God floods the earth with bright de - signs, guards with a sov - ereign will.
Are big with mer - cy and shall break in bless - ings on your head.
Be - hind a frown - ing prov - i - dence there shines a smil - ing face.

5 God's pur - pos - es will rip - en fast,
un - fold - ing ev - ery hour;
The bud may have a bit - ter taste,
but sweet will be the flower.

6 Our un - be - lief is sure to err
and scan God's work in vain;
God is God's own in - ter - pret - er,
whose truth shall be made plain.

This hymn by the English poet William Cowper seems to have been written a few months after his suicide attempt. It was first published in John Newton's Twenty-six Letters on Religious

Tune: DUNDEE C.M.
The 150 Psalms of David, Edinburgh, 1615

Dream God's Dream

Bryan Sirchio
www.sirchio.com

Chorus

Dream God's Dream! Ho - ly Spir - it help us
dream of a world where there is
jus - tice and where ev - 'ry - one is free to
build and grow and love and to sim - ply have e -
- nough the world will change when we dream God's
Dream.